PLAINS ARI MUSEUM

Plains Art Museum Announces Virtual Art Auction

Press Release

For Immediate Release (June 2020)

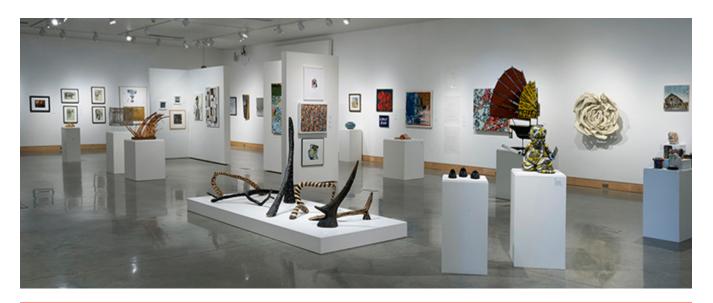
Fargo, North Dakota – Plains Art Museum and Presenting Sponsor Bell Insurance will hold a Virtual Art Auction from July 10-24, 2020. The public is invited, at no charge, to register and bid on over 90 artworks at <u>www.bit.</u> <u>ly/2020vaa</u>. Other items available for purchase are tickets to the Museum's Culinary and Wine adventure for \$300 or a Tombola box for \$100. The first 400 registrants will receive a coupon for a half priced bottle of Spanish sparkling wine at Happy Harry's Bottle Shops.

"Due to the ongoing concerns of the COVID-19 pandemic, Plains Art Museum will not host the Spring Gala this year. While this is heartbreaking for all of us, it is our vow to you that 2020 will not get the best of us. This Virtual Auction will work to keep this important piece of our Annual Spring Gala intact." said Plains Art Museum's Executive Director and CEO, Andrew Maus.

Instead of gathering with 600 or 700 people at the Gala, Plains Art Museum would like to encourage people to host small, outdoor or virtual parties with family and friends on Friday, July 24th. Party organizers are also invited to post pictures of their gatherings and tag the Museum's social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, & Instagram). The 2020 gala theme was Surrealism, so the more creative costumes and decorations, the better. On this day, a community sharing their love for the arts and for one another will be reflected for the world to see.

Virtual Auction items are on display in Plains Art Museum's First Floor Gallery for those who would like to see artworks in person Monday – Saturday. Gallery visitors are required to wear a mask and practice social distancing as the Museum keeps the community's safety in mind.

Plains Art Museum is the largest and only AAM-accredited art museum in North Dakota. It is your nonprofit art museum and education center, supported by over 800 individuals and organizations. The Museum and its Katherine Kilbourne Burgum Center for Creativity is located at 704 First Avenue North in downtown Fargo For more information about visiting or supporting your art museum, visit <u>www.plainsart.org</u>.



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