

Columbia College in Columbia, SC, Offers Works by Edmund Yaghjian

Columbia College in Columbia, SC, is presenting *Edmund Yaghjian: Interpreting His World*, a comprehensive exhibition of one of South Carolina's important modern artists, Edmund Yaghjian, on view in the Goodall Gallery, through Dec. 16, 2018.

The exhibition showcases the work of painter Edmund Yaghjian, a nationally recognized and collected artist and former head of the University of South Carolina's studio art program. Originally from an Armenian family who came to America, Yaghjian studied at the Rhode Island School of Design and New York's Art Student League.



Edmund Yaghjian, "St. B Stables," oil, 1950, 16" x 26"

awards and exhibitions at such important museums as the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Whitney Museum of American Art, National Academy of Design, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Butler Institute of Art, and Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts.

Credited with being a catalyst in arts awareness in South Carolina, Yaghjian once noted: "I call myself a painter; only time will tell if I am an artist."

The mission of Goodall Gallery is to educate, enrich, and engage the students, the campus, and the public by presenting quality art exhibitions that support the mission of Columbia College and promote the visual arts in the community through the accessibility of artworks and artists who have established a personal language and voice to express issues of personal significance.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call Morgan Hoffman at 803/786-3899 or e-mail to (mhoffman@columbiasc.edu).



Edmund Yaghjian, "Goldman's Band in Central Park," oil, 1935, 38" x 24"

In 1945, Yaghjian was hired as chair of the University of South Carolina's Department of Fine Arts, and was named the university's artist in residence in 1966. Over the years, he mentored Jasper Johns, Sigmond Abeles, Stephen Nevitt and the mural artist Blue Sky, among others. Yaghjian's distinguished career was filled with notable

Columbia Museum of Art in Columbia, SC, Shows Works Gifted by Jasper Johns

The Columbia Museum of Art in Columbia, SC, is presenting *Midcentury Masters: Jasper Johns' Gifts to the CMA*, a varied collection of 35 prints gifted to the CMA by Jasper Johns himself and shown in its entirety for the first time, on view through Feb. 24, 2019.

With several prints by Johns as well as the work of such postwar heavyweights as Robert Rauschenberg, Josef Albers, Roy Lichtenstein, Ellsworth Kelly, and Andy Warhol, plus archival materials documenting Johns' time living and establishing his artistic identity in Columbia, this unique exhibition provides insight into the mind of South Carolina's most famous artistic son.

"Artists, critics, and collectors the world over know the name Jasper Johns, but few know that his career began in Columbia where he studied at USC," says Chief Curator Will South, who organized the exhibition. "And though he became an international art star, he did not forget South Carolina. This is a show documenting the importance of contemporary art to the collection and celebrating the importance of the museum's patrons like Jasper Johns."

One of the most influential American artists of all time, Johns was born in 1930 in Augusta, GA, raised in South Carolina and spent a significant portion of his life in

Columbia. He attended three semesters at the University of South Carolina, where he built lifelong friendships with his teachers, and was then stationed at Fort Jackson from 1951 to 1953. He exhibited around town and for a while was a curator for the CMA's Fort Jackson Gallery, a single room inside the old museum on Taylor Street.

After moving to New York, Johns began painting symbols like numbers and flags, things that were ordinary and, in his words, existed as clear facts "not involving an aesthetic hierarchy." Eventually, Johns and his work began to be seen as the bridge between traditional painting and contemporary art: he painted things like flags precisely because they were not illusions. This radical attitude toward creative output changed the art world and led to such pivotal movements as Minimalism and Pop art.

In 1999 to mark the occasion of the CMA's 50th anniversary, Johns, persuaded by his old friend and former USC teacher Dr. Robert Ochs, gifted the museum with the works on paper from his personal collection that form this exhibition. Some of these works are by Johns himself, while the others are by his personal friends or artists he admired. *Midcentury Masters* features some of the great prints of the 20th century,

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including Albers' work on color variations regarding the square and one of Johns' own prints of a target, one of the subjects for which he remains best-known.

"Many in the Midlands do not know that Johns got his artistic start here in Columbia, and we're excited to celebrate his roots and share that story with our community," says Executive Director Della Watkins. "This extraordinary show is a chance to learn about an art legend, his Columbia connections, and the many lives he touched and was touched by in return."

Midcentury Masters: Jasper Johns' Gifts to the CMA is presented through the support of our generous sponsors and grantors. Pre-

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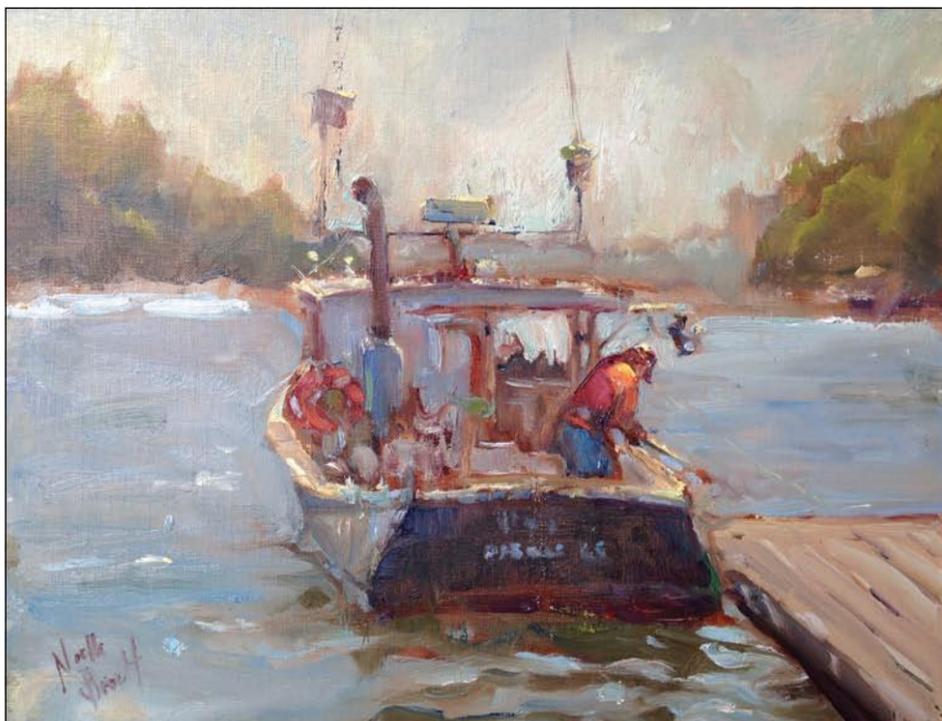
For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 803/799-2810 or visit (www.columbia-museum.org).

Columbia Museum of Art in Columbia, SC, Features Jackson Pollock's *Mural*

The Columbia Museum of Art (CMA) in Columbia, SC, will offers visitors Jackson Pollock's *Mural*, the 20-foot-wide painting that catapulted the artist into the spotlight,

brought audacious new scale and experimentation to Abstract Expressionism, and changed the destiny of modern art. The

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