

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 19, 2019**

DAVIS MUSEUM ANNOUNCES SPRING 2020 EXHIBITION SCHEDULE



WELLESLEY, Mass. – The Davis Museum at Wellesley College will open its spring exhibition season on Thursday evening, February 6, at a special reception for the public from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Visitors will enjoy a first look at new installations that celebrate the work of Wellesley art faculty, the craft and communication power of photography, the secret history of a new Renaissance-era acquisition, and the latest in a series of “Window Invitationals.”

All exhibitions are at the Davis Museum on the Wellesley College Campus and are on view February 7 through June 7, 2020. Programs, including the opening reception, are free and open to the public, with no registration required, unless otherwise noted.

Q20: Wellesley Faculty Artists

Q20 celebrates the inventive diversity of practices among professional faculty artists at Wellesley College. The 2020 edition of this quinquennial (every five years) showcase at the Davis Museum features works across media, spanning photography, painting, collage, sculpture, book arts, printmaking, installation, video, sound, and transmedial making. The ten artists included are Jenny O. Johnson, Claudia Joskowicz, Phyllis McGibbon, Kelsey Miller, Elizabeth Mooney, Andrew Mowbray, David Teng Olsen, Daniela Rivera, Katherine Ruffin, and William Van Beckum. *Q2* is organized by Lisa Fischman, Ruth Gordon Shapiro '37 Director of the Davis Museum, and Mark Beeman, Manager of Exhibitions and Collections Preparation, with major support from Wellesley College Friends of Art at the Davis and the Erna Bottigheimer Sands (Class of 1929) Art Fund.

Related Programs

Faculty Q20 Artist Gallery Talk Series

Join Wellesley College faculty artists and Davis curators in this series of gallery talks, celebrating the inventive diversity of practices in the 2020 edition of the quinquennial showcase at the Davis Museum.

William Van Beckum and Carrie Cushman, Linda Wyatt Gruber '66 Curatorial Fellow in Photography

Tuesday, February 18, noon–1 p.m.

David Teng Olsen and Jenny O. Johnson

Thursday, April 9, 12:45–2:10 p.m.

Katherine Ruffin, Kelsey Miller, Elizabeth Mooney, and Sarah Hulsey

Friday, April 17, 3–4:15 p.m.

Claudia Joskowitz, Daniela Rivera, and Andrew Mowbray

Tuesday, May 5, 4–5 p.m.

Making, Not Taking: Portrait Photography in the 19th Century

Before photographs were taken or snapped, they were *made*. This exhibition recreates the environment of a nineteenth-century portrait studio with selections from the Davis Museum’s extensive collection of daguerreotypes, ambrotypes, *cartes de visite*, cabinet cards, and tintypes. The emphasis in the exhibition title on *making* points to the materiality, the craft, and the event of photography in its earliest iterations. Curated by Carrie Cushman, Linda Wyatt Gruber ’66 Curatorial Fellow in Photography, the exhibition is supported with funds given through the generosity of Linda Wyatt Gruber (Class of 1966) and Wellesley College Friends of Art at the Davis.

Related Programs

Curatorial Gallery Talk with Carrie Cushman

Tuesday, February 11, 4 p.m.

Handmade Photography Today Symposium

Saturday, March 7, 11 a.m.–5 p.m.

Featuring four acclaimed photographers working in nineteenth-century processes: Myra Greene (ambrotypes), Will Wilson (tintypes), Edie Bresler (cyanotypes), and Takashi Arai (daguerreotypes). Co-hosted with the Photographic Resource Center and generously sponsored by the Bern Schwartz Family Foundation. The event is free but advance registration is required:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/handmade-photography-today-symposium-tickets-83063943491>.

Going Viral: Photography, Performance, and the Everyday

Snapshots from the Peter J. Cohen Collection Gift

This exhibition of early-twentieth-century American snapshots considers our everyday relationship to photography: the ways in which we mediate, understand, and narrate our lives through the snapping and sharing of photographs, and how and why certain types of images become socially infectious. Mined from the Peter J. Cohen Collection gift of nearly 1,000 anonymous snapshots, the exhibition is curated by Carrie Cushman, Linda Wyatt Gruber ’66 Curatorial Fellow in Photography, and supported with funds given through the generosity of Linda Wyatt Gruber (Class of 1966) and Wellesley College Friends of Art at the Davis.

Related Program

Curatorial Gallery Talk with Carrie Cushman

Tuesday, March 17, 4 p.m.

Hidden Histories: Revealing the Life of a Painting

This special installation uses conservation, technical analysis, and an art historical lens to explore a recent donation to the Davis Museum: a mysterious 16th-century Venetian *Sacra Conversazione*, featuring the Holy Family with a donor and Saints Sebastian and Catherine. Co-curated by Alicia LaTores, Friends of Art Curatorial Research Assistant, and Katherine Davies, Class of 2019, the Summer 2019 Eleanor P. DeLorme Museum Intern, the exhibition is generously supported by Peter H. and Joan Macy Kaskell (Class of 1953).

Windows Invitational

Alexandria Smith: *Seed to Harvest*

The Windows Invitational engages artists in transforming the dramatic floor-to-ceiling windows that articulate the lobby and courtyard plaza of the Davis Museum's signature Rafael Moneo building. The third commission in the series is by Alexandria Smith, Head of Painting at the Royal College of Art in London, formerly Assistant Professor of Painting at Wellesley College. Smith's *Seed to Harvest* foregrounds portraits of Wellesley's first African American graduates and borrows its title from the "Patternist" series of novels by Octavia Butler. Curated by Lisa Fischman, Ruth Gordon Shapiro '37 Director, the Windows Invitational is generously supported by Wellesley College Friends of Art at the Davis.

Related Program

Artist Gallery Talk with Alex Smith

Friday, April 10, 3–4 p.m.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

Spring Opening Celebration

Thursday, February 6, 6:30–9 p.m.

Educator Workshop

Thursday, March 12, 3:30–5 p.m.

Explore how to connect the themes and works of art on view with your K–12 classroom curricula. Advance registration is required. Please email Arthurina Fears, Curator of Education and Programs, at afears@wellesley.edu.

Museum Day: Earth Optimism Tour and Gallery Nature Walk

Saturday, April 4. 2 p.m.

Join us for a Student Guide-led drop-in tour for the 16th annual Museum Day, celebrating Earth Optimism in conjunction with the Smithsonian Institution's celebration of global conservation and the 50th anniversary of *Smithsonian* magazine. Attendees will take a "nature walk" at the Davis, focusing on biodiversity in the Davis Museum permanent collections. This program is generously supported by the Elizabeth Bein Keto '48 Endowed Memorial Fund.

Stroller and Story Time Saturday

Saturday, April 11, 11–11:30 tour; 11:30–noon story time with Wellesley Free Library

Spend an art-filled morning at the Davis strolling the galleries and enjoying stories and songs with your little ones.

Artist Talk: Cara Romero

Tuesday, April 21, 12:45–1:45 p.m.

Native American photographer Cara Romero will join us by Skype on the occasion of the exhibition of her work, *Last Indian Market*, in the Davis's Spotlight Mezzanine.

Family Day: Fun with Photos

Saturday, April 25, 11 a.m.–3 p.m.

Join us for a treasure hunt in the galleries and experiment creating sun prints, portraits, button making, take an interactive family tour of our special exhibitions, join us for stories and songs with the Wellesley Free Library.

Student-led Tours

This program is generously supported by the Elizabeth Bein Keto '48 Endowed Memorial Art Fund

Black History Month Tour

Saturday, February 22, 2 p.m.

Women's History Month Tour

Saturday, March 14, 2 p.m.

Bark & Metal

Saturday, April 11, 2 p.m.

Get outdoors with the Wellesley student-created Bark & Metal outdoor sculpture and ecology program. Meet in the Davis Lobby.

Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month Tour

Saturday, May 2, 2 p.m.

The Davis Museum also offers a variety of drop-in tours and gallery experiences, including American Sign Language and Tactile Tours, tours for adults living with Alzheimer's or other dementias, Mindful Meditations, and Stroller Tours. Group tours must be scheduled two weeks in advance. For a full schedule of tours, please visit www.theDavis.org.

ABOUT THE DAVIS MUSEUM

A vital resource for communities on the Wellesley College campus and beyond, the Davis Museum is one of the oldest and most acclaimed academic fine art museums in the United States. Its signature Rafael Moneo building houses collections that span the history of art worldwide, from antiquity to the present. Guided by commitments to diversity and inclusion, excellence and innovation, and access for all, the Davis is at the core of Wellesley's liberal arts mission of educating women to make a difference in the world. With exceptional encyclopedic holdings, rotating special exhibitions, and enriching public programs, the Davis warmly welcomes all visitors, including scholars and students of all ages. For visitor information: <https://www.wellesley.edu/davismuseum/visit/directions>.

ABOUT WELLESLEY COLLEGE AND THE ARTS

The Wellesley College arts curriculum and the highly acclaimed Davis Museum are integral components of the College's liberal arts education. Departments and programs from across the campus enliven the community with world-class programming—classical and popular music, visual arts, theatre, dance,

author readings, symposia, and lectures by some of today's leading artists and creative thinkers—most of which are free and open to the public.

Since 1875, Wellesley College has been the preeminent liberal arts college for women. Known for its intellectual rigor and its remarkable track record for the cultivation of women leaders in every arena, Wellesley—only 12 miles from Boston—is home to some 2,400 undergraduates from 49 states and 58 countries.

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Image Credits:

Elizabeth Mooney, *Cut Towards Center*, 2019, acrylic on wood panel, 48 x 48 in. Courtesy of the artist.

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High-resolution images and interviews available upon request