

# SPENCER MUSEUM OF ART

## THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

For immediate release

### ***Art into Art: Inspired Responses* explores how Spencer's collection sparks creativity**

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#### **PUBLICITY IMAGES**

High-resolution, 300 PPI JPGs available upon request. Please contact Bill Woodard, Director of Communications.

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**Lawrence, KS**— This fall, the Spencer explores how the art in its collection inspires other expressions of creativity, with a variety of programming meant to stimulate important conversations about the creative process.

***Art into Art: Inspired Responses*** is a campus and community project inviting creative responses to works of art in the museum, and includes transformations of the Spencer's front entrance, foyer, and Central Court to reflect the theme of visual art inspiring other forms of creativity. Corporate sponsorship for the Spencer's fall "Inside-Out" transformation is provided by Sabatini Architects, Inc. <http://www.sabatiniarchitects.com/>

***Art into Art: Inspired Responses*** opens Friday, September 22, with a gala public reception from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. The event will begin at 5:30 in the SMA Auditorium, with remarks from Elizabeth Schultz, Professor Emerita of English, and others. A reception starts at 6 in the

Central Court. Beginning at 6:30, Schultz, Ted Johnson, Rick Mitchell, and Joan Stone—scholars and artists who have been closely involved in the planning of **Art into Art**—will give presentations throughout the museum, providing a preview of ongoing programming.

The original inspiration for **Art into Art** was fairly straightforward: the idea that a work of art, as conceived and executed by an artist, is only part of the art experience. The other part is the response. What is a painting without a viewer, a poem without a reader or a musical performance without a listener? We often talk about the qualities of works of art, but what about the qualities of the responses? Can a response be as creative and inspired as the work of art that stimulates it?

Yes. And a prime example is a book recently published by the Spencer.

*Conversations: Art into Poetry at the Spencer Museum of Art* collects 27 poems by Elizabeth Schultz, all inspired by works in the Spencer's collection. The book, which includes an introductory essay by Susan Earle, the Spencer's Curator of European and American Art, pairs images of the artworks with Schultz's poems, and is available for \$14.95 in the Museum Shop. Schultz's poems will be prominently featured next to the works that inspired them in the Spencer's galleries this fall. *Conversations* is made possible in part by the generous support of Colette and Jeff Bangert, Janet Hamburg, Carol and Del Shankel, Linda and David Stevens, Georgia and Keith Stevens, Peggy Sullivan, and Marjorie Swann and Bill Tsutsui.

**Art into Art** also intends to challenge the ways we traditionally expect to see art presented in a museum.

In the Central Court, works spanning centuries of art history are hung, salon-style, unhinged from time- or geography-based divisions. This installation of objects from the permanent collection celebrates not only art itself, but what we as viewers bring to it. The works have inspired poems, songs, dances, and scholarship. The unusual arrangement of paintings, photographs, prints, and sculpture challenges our traditional method of seeing. In combination the works invite comparisons to the presentation of 19<sup>th</sup>-century salons, as objects span heights and depths that exceed our traditional gaze across gallery walls. Some works will rotate during the course of this exhibition, while others will stay in place. Some objects on the wall may seem as comfortable as the face of an old friend, while others are initially unfamiliar. We present

these objects as part of a continuum of engagement that includes *your* reactions and participation.

### **Art into Art programming highlights include:**

- **September 28, 7 PM, Central Court:** The Lawrence Ballet Ensemble, a dance company of the Lawrence Arts Center, presents “Art Moves,” a work of original choreography inspired by the Spencer collection.
- **October 1, 2:30 PM, Central Court:** The Spencer Consort presents a performance of “Baroque Music & Art at the Spencer Museum of Art.”
- **October 5, 7 PM, SMA Auditorium:** Mary Ann Caws, Distinguished Professor of English, French, and Comparative Literature at the Graduate Center, City University of New York, will lecture on “Looking Anew: Surrealism Today.” The lecture is co-sponsored by the Spencer and the Hall Center for the Humanities. Caws, who earned her doctorate in French from KU in 1962, is an accomplished scholar in 20<sup>th</sup>-century avant-garde literature and art, with interests in Surrealism, poets René Char and André Breton, Virginia Woolf and the Bloomsbury group, and artists Robert Motherwell, Joseph Cornell, and Pablo Picasso. Conceptually, one of her primary themes has been the relationship between image and text. A reception will follow in the Central Court. To learn more about Caws, please visit her website: <http://www.maryanncaws.com>
- **October 19, 7 PM, Central Court:** Joyce Castle, Mezzo-Soprano and Professor of Voice, will present an encore performance of “Statuesque.” Castle, who returned to her alma mater in 2001 as artist-in-residence while continuing her performing career, is internationally known and one of America's most gifted singing actresses, a leading artist with the New York City Opera and the Metropolitan Opera companies. The KU School of Fine Arts commissioned heralded composer Jake Heggie and librettist Gene Scheer to create the monodrama “Statuesque” specifically for Castle; the work, which is composed for a small chamber ensemble, was originally performed in December 2005.
- **October 26, 7-9 PM, Central Court & Galleries:** “Art Talks: Lawrence Community Inspired Responses,” a program exploring how the Spencer collection influences

creativity locally. Presenters include Paul Hotvedt, Laura Lorson, David Loewenstein, Marty Olson, and Susan Warden.

- **October 27, 9:30-11:30 AM, Central Court & Galleries:** “Art Talks: Faculty Inspired Responses,” a program exploring how the Spencer collection influences creativity on campus. Presenters include Dennis Christilles, Marni Kessler, Leonard Krishtalka, and John Tibbetts. Co-sponsored by the Hall Center for the Humanities.
- **Additional programming** includes gallery talks, an artists’ film series, children’s art appreciation classes, Family Day, and KU Student Night. A complete listing of the Spencer’s fall programming is included below in this media release.

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## SMA FALL 2006 PROGRAMMING

**Please note: All Spencer Museum of Art programs are free to the public unless otherwise noted (\$).**

### SEPTEMBER

9.14

Gallery Talk: Senior Sessions / *A Tempest in Kansas* / 10 AM / Meet in Lobby

9.14

Gallery Conversations: Intern Ashley Elston on "Relics and Ritual: Medieval and Renaissance Reliquaries and Liturgical Objects" / 12:15 PM / Medieval Gallery

9.14

Film: *Basquiat* / 7 PM / SMA Auditorium / Shown in conjunction with ***Art into Art: Inspired Responses*** / Directed by artist Julian Schnabel, *Basquiat* details the tumultuous life of Jean-Michel Basquiat (Jeffrey Wright), concentrating on his meteoric rise within New York City’s trendy SoHo art world. (1996, Dir. Julian Schnabel, 108 min.)  
Rated R

9.15

Print Room Walk-Ins Welcome Friday ***Behind the Scenes with Native American Art***, with guest curator Joni Murphy in the afternoon / 10 AM-Noon & 1-4 PM / Print Room

9.16

Children’s Art Appreciation Class: “John Steuart Curry and Kansas” / 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM / \$ / To enroll, contact the SMA education department, 785.864.0137 or

[kemitch@ku.edu](mailto:kemitch@ku.edu)

9.18

Lecture: Diane Eickhoff, author/actress, on "Clarina Nichols, a feminist pioneer" / 2:30 PM / Room 211 / Murphy Lecture Fund / Limited Seating

9.18

KU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute: **Art into Art: Inspired Responses** / Special Preview for Osher Members Only / \$ / 3-5 PM / The Spencer Museum of Art is proud to partner with the KU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute to present programs of interest to its members. For information on other Osher Institute programs, please contact KU Continuing Education at 785.864.5823; toll free 877.404.5823; email: [ContinuingEd@ku.edu](mailto:ContinuingEd@ku.edu)

9.21

Gallery Conversations: Interns Sean Barker and Ellen O'Neil Rife on "The Spectacle of Display: From Cabinets of Curiosity to the Paris Salon" / 12:15 PM / South Balcony Gallery

9.21

Lecture: Alfreda Murck, Central Art Academy, Beijing on "Mangoes As Sacred Relics: Creation of a Symbol in the Cult of Mao" / 5 PM / SMA Auditorium / Reception follows in Central Court / Murphy Lecture Fund

9.22

Opening Reception: **Art into Art: Inspired Responses** / 5:30-7:30 PM / SMA Auditorium, Central Court & Galleries

9.28

Gallery Talk: Senior Sessions / *An Intriguing Woman* / 10 AM / Meet in Lobby

9.28

Gallery Conversations: Professor Emerita Elizabeth Schultz, English, reads her poetry / In conjunction with **Art into Art: Inspired Responses** / 12:15 PM / Meet in Lobby

9.28

Performance: Lawrence Ballet Ensemble presents "Art Moves" / 7 PM / Central Court / In conjunction with **Art into Art: Inspired Responses** / Dancers from the Lawrence Arts Center will perform original choreography inspired by selections from the Spencer's collection.

9.30

Children's Art Appreciation Class: "Art into Poetry" / 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM / \$ / To enroll, contact the SMA education department, 785.864.0137 or [kemitch@ku.edu](mailto:kemitch@ku.edu)

## OCTOBER

10.1

Music Performance: Spencer Consort presents "Baroque Music and Art at the Spencer Museum of Art" / 2:30 PM / Central Court / In conjunction with **Art into Art: Inspired Responses**

10.2

Lecture: Cheryl Ragar, PhD candidate in American Studies, on "Aaron Douglas" / 2:30 PM / Room 211 / Murphy Lecture Fund / Limited Seating

10.5

Gallery Conversations: Intern Emily Ryan on "Men of Importance: Status and Dress in a Dutch and an American Portrait" / 12:15 PM / Meet in Lobby

10.5

Lecture: Mary Ann Caws on "Looking Anew: Surrealism Today" / 7 PM / SMA Auditorium / Reception follows / In conjunction with **Art into Art: Inspired Responses** / Co-sponsored by the Hall Center for Humanities / Caws is Distinguished Professor of English, French, and Comparative Literature at the Graduate Center, City University of New York

10.9

Lecture: Cynthia Haines, film historian/critic, on "History Through the Distorting Lens of the Western" / 2:30 PM / Room 211 / Murphy Lecture Fund / Limited Seating

10.12

Gallery Talk: Senior Sessions / *America the Beautiful* / 10 AM / Meet in Lobby

10.16

Lecture: Dennis Domer on "Vernacular Architecture in Kansas" / 2:30 PM / Room 211 / Domer is Helen Edwards Abell Chair in Historic Preservation at the University of Kentucky / Murphy Lecture Fund / Limited Seating

10.19

Gallery Conversations: Professor Emeritus Ted Johnson, French, on **Art into Art: Inspired Responses** / 12:15 PM / Meet in Lobby

10.19

Encore Performance: Joyce Castle, Mezzo-Soprano & Professor of Voice, presents "Statuesque" / 7 PM / Central Court / In conjunction with **Art into Art: Inspired Responses**

10.21

Children's Art Appreciation Class: "Vietnam watercolors" / 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM / \$ / To enroll, contact the SMA education department, 785.864.0137 or [kemitch@ku.edu](mailto:kemitch@ku.edu)

10.21

Film: Latin American Film Festival, TBA / 2PM / SMA Auditorium

10.23

Lecture: Dr. Mary Nooter Roberts on "The WORK of Art: Aesthetics and Efficacy in Luba Art" / 5 PM / Room 211 / Murphy Lecture Fund

10.25

Special Program: *Wednesdays @ Liberty Hall* / 2-4 PM / Liberty Hall / SMA presents a workshop at an after-school program for local teens.

10.26

Gallery Talk: Senior Sessions / Saints Alive / 10 AM / Meet in Lobby

10.26

Gallery Conversations: Curator Steve Goddard and David Lambertson, former Ambassador to Thailand, on **Views of Vietnam** / 12:15 PM / South Balcony Gallery

10.26

Special Program: "Art Talks: Lawrence Community Inspired Responses" / 7-9 PM / Central Court & Galleries / In conjunction with **Art into Art: Inspired Responses**

10.27

Special Program: "Art Talks: KU Faculty Inspired Responses" / 9:30-11:30 AM / Central Court & Galleries / Co-sponsored by the Hall Center for the Humanities / In conjunction with **Art into Art: Inspired Responses**

10.29

Family Day: 1-3 PM / Central Court & Galleries / In conjunction with **Art into Art: Inspired Responses**

10.30

Lecture: "Artists at Home in Kansas Now" / 2:30 PM / Room 211 / Murphy Lecture Fund / Limited Seating

10.31

Lecture: Roy Perkinson, Head of Paper Conservation, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston / 5:30 PM / Room 211 use west entrance / Murphy Lecture Fund

## NOVEMBER

11.2

Gallery Conversations: Joan Stone, dance, on **Art into Art: Inspired Responses** / A performance inspired by Lisa Grossman's *86 Bends of the Kaw* / 12:15 PM / Central Court

11.2

Lecture: Visiting artist Julie Green / 7 PM / SMA Auditorium / Sponsored by the School of Fine Arts, Department of Art

11.3

Student Program: "East meets West" / 6:30-8 PM / Central Court & Galleries / Travel to Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art for Student Night / 8-10 PM.

11.4

Children's Art Appreciation Class: "Art into Art" / 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM / \$ / To enroll, contact the SMA education department, 785.864.0137 or [kemitch@ku.edu](mailto:kemitch@ku.edu)

11.4

Film: Latin American Film Festival, TBA / 2PM / SMA Auditorium

11.5

Gallery Talk: Professor Emerita Elizabeth Schultz, English, reads her poetry / In conjunction with **Art into Art: Inspired Responses** / 2 PM / Meet in Lobby

11.6

Music Performance: Oread Jazz Quartet performing Kansas City Jazz / 2:30 PM / Central Court / Murphy Lecture Fund / Limited Seating

11.8

Special Program: *Wednesdays @ Liberty Hall* / 2-4 PM / Liberty Hall / SMA presents a workshop at an after-school program for local teens.

11.9

Gallery Talk: Senior Sessions / *Prince to Prophet* / 10 AM / Meet in Lobby

11.9

Gallery Conversations: *TBA* / 12:15 PM /

11.9

Film: *Three Seasons* / 7 PM / SMA Auditorium / Shown in conjunction with **Views of Vietnam** / This first feature by 26-year-old Tony Bui is a poetic narrative about the "new" Vietnam, and is the first American independent film to be shot on location in that country. The film weaves three separate stories about four characters in Saigon and how their paths cross.

11.11

Children's Art Appreciation Class: 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM / \$ / To enroll, contact the SMA education department, 785.864.0137 or [kemitch@ku.edu](mailto:kemitch@ku.edu)

11.11

Film: Latin American Film Festival, *TBA* / 2PM / SMA Auditorium

11.15

Special Program: *Wednesdays @ Liberty Hall* / 2-4 PM / Liberty Hall / The Spencer presents a workshop at an after-school program for local teens.

11.16

Gallery Conversations: Rick Mitchell, Gallery and Special Projects Director at Lawrence Art Center on **Art into Art: Inspired Responses** / 12:15 PM / Meet in Lobby

11.16

Film: *Frida* / 7 PM / SMA Auditorium / Shown in conjunction with **Art into Art: Inspired Responses** / Directed by Tony-award winner Julie Taymor, *Frida* charts Frida Kahlo's life from feisty schoolgirl to Diego Rivera protégée to world-renowned artist in her own right.

11.27

Lecture: Dave Kendall, producer, on "Sunflower Journeys" / 2:30 PM / Room 211 / Murphy Lecture Fund / Limited Seating

11.30  
Gallery Conversations: *TBA* / 12:15 PM

11.30  
Student Night: 6-8 PM / Central Court & Galleries / In conjunction with ***Art into Art: Inspired Responses***

## **DECEMBER**

12.4  
Lecture: Wes Jackson, The Land Institute, on "The Land Institute and Sustainable Agriculture" / 2:30 PM / Room 211 / Murphy Lecture Fund / Limited Seating

12.2  
Film: Latin American Film Festival, *TBA* / 2PM / SMA Auditorium

12.7  
Gallery Conversations: *TBA* / 12:15 PM

12.9  
Children's Art Appreciation Class: "Made in China" / 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM / \$ / To enroll, contact the SMA education department, 785.864.0137 or [kemitch@ku.edu](mailto:kemitch@ku.edu)

12.9  
Film: Latin American Film Festival, *TBA* / 2PM / SMA Auditorium

12.14  
Gallery Talk: Senior Sessions / *A Royal Collection* / 10 AM / Meet in Lobby

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**Spencer Museum of Art  
The University of Kansas  
1301 Mississippi St  
Lawrence 66045-7500  
785.864.4710**

**Also find the Spencer...**

- On the Web: [www.spencerart.ku.edu](http://www.spencerart.ku.edu)
- E-mail: [spencerart@ku.edu](mailto:spencerart@ku.edu)

### **Gallery hours**

**Tues., Wed., Fri., & Sat. 10 AM — 5 PM**

**Thurs. 10 AM — 9 PM**

**Sun. Noon — 5 PM**

**Closed Monday**

• Free parking in Lot 91 after 5 PM on weekdays and all day weekends, excepting home football games.

• Parking garage adjacent to Kansas Union is \$1 per hour weekdays, free on Saturdays and Sundays (but unavailable on home football games).