



PRESS RELEASE: "A Significant Thing" Exhibit Goes on Display at Ferris ' Rankin Art Gallery

Sandy C Gholston to: Archive

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Included below is a press release regarding the current exhibit taking place in the Rankin Student Center Art Gallery at Ferris State University titled "A Significant Thing" and featuring Art Martin and Lee Brown. The exhibit helps visitors reflect on everyday things people cherish and re-experience them. Any questions about this release, written by student writer Kayla Conway, can be directed to Sandy Gholston, interim assistant director of News Services.

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'A Significant Thing' Exhibit Goes on Display at Ferris' Rankin Art Gallery

BIG RAPIDS – This month, Ferris State University is hosting the Art Martin and Lee Brown Painting and Sculpture exhibit in the Rankin Student Center Art Gallery.

The exhibit, one that prompts visitors to reflect on things that they cherish in their daily lives, is titled "A Significant Thing" and opened Mar. 14. It will be on display in the Rankin Art Gallery through March 30 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The exhibit features a combination of the artists' paintings and sculptures. The paintings draw from Western traditions of icons and portraiture and are put together with symbols and codes that express purpose and meaning, according to Carrie Weis, director of the Rankin Art Gallery. The sculptures represent the power of the symbol as Brown combines wood, glass, metal, stone and paint to create a sense of history and spirituality, Weis added.

"People cherish things, surrounding them with emotions and memories, creating significance where others may only see the mundane and unimportant," Martin said.

Martin serves as collections manager and assistant curator at the Muskegon Museum of Art. He earned a Master of Fine Arts in Painting at Wichita State University, in Kansas, and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting and Drawing from Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa.

"Our collaborative pieces explore the commonalities of theme through proximity and a sharing of visual cues and patterns," Brown said.

Brown graduated from Kendall College of Art and Design with a major in Illustration.

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“In translating these objects into a new media, the viewer is invited to again experience these people, places and things, and to recall something of their own experiences of the material world,” Martin said.

Weis noted that this will be an exhibit that showcases three-dimensional art, an art form that is not often displayed at the Rankin Art Gallery.

“This is work that you will have to contemplate,” she said. “It is not merely a visual experience to enjoy but a puzzle to be figured out and an outlet for someone to reflect upon their own habits and their own objects and what they personally attribute value to in their own life.”

For more information about the exhibit or the Rankin Art Gallery, contact Carrie Weis at (231) 591-2536 or visit www.ferris.edu/gallery.

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