

# LEXINGTON ART LEAGUE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Here & Now: Selections from the Artist Archive**

A casual dialogue that illustrates the vibrancy of Lexington's visual community

**LEXINGTON, KY** - September 21, 2015

The Lexington Art League has been compiling an archive of local artists into a searchable database since 2013. What started as a student driven-initiative has grown into a collection of over 200 Kentucky artists that include photographs, interviews, audio clips, and other artist documentation. Starting on September 25, the Loudoun House will open its Here & Now exhibit that displays a selection of those archived artists. This exhibit brings to life the collection of art, artists, and talent within an interactive gallery experience.

This unique exhibition will include an interactive touch screen display donated by Bluegrass Integrated Communications - this allows visitors to search and browse the archive within the gallery. The audio-recorded interviews from the archive will also be playing throughout the gallery to provide a new level of interaction for the guests. All of the artists shown in the Here & Now exhibit are from Kentucky and have been published within the Artist Archive. The selections chosen for the exhibit provide a diverse look at the full range of art created in the region - a combination of all styles and mediums are displayed. The layout and flow of the exhibit was chosen with the idea of creating a dialogue. The exhibit is opening up a conversation between the artists and the viewers along with connecting the diversity of the artists all within a single space. Visitors will make connections between different artists and different pieces just by the way the gallery is laid out and connected. Artistic Development Committee member Haviland Argo says, the exhibit "shows multiple ways to look at the world; you can see a conversation happening throughout the room between the pieces of artwork. Here & Now provides a direct link between the artist, their artwork, and the archive. It ends up humanizing the archive by making the artist real and tangible, they are an individual and a part of our community."

The Artist Archive has been able to provide new levels of interaction and education since its conception. The original students that started the project set the groundwork for this institutional program. Not only does it provide a great reference for people searching to learn more about local artists, but it can be shared by the artists

themselves to promote their own talent and business. The archive takes a basic database to a new level by including face-to-face interviews, audio clips, photographs and images of the artist's artwork along with other documentation of their art and their process. Both sides of the Artist Archive work together to display the human side of art and provide a deeper and engaging interaction with the public.

Thanks to the Artistic Development Committee (ADC), a board of local artists and art enthusiasts dedicated to ensuring the public's voices are heard and to help further grow the Lexington art community, for curating this exhibition and setting the full activation of the archive in motion. The ADC chose 37 out of a selected 55 artists from the archive to present their work within the show. The exhibit focuses on artists that haven't displayed work recently with LAL and only includes artwork that has been created within the past three years. The show encompasses an eclectic mix of all types of art; ranging from different mediums and different subject matters. According to Liz Foley, a local artist and member of the Artistic Development Committee, the selections for this exhibit show the "breadth and depth of the bluegrass region." The diversity of art chosen will engage a variety of viewers to the exhibit. Sarah Heller, another local artist and member of the ADC, says Here & Now is "putting our finger on the pulse of what is wanted in Lexington and what direction LAL is going to focus on." The Lexington Art League is answering the voices of the public by channeling the roots of the organization and focusing on local artists. Here & Now is displaying "what is happening in your own backyard," says Mr. Argo, "not only does it show that the archive is working but it is incentivizing artists and the public to interact with the program." Artists can promote themselves and their business through the archive or visitors to the site can research artists to commission a new piece of artwork. Here & Now is just the beginning to the many opportunities the Artist Archive will provide.

You can learn more about each artist by accessing the Artist Archive at [www.lexingtonartleague.org](http://www.lexingtonartleague.org) and by attending one of the Fourth Friday events or during LAL's gallery hours.

### **HERE & NOW: SELECTIONS FROM THE ARTIST ARCHIVE EVENTS:**

Opening Fourth Friday - Sept 25, 6 - 9 pm

Artist Conversation - Oct 2, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Artist Potluck - Oct 15, 6 - 8 pm

Family Day/ Scavenger Hunt - Oct 17, 11 am - 1 pm

Fourth Friday - Oct 23, 6 - 9 pm

### **Gallery Hours:**

Tuesday - Thursday 10am - 4pm

Friday 10am - 8pm

Saturday & Sunday 1 - 4pm

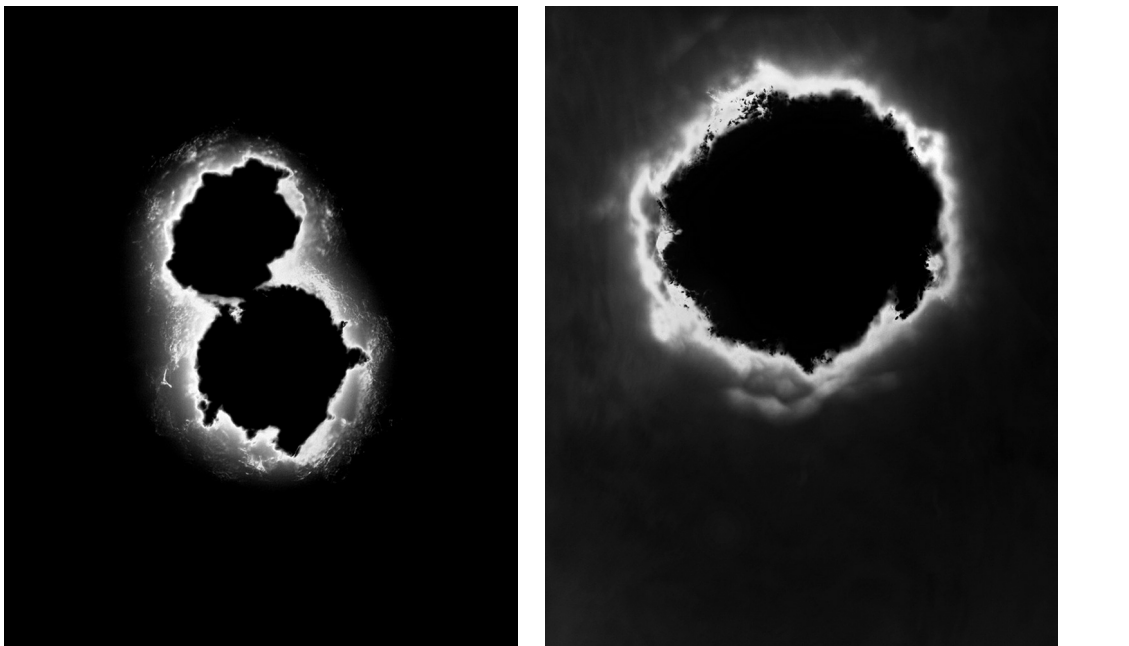
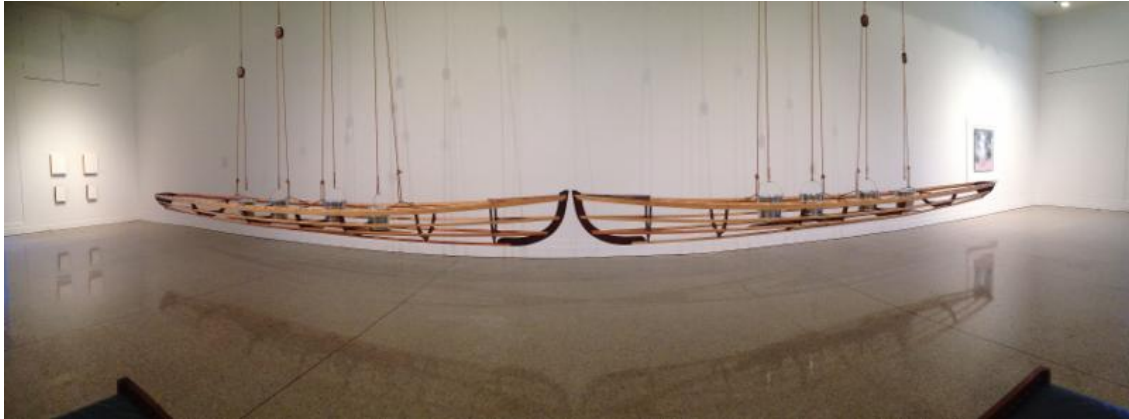
### **ATTACHED IMAGES:**

Daniel Graham's "The Cleaving of Two Brothers from a Foreign Land"

Derrick Mead's "During"

Garrett Hanson's "Void"

Elissa Morley's "Delights I" & "Delights II"





Lexington Art League

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## About Lexington Art League

Committed to building a world where art, artists, and art-making flourish among regional, national, and international communities, LAL provides free, quality contemporary art programming, including exhibitions, youth education and outreach programs, artist conversations, community tours, and more.

Founded in 1957, LAL has radically evolved beyond the parameters of traditional art leagues. While keeping the core of the art league model--a robust membership deeply committed to the value of visual art in contemporary life--LAL embraces 21st Century approaches to curatorial programming, community-building, place-making, art education, and outreach to underserved communities.

LAL's slogan, "Art for Everyone," reflects the organization's commitment to providing multiple access points for patrons to experience visual art. From the Woodland Art Fair, an outdoor, weekend-long juried art sale which draws more than 60,000 visitors to large-scale art exhibitions at The Loudoun House to the The 20, a high-end art auction, LAL sees itself as a visual art organization that fosters relevant connections among diverse cross-sections of the public and thought-provoking contemporary artwork by local, regional, national, and international artists.

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All Lexington Art League programs are made possible through the generous support of Lexarts. Lexarts allocation of \$50,000 represents the largest single donation to the operations of the Lexington Art League. The Kentucky Arts Council, a state arts agency, provides operating support for the Lexington Art League with state tax dollars and federal funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.