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Contemporary Realism Biennial 2014 opens September 20
Featuring work from more international realism artists than ever before

September 16, 2014 (Fort Wayne, IN) – America has enjoyed a long, rich history of Realist art from Colonial times to the present. The Fort Wayne Museum of Art's Contemporary Realism Biennial is an invitational and juried exhibition which highlights the strength and innovation of the most compelling trends in American and international realism. In the course of the history of art, a singular quest has commanded more artists' attention than any other: to render the objects in our world with accuracy, dignity, and grace. We are proud to expand the discourse on this enduring tradition in presenting the 2014 installment of this dynamic contemporary exhibition, on display September 20-November 30.

The art in this exhibition presents a vast range of ideas, approaches, styles, and subject matter. Some artists are building and expanding upon the legacies of Photorealism, Magic Realism, trompe l'oeil, and urban realism. Others strive to capture light and texture, or delve into the psychology of the situation or sitter. Several create fantastic and macabre narrations, but all strive to achieve the unthinkable with their technical skills in making realistic works of art.

Only 34 works were juried in from more than 700 entries from around the country, and 22 works were selected by invitation from the world's masters of realism. This year marks the first time when the number of invited artists rivals that of the juried artists, a decision made by FWMoA President and CEO Charles A. Shepard III that was meant to elevate the status of this exhibition as a showcase for not just emerging realists all over the country, but also for the powerhouses of realism in established circles. This hybrid of emerging and established artists presents a dynamic exhibition with a diversity of artistic perspectives.

The FWMoA will award prizes to outstanding exhibiting artists to be determined by prize juror Frank Bernarducci, Director and Partner of Bernarducci.Meisel.Gallery, a prominent SoHo gallery presenting the finest contemporary realist art including established and emerging artists of the genre. Prizes to invited artists will be chosen by Charles. A. Shepard III.

CRB2014 will be accompanied by a distinctive, full color exhibition catalogue designed by the premier designer Alan Nauts Program Director, Communication Arts and Graphic Design University of Saint Francis, School of Creative Arts, featuring the work of the invited artists and a selection of the juried artists. The exhibition will be celebrated at the **Fall Party on October 10 from 6-9pm** at the Fort Wayne Museum of Art. Entrance is \$12 for guests/\$5 for Members. Main Street Bistro will cater, and the Freak Brothers will perform. On October 2, Chief Curator Charles Shepard will lead a Director's Tour at 12:15pm, offering his unique perspective as the visionary for the exhibition. For more information, please visit the Museum's website at www.fwmoa.org.

About the Fort Wayne Museum of Art: Beginning with art classes in 1888 given by J. Ottis Adams and later William Forsyth, the Fort Wayne Museum of Art has evolved into a center for the visual arts community in Northern Indiana. Regularly exhibiting nationally acclaimed artists, the FWMoA also boasts an extensive permanent collection of American and related art. FWMoA is committed to the collection, preservation, presentation and interpretation of American and related art to engage broad and diverse audiences throughout the community and region, and add value to their lives. The Fort Wayne Museum of Art is a funded partner of Arts United of Greater Fort Wayne. ###