

Artis—Naples

*Home of The Baker Museum
and the Naples Philharmonic*

Contact: *Therese McDevitt, Communications Director*

tmcdevitt@artisnaples.org | 239-254-2794

Website: artisnaples.org

Facebook: facebook.com/artisnaples

Twitter: [@artisnaples](https://twitter.com/artisnaples) | Instagram: [artisnaples](https://www.instagram.com/artisnaples)

ARTIS—NAPLES, THE BAKER MUSEUM ANNOUNCES OPENING OF TWO SUMMER EXHIBITIONS

True Likeness and Recent Acquisitions: 2019-Present open June 25

Naples, FL (May 23, 2022) – Artis—Naples announced today that two summer exhibitions will open at The Baker Museum on June 25, one featuring (and questioning) traditional portraits in a variety of media and the other presenting more than 50 works that have been added to the museum’s permanent collection since 2019. *True Likeness* will be on view from June 25 through September 25, and *Recent Acquisitions: 2019-Present* will be on view through January 8. The Baker Museum will be closed for summer maintenance from July 25 until September 6.

“We are proud to present these two outstanding exhibitions this summer,” said CEO and President Kathleen van Bergen. “*True Likeness* provides a snapshot of our current world through the works of a diverse group of artists. There is also tremendous variety in the works exhibited in *Recent Acquisitions*. This exhibition is a testament to the incredible generosity and support of individual collectors and donors and their trust in Artis—Naples, The Baker Museum as a collecting institution and its stewardship of significant works of art since it first opened its doors in 2000.”

True Likeness

True Likeness addresses the idea that portraits serve as expressions of identity, popular taste and social standing, as well as documentations of personal and communal events and experiences, and individual and collective identity. Whether for ritualistic or artistic purposes, representing oneself in the best light or seeing others in sympathetic terms are only a few motives behind why people make and record images of each other.

“The COVID-19 pandemic prevented us from seeing the full faces of others while in public spaces over much of the past two years,” said Museum Director and Chief Curator Courtney McNeil. “This exhibition gives us the opportunity to engage with the broad range of subjects represented in these portraits and to reflect on our profound similarities as humans, a notion which many of the artists included in *True Likeness* address through their art.”

True Likeness presents contemporary portraits from diverse makers in media including video, photography, painting, collage, sculpture, printmaking and drawing. These artists, some familiar, others more on the fringe of the art world, hail from all over the United States. Their own identities, and those presented through their works, provide a snapshot of the country’s identity as well, highlighting and celebrating its diversity.

Artists included in *True Likeness* are Endia Beal, Antonius-Tín Bui, Sam Doyle, Amir H. Fallah, LaToya Ruby Frazier, Juan R. Fuentes, Raymond Grubb, Holly Keogh, Deborah Luster, Clyde

Eugene “Gene” Merritt, Dan Robert Miller, John Monteith, Kameron Neal, Wendy Red Star, Chris Sullivan and Mickalene Thomas.

True Likeness, curated by Tom Stanley and Lia Newman, was first displayed at the Van Every/Smith Galleries at Davidson College. The presentation of this exhibition at Artis—Naples, The Baker Museum is curated by Rangsook Yoon, Ph.D., curator of modern art. The exhibition and brochure were made possible with the support of the Herb Jackson and Laura Grosch Gallery Endowment, Bacca Foundation Visiting Lecture and Artist Fund, Davidson College Friends of the Arts and *Stories Yet to be Told: Race, Racism and Accountability*, a Davidson College institutional initiative.

Recent Acquisitions: 2019-Present

The Baker Museum’s permanent collection has grown steadily over the past two decades. With generous gifts and promised gifts from numerous individuals and through museum purchases, the art collection has continued to expand in both breadth and quality within the museum’s clearly defined scope, which encompasses American, Latin American and European art from the 1880s to the present day.

“We are profoundly grateful to these collectors and donors for their trust in us and for their recognition of our commitment to growing the permanent collection in significant ways,” McNeil said.

Two outstanding acquisitions are Deborah Butterfield’s *Charlemagne* (1980), an equine sculpture made of driftwood and other found materials acquired in 2019, and Dale Chihuly’s outdoor installation *Red Reeds* (2020). No less formidable are two imposing, large-scale paintings by Donald Sultan and Hunt Slonem, both acquired in 2021. Sultan’s *Steer, October 7, 1982* (1982) and Slonem’s *Hutch Hutch* (2019) strengthen the museum’s collection of postwar and contemporary American art. These works are highlighted in this exhibition, alongside photographs by Mariana Yampolsky, Philip Perkis and Jack Leigh; and two print suites by Louise Nevelson and Ernest Trova—11 silkscreens from Nevelson’s *Façade: In Homage to Edith Sitwell* (1966) and six lithographs from Trova’s *Falling Man* (1967) series.

Furthering the museum’s robust modern art collection are drawings by two noted French surrealists, André Masson and Max Bucle; oil paintings by the Mexican surrealist Enrique Chavarria; and the cubist painting *The Three Musicians*, by Ukrainian-born, Jewish-American artist William Meyerowitz, among others. Lastly, the exhibition will feature paintings by Mally Khorasantchi and Antonio Guerrero, two Florida-based artists who have created multi-panel, mixed-media paintings demonstrating the continued importance of surrealism and abstraction in contemporary art.

ARTIS—NAPLES

Home of The Baker Museum and the Naples Philharmonic, Artis—Naples is unique among cultural institutions nationwide, equally dedicated to both the visual and performing arts featuring artists of global distinction.

KIMBERLY K. QUERREY and LOUIS A. SIMPSON CULTURAL CAMPUS

Led by CEO and President Kathleen van Bergen and Sharon and Timothy Ubben Music Director Andrey Boreyko, we offer audiences more than 800 paid and free events annually within a variety of venues and settings situated throughout the 8.5-acre Kimberly K. Querrey and Louis A. Simpson Cultural Campus. Artis—Naples welcomes thousands of visitors each year for a broad array of artistic and educational opportunities perfect for audiences of all backgrounds and interests. The cultural campus is home to five buildings, including two performance halls (Frances Pew Hayes Hall and Myra J. Daniels Pavilion), The Baker Museum, the Toni Stabile Education Building and the Kohan Administration Building.

In the 2014-15 season, Andrey Boreyko assumed the title of music director and serves in this capacity for Artis—Naples. Boreyko is internationally recognized as one of the most exciting and dynamic conductors working today. This appointment, which concludes in 2022, is his first American post.

The Wall Street Journal says van Bergen and Boreyko have ushered in “an impressive new phase” for classical music in Southwest Florida.

NAPLES PHILHARMONIC

The Naples Philharmonic has long been recognized as one of the cornerstones of Southwest Florida’s arts community. As part of Artis—Naples, the Naples Philharmonic performs more than 140 orchestral and chamber music concerts, as well as opera and ballet, education, community and special event concerts annually between September and June in the 1,477-seat Hayes Hall, the 283-seat Daniels Pavilion and around the Southwest Florida region.

Jack Everly is Principal Pops Conductor and in the 2021-22 season celebrates 12 years in this role, bringing pops performances that celebrate music in its many forms. In 2017, Romanian conductor Radu Paponiu was named assistant conductor of the Naples Philharmonic and director of the Naples Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, and in 2019, he was promoted to associate conductor.

THE BAKER MUSEUM

The Baker Museum is one of the foremost fine art museums in Southwest Florida. The museum hosts several traveling exhibitions annually to complement installations of works from its permanent collection. Comprising more than 4,000 objects, the museum’s broad holdings of 20th- and 21st-century art reflect the generosity and commitment of area collectors. Of particular strength are The Baker Museum’s collections of American and Mexican modern art and significant gifts from the personal collection of Olga Hirshhorn.

With more than two decades of collecting and exhibiting, the museum is dedicated to stewardship and scholarship from both its growing permanent collection and outside sources. At the same time, The Baker Museum seeks out the best traveling exhibitions from the leading arts institutions in the world—including recently the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art and the Smithsonian Institutions—to enrich the Southwest Florida community.

In fall 2020, Artis—Naples celebrated the opening of an 18,000-square-foot expansion of The Baker Museum, designed by Weiss/Manfredi Architecture/Landscape/Urbanism, that created new spaces for multidisciplinary exploration and social interaction.

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY

In addition to creating and presenting visual and performing arts, Artis—Naples provides robust education and community activities for students of all ages. Each season thousands of Collier County Public Schools interact with Artis—Naples education programming both on its cultural campus and in classrooms. The Lifelong Learning program provides engaging lectures and study opportunities for adults seeking to engage more deeply with the arts.

The Friends of Artis—Naples, with more than 4,000 households who give \$75 or more, offers activities, travel experiences and events geared toward creating a deeper relationship between patrons and the arts.

In 2017, Artis—Naples acquired the Naples International Film Festival (NIFF), expanding its film offerings and providing a platform for the festival’s continued excellence and growth. In 2019, NIFF was named one of *MovieMaker* Magazine’s “Top 25 Coolest Film Festivals in the World,” and in 2022 celebrates its 14th year in the community.

