

Artis—Naples

*Home of The Baker Museum
and the Naples Philharmonic*

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ARTIS—NAPLES, THE BAKER MUSEUM FEATURES NAPLES COLLECTS 2022-23 EXHIBITION, MARCH 4 THROUGH OCTOBER 15

Naples, FL (February 27, 2023) — Artis—Naples, The Baker Museum is pleased to bring the fourth edition of *Naples Collects* to public view beginning March 4. Featuring pieces from more than a dozen Naples-area residents' private collections, *Naples Collects 2022-23* includes paintings, sculptures, drawings, prints, decorative arts and glass art that all reside in the Naples area but are usually only on view in private homes or settings.

The Naples community is fortunate to have many knowledgeable and enthusiastic collectors of art in a wide breadth of media among its residents, though this exhibition can showcase only a portion of the interesting pieces that members of the community possess. The strongest works for this year's *Naples Collects* exhibition come from the modern and contemporary timeframe, the mid- to late 20th century.

"We have an amazing group of private collectors here in Naples, and we are grateful for their openness and willingness to share their art with our community and the public," said The Baker Museum Director and Chief Curator Courtney McNeil. "Beyond displaying important art, this exhibition shines a light on the various approaches to—and the importance of—collecting, and the role collectors play in art history. From Italy's Medicis to Isabella Stewart Gardner in Boston to the Barnes family in Philadelphia, collectors through the centuries have historically helped to preserve works, support artists and expand access to great works of art."

Among the works being showcased this year are a painting by Ida O'Keeffe—whose sister (Georgia) is more well known but was an important and accomplished artist in her own right; stained glass by Philadelphia-based artist Judith Schaechter; and work by young contemporary artist and sculptor Nari Ward. The exhibition's pieces range in size and scale from Ward's massive installation to memory boxes by Joseph Cornell.

Naples Collects will occupy the full second floor of The Baker Museum, which also houses the ongoing exhibition *Magritte: Reflections of Another World*—six of René Magritte's paintings on loan to Artis—Naples by family friends of the artist, who happen to have a home in Naples. Appropriately, visitors to *Naples Collects* will be able to experience Magritte's work as well, through the lens of the local collector's generosity.

Lenders to the exhibition include Patty and Jay Baker; Bob and Moya Chase; Suzanne and Norman Cohn; Bob and Terry Edwards; Heithoff Family; Helaine and Marvin Lender; Gerald Lippes and Jody Lippes; Charles L. Marshall, Jr. and Richard L. Tooke; Drs. Steven and Sara Newman; Lety and Steven Schwartz; Dr. Laurence and Rita Sibrack; Juliette Singer, Stuart Singer and Lauren Goldfarb in honor of Linda Singer; Ralph and Shelly Stayer; Douglas M. VanOort; Lyn and E.T. Williams; Jeri L. Wolfson; Nancy Wood and George R. Woltz.

In conjunction with *Naples Collects*, McNeil will moderate a panel discussion to kick off the exhibition's opening, featuring local fine art collectors on March 9 at 10am. Collectors Gerald

Lippes, E.T. Williams and Jeri L. Wolfson will share insights into their personal art collections and the philosophies that guide their collections' development. Tickets for this event are available at artisnaples.org.

The first *Naples Collects* exhibition took place in 1998.

Naples Collects 2022-23
March 4 through October 15
The Baker Museum, second floor

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, 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.

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. The Naples Philharmonic has enjoyed a history of working with world-class music directors, with Andrey Boreyko being the fourth and most recent. Following the completion of Boreyko's eighth and final season in 2022, a search is underway for the Sharon and Timothy Ubben Music Director position. As the search continues, Artis—Naples has appointed violinist James Ehnes as an artistic partner through the 2023-24 season, working with Naples Philharmonic musicians in a variety of settings with a focus on inspiring and embodying a high level of artistry. Podium leadership includes Principal Pops Conductor Jack Everly, celebrating 13 years in this role in the 2022-23 season and bringing pops performances that celebrate music in its many forms. In 2017, 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. Starting with the 2022-23 season, Alvin Ho has joined the artistic team as assistant conductor of the Naples Philharmonic.

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, including significant gifts from the 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 3,400 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 celebrated its 14th year in the community.