

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

10/30/07

Betsy Panhorst, 334-844-4946 (panhoec@auburn.edu)

Mike Clardy, 334/844-9999 (clardch@auburn.edu)

CAROLINE MARSHALL DRAUGHON CENTER FOR THE ARTS & HUMANITIES IN THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS RECEIVES FUNDING FOR LECTURE SERIES ON ALABAMA ART

The Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts & Humanities in the College of Liberal Arts has received grant funding from the Alabama Humanities Foundation for *New Perspectives: Alabama Art in the Open*, its second annual lecture series focusing on the state's rich artistic heritage. The series seeks to explore and expand understanding of Alabama's contributions to America's visual arts culture. *New Perspectives: Alabama Art in the Open* will bring scholars to communities around the state, including Auburn, for public discussions on historic architecture, public art, photography, yard work and environmental art.

Topics are grouped around the theme of art created for, in or about the out-of-doors. The series will explore artists' creative reactions to and interaction with their environment, in large and small scale, in public and private spaces, using traditional methods and technological innovations. Those interested in history, anthropology, art, art history, and Native American and African American studies will find the lectures especially relevant and stimulating.

Scholars will discuss such concepts as the purposes and value of public art, the intersections of personal and cultural values in domestic landscapes as well as moral and spiritual purposes and a memorial stone wall constructed as a physical manifestation of story and history. The speakers represent universities, museums and art and preservation organizations: Georgine Clarke, Alabama State Council on the Arts; Julian Cox, High Museum of Art; Judith McWillie, University of Georgia; John Sledge, Mobile Historic Development Commission; and Kelly Wacker, University of Montevallo.

Lectures will take place at AU's Jule Collins Smith Museum at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesdays between February 5 and March 11, 2008. The series is sponsored by the Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts & Humanities in the College of Liberal Arts and the Alabama Humanities Foundation, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. It is co-sponsored by the Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, the AU Art Department, and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Auburn University.

After premiering at Auburn, the lectures will be offered in selected locations around the state. For information, call the Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts & Humanities at 334-844-4946.

---end---