



New Orleans Museum of Art

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New Orleans Museum of Art Presents *A Tribute to Cole Pratt:* *His Gallery's First 15 Years, 1993-2008*

Works by 29 artists on view June 28 to Sept. 21

[Hi-res images available upon request.]

NEW ORLEANS, La. (Tuesday, June 24, 2008)—This summer, the New Orleans Museum of Art presents *A Tribute to Cole Pratt: His Gallery's First 15 Years, 1993-2008*, an exhibition of work by 29 artists represented by the influential New Orleans-based gallerist. Pratt passed away unexpectedly on April 19.

“Cole Pratt was a loyal friend and longtime supporter of the New Orleans Museum of Art,” said NOMA director E. John Bullard. “This exhibition is our way of recognizing his contributions to the visual arts in Louisiana. Through the artists he supported and encouraged, Cole left a legacy that will endure for centuries in this Museum, as well as in many of this city’s finest private collections.”

Robert Coleman “Cole” Pratt, Jr. (1955-2008), a native of Mississippi, was well known for the Magazine Street gallery he opened in Uptown New Orleans in 1993. The Cole Pratt Gallery showcased artists from around the world, but built its reputation on those with ties to New Orleans and the South.

A Tribute to Cole Pratt: His Gallery's First Fifteen Years, 1993-2008 includes work by **Leslie Addison, Wayne Amedee, Randy Asprodites, Lea Barton, James Beaman, Robert Berguson, Barbara Brainard, Andrew Bucci, Marie Bukowski, Denyce Celentano, Aaron Collier, Christine Cozic, Judy Cooper, Susan Downing-White, Carolyn Evans, Miriam Hirsch, Richard Johnson, Robert Lansden, Gary Martin, Dale Newkirk, Katie Rafferty, Sylvaine Sancton, Phil Sandusky, Karen Stastny, Paul Tarver, Glennray Tutor, Hasmig Vartanian, Evert Witte, and Carlos Zervigon.**

Of the 29 artists, nine are represented in NOMA's permanent collection: Amedee, Bucci, Cooper, Evans, Hirsch, Johnson, Sandusky, Tarver, and Vartanian.

About NOMA and the Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden

The New Orleans Museum of Art, founded in 1910 by Isaac Delgado, houses more than 40,000 art objects encompassing 4,000 years of world art. Works from the permanent collection, along with continuously changing temporary exhibitions, are on view in the Museum's 46 galleries Wednesdays from noon to 8 p.m. and Thursdays to Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission to the Museum is free to Louisiana residents (\$5 through June 8) through the generosity of the Helis Foundation.

Admission to the adjacent Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden, featuring work by 57 artists, including several of the 20th century's great master sculptors, is always free during regular Museum hours.

The New Orleans Museum of Art and the Sculpture Garden are fully accessible to handicapped visitors and wheelchairs are available from the front desk.

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