

ELMHURST ART MUSEUM

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Elmhurst Art Museum adds another week to experience trio of wildly popular exhibitions,
now on view through January 20, 2019:

***David Wallace Haskins: Polarity;
The Figure and the Chicago Imagists;
and McCormick House: 1952-59***

(November 13, 2018) Elmhurst Art Museum announced today that a trio of popular exhibitions mounted this Fall -- *David Wallace Haskins: Polarity; The Figure and the Chicago Imagists: Selections from the Elmhurst College Art Collection*; and *McCormick House 1952-59* -- will now be presented through Sunday, January 20, 2019, providing an additional week for visitors to experience the incredible interactive installations of *Polarity; The Figure and the Chicago Imagists*, an overview of the important mid-century movement which originated here; and the *McCormick House: 1952-59* showcase of a full domestic interior inspired by the House's original residents Robert Hall McCormick III and Isabella Gardner.

Polarity, the major new solo exhibition by Chicago-based multi-media artist **David Wallace Haskins**, is his most ambitious yet, inviting visitors to explore and interact with a trio of works that create tension from opposing forces, whether elemental or experiential. The video *Where We Meet* shows a series of people from all ages walking from a single point on the horizon towards the viewer, arriving life-sized on the museum wall before turning and disappearing into the distance again, highlighting one's absence and presence in the world. *Time Mirror III* continues the interactive video work Haskins first introduced at the Museum in 2016 and allows viewers to experience multiple past versions of themselves interacting in real-time throughout the gallery space. The large-scale *Architecture of Light* is an immersive installation that combines the immaterial elements of fire (light) with the material elements of water (haze) to recreate atmospheric conditions similar to the sky's sun and clouds. Haskins also premieres a site-specific installation in the Museum's adjacent Mies van der Rohe McCormick House; *Ascension / Descension* is a must-see mirrored installation that puts the one-story glass house designed by the famed architect in conversation with the tall skyscrapers that made him a modern icon.

The Figure and the Chicago Imagists is curated by **Suellen Rocca**, one of the original members of the 'Hairy Who' collective and current Curator and Director of Exhibitions at Elmhurst College. The exhibition illustrates how, over and over, the Chicago Imagists cast the figure in numerous roles,

distorting it and layering it with metaphor and personal meaning. Outrageous, irreverent, humorous and inspired by popular culture, these works reflect highly original expressions of the human form. *The Figure and the Chicago Imagists* features nearly 30 works from the Elmhurst College Art Collection, focused on artists working in Chicago between about 1950 and the present. Predominantly featuring works on paper, among the artists represented are Gladys Nilsson, Jim Nutt, Ed Paschke, Christina Ramberg, Barbara Rossi, and Karl Wirsum. *The Figure and the Chicago Imagists* has become an important complement to the Art Institute of Chicago's comprehensive exhibition, *Hairy Who? 1966-69*, currently on display through January 6, 2019.

McCormick House 1952-59 showcases the recent restoration of Mies van der Rohe's McCormick House at Elmhurst Art Museum, as veteran Chicago interior designer **Robert Kleinschmidt** and colleague **Ryan Monteagle** have curated a full domestic interior inspired by the House's original residents. Captivating visitors are a series of rooms with classic 1950s furniture inspired by historical photographs of the residence of Robert Hall McCormick III and Isabella Gardner (1952-59), as a means of honoring the original architect and his clients. Further, Kleinschmidt and Monteagle sought to prove how livable, inviting, and human a Mies-designed interior could be—and have completely transformed it with oriental rugs, minimal 1950s furniture, books, seasonal flowers, and contemporary abstract paintings. The architects will soon add more warmth to the historic home through seasonal holiday decor with a minimal, Mid-century focus.

About Elmhurst Art Museum

Elmhurst Art Museum is located at 150 Cottage Hill Avenue in Elmhurst (IL), 25 minutes from downtown Chicago by car or public transportation (Metra). The Museum is both an international destination for Mies van der Rohe scholars and fans and a regional center where people from Chicago and the western suburbs learn to see and think differently through the study of the art, architecture and design of our time.

The Museum is one block from the Elmhurst Metra station and open Tuesday-Sunday from 11am -5pm. Admission is \$12 (\$10 for seniors) and free for students and children under 18. For more information, please call 630.834.0202 or visit elmhurstartmuseum.org.

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Images (from left):

David Wallace Haskins, *Architecture of Light*, credit James Prinz

Ed Paschke, *Cobmaster*, 1975, Oil on canvas, 74 x 50 inches, Elmhurst College Art Collection

Installation view of *McCormick House: 1952-59*, credit The Adamkovi