

MYSTERY PAINTING CENTERPIECE OF NEW SIMON DINNERSTEIN EXHIBITION

See *The Lasting World* 9 March through 30 June in the First Level Galleries

ELMIRA, NY USA— The Arnot Art Museum will present the work of a Museum favorite artist in the Spring 2018 exhibition *The Lasting World: Simon Dinnerstein and the Fulbright Triptych*. Museum Executive Director Rick Pirozzolo said today, “*What a pleasure to bring these works—and Simon Dinnerstein himself—to the Museum again. His last public visit (nearly 20 years ago) made real impact. Our members are still talking about it.*” He added that the Museum is grateful to The Museum of Art and Archaeology at University of Missouri for planning, researching and making this exhibition possible.

This exhibition of Dinnerstein’s work explores the noted New York artist’s creative arc from early, hyper-realist works through more introspective and fantastical later works. “*The Fulbright Triptych*” is its centerpiece, a monumental work (fourteen feet across) that New York Times art critic Roberta Smith described as a “*crackling, obsessive showboat of a painting, dreamed up during a decade when the medium supposedly teetered on the brink of death.*” The painting is the subject of the recent National Public Radio story *A Painting Stored Away Now Seen in Light of Day*, found here: www.npr.org/2017/12/20/569977244/a-painting-stored-away-and-the-artist-who-wants-it-to-see-the-light-of-day.

The Lasting World celebrates the artistic practice of Simon Dinnerstein. These fifteen works of art span three decades and range from painstakingly realistic works, dense in graphic detail, to more dreamlike and painterly works equally dense in their imagery and symbolism. At first glance these paintings, drawings, and prints seem conventionally representational, and everyday interiors are depicted in such detail that figures compete with their settings for our attention, only emerging to the forefront in dreams. But all is not what it seems. Dinnerstein’s works change constantly yet subtly in perspective; what at first appears simple one-point perspective breaks down into multiple perspectives and different approaches when examined closely.

Over the course of his career, Dinnerstein has been a Fulbright Fellow, a Lazarus Fellow of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and a Fellow of the American Academy in Rome. He was elected to the National Academy of Design in 1992, in the midst of the creative arc these works trace.

Simon Dinnerstein will attend the exhibition’s opening reception beginning at 5:30pm on Friday 9 March. This event is open to the public; members are always free, and not-yet-members are \$10. Dinnerstein will also present a free casual Artist’s Conversation on Saturday 10 March at noon in the galleries. For more information, contact Guest Services at 607.734.3697, extension 120.

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About the Arnot Art Museum

The Arnot Art Museum is a world-class institution of fine art in downtown Elmira, New York USA. Housed in its original 1833 showcase with a grand late-twentieth century gallery addition, the Museum displays its permanent collection of seventeenth- to nineteenth-century European paintings; nineteenth- and twentieth-century American art and collections of Asian, Egyptian, Pre-Columbian, and Native American collections. Temporary exhibitions highlight various aspects of the collections and include works from around the world. Its nationally-recognized serial exhibition *Re-presenting Representation* features the best in contemporary representational art and complements the Museum's growing collection of contemporary work.

The Museum, located at 235 Lake Street in Elmira, New York, is open Tuesday through Friday from 10am to 5pm, and Saturday from 12n to 5pm.