

PRESS RELEASE

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The Evocative Art of Simon Dinnerstein

Columbia, MO — The Museum of Art and Archaeology at the University of Missouri–Columbia presents “The Lasting World: Simon Dinnerstein and the Fulbright Triptych.” This multi-venue exhibition of works by New York artist Simon Dinnerstein (b. 1943, Brooklyn, NY) debuts at the Museum of Art and Archaeology from July 25 through December 24, 2017 and will subsequently travel to the Arnot Art Museum in Elmira, NY and the Nevada Museum of Art in Reno, NV.

Exploring Dinnerstein’s creative arc from realistic expressions to surrealistic musings, “The Lasting World” will feature the artist’s early hyper-realist paintings, including *Renée* (1970), *The Fulbright Triptych* (1971-74), and *The Sink* (1974); deeply introspective and fantastical works, such as *In Sleep* (1983), *Night* (1985), and *A Dream Play* (1986); as well as lush and meticulously rendered images like *Purple Haze* (1991) and *Passage of the Moon* (1998).

The centerpiece of the exhibit is Dinnerstein’s monumental work, *The Fulbright Triptych*, which New York Times art critic Roberta Smith called a “crackling, obsessive showboat of a painting, dreamed up during a decade when the medium supposedly teetered on the brink of death.” The multivalent *Triptych* is part autobiographical essay, part homage to Renaissance artists and their craft, part reflection on the historical legacies of the 20th century, and part meditation on the power of images to inspire across time and place.



Simon Dinnerstein, *The Fulbright Triptych*, 1971-74, oil on panel, 14 feet in width (Palmer Museum of Art of the Pennsylvania State University, purchase with funds provided by the Friends of the Palmer Museum of Art)

In conjunction with the exhibition, the 2017 Mizzou International Composer’s Festival will premiere *Three Nocturnes* by Robert Sirota, a composition inspired by three of Dinnerstein’s drawings that will be in the exhibition. The performance by the esteemed chamber ensemble Alarm Will Sound will take place at the Missouri Theatre on Thursday, July 27, 2017 at 7:30pm. Both Dinnerstein and Sirota will be present. The Museum will host a Meet and Greet with the artist on Friday, July 28, 2017 from 1:00 to 3:00pm.

An interdisciplinary symposium to be held September 22-23, 2017 at the University of Missouri will investigate Dinnerstein’s aesthetic choices and intellectual context. Participants in this symposium will represent diverse disciplines, including visual arts, art history, film studies, music, literature, poetry, history, psychology, religious studies, and women’s and gender studies.

This convergence of a variety of fields and interests reflects the kind of sustained, critical inquiry that Simon Dinnerstein’s art invites. His subtly evocative drawings and paintings continually interrogate the role of art in lived human experience. As the artist’s daughter, acclaimed concert pianist Simone Dinnerstein has remarked, “My father’s primary interest in art is in its humanity.” The exhibition and related events seek to engage visitors and the broader public in discussions of what individual works of art mean, and how significance and relevance are constructed from different viewpoints.

The Museum of Art and Archaeology is located in Mizzou North at the corner of 115 Business Loop 70 West and North Garth Avenue on the MU campus. The Museum is FREE and open to the public and is ADA accessible. Museum hours are Tuesday – Friday, 9:00am until 4:00pm; Saturday and Sunday, noon until 4:00pm. Group tours can be arranged by calling (573) 882-3591 at least two weeks in advance. Visit the Museum’s website at <http://maa.missouri.edu>.