

# NEWS & RECORD

## Weatherspoon Art Museum acquires significant works

Dawn Kane Jun 25, 2018



Beverly McIver (American, born 1962), "Oh, Happy Day," 2001. Oil on canvas, 52 x 48 in. Weatherspoon Art Museum; Gift of Douglas and Nicole Walla, 2017.

Courtesy of Weatherspoon Art Museum

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GREENSBORO — The Weatherspoon Art Museum at UNC-Greensboro has acquired eight important objects by artists working both today and earlier in the twentieth century, including Greensboro's Beverly McIver.

The acquisitions expand the museum's holdings of examples by female artists and artists of color, as well as satisfy its strategy of acquiring artworks featured in its exhibitions.

They were made possible by gifts from private individuals and an artist foundation, and through purchases with funds from museum endowments and the Benefactors Choice fund.

Acquisitions include: McIver's "Oh, Happy Day" from 2001; Sanford Biggers' "Paket" from 2016; Xaviera Simmons' "If We Believe in Theory #2" from 2009; Donald Lipski's "Untitled" from the series "Ah! Roma!" from 2000; Louise Fishman's "Untitled" from 2001; "El Anatsui's "Paper and Gold" from 2017; George Segal's "Fireside Chat" from 1991; and David Humphrey's "Hercules" from 2009-2010.

"The Weatherspoon Art Museum enjoys a nationally known permanent collection of more than 6,200 works of art," Director Nancy Doll said in a news release. "We are always pleased to share it through special exhibitions at the museum and through loans to museums of all sizes and scopes across the country and abroad. Its continued growth through gifts and purchases reinforces its depth and breadth."

- McIver's "Oh, Happy Day" is an oil on canvas, given to the Weatherspoon as a gift of Douglas and Nicole Walla.

A Greensboro native, McIver has received numerous grants and awards including the Anonymous Was A Woman Foundation grant, a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, a Radcliffe Fellowship from Harvard University, a Marie Walsh Sharpe Foundation award, a distinguished Alumni Award from Pennsylvania State University, a Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Award and a Creative Capital grant. This past year, she was awarded a Rome Prize fellowship. She teaches at Duke University.

- Biggers' "Paket" consists of antique Japanese futonji, silk, cotton, assorted textiles, acrylic, gold leaf and polystyrene. It was purchased by the Benefactors Choice fund.

Biggers was a recent Falk Visiting Artist at the Weatherspoon. He serves as an assistant professor at Columbia University in New York and was a recipient of last year's Rome Prize.

- Simmons' "If We Believe in Theory #2" is a chromogenic color print. It was purchased with funds from the Judy Proctor Acquisition Endowment, the Louise D. and Herbert S. Falk Acquisition Endowment, the William D. Snider Acquisition Endowment, the Maud Gatewood Art Acquisition and Lecture Endowment and the Robert C. Ketner Family Acquisition Endowment.

It will be featured in the Weatherspoon's upcoming exhibition "Dread & Delight: Fairy Tales in an Anxious World."

She has exhibited her work across the country, including solo shows at the Studio Museum in Harlem, Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art in Kansas City, Museum of Modern Art in New York and Radcliffe Institute at Harvard University.

- Lipski's Untitled was created from glass, red liquid and metal. It was a gift from Scott Morgan and Katy Allgeyer.

Lipski spent the year 2000 on a Rome Prize at The American Academy in Rome, where he created a suite of works titled "Ah! Roma!" He repurposed Coke bottles, filled them with red liquid and attached them with an intricate mesh.

- Fishman's untitled piece is oil on paper. The museum purchased it with funds from the Lynn Richardson Prickett Endowment and the Weatherspoon Guild Acquisition Endowment. 2017

Last fall, the Weatherspoon was the only Southern venue for the traveling exhibition, "Louise

Fishman: A Retrospective," the first museum survey of the painter's work from 1967 to the present.

- Anatsui's "Paper and Gold" is a pigment inkjet print with hand-cut edges, printed and hand-sculpted aluminum collage, and copper wire. It was purchased with funds from the Frances Stern Loewenstein Acquisition Endowment.

In 2015, Anatsui was awarded the Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement at the 56th International Art Exhibition of the Venice Biennale.

- Segal's "Fireside Chat" is a life-size sculpture of plaster, wood, metal, acrylic paint and radio. It was a gift from The George and Helen Segal Foundation.

- Humphrey's "Hercules" is an acrylic on canvas. It was a gift from Seymour and Carol Cole Levin.

David Humphrey appropriates his images from sources found at flea markets, antique stores, and on the internet. His interpretations, however, take a lot of liberties with the originals. The artist may add characters or exaggerate and mutate elements, in addition to augmenting with abstract, painterly passages within the composition. His diverse painting techniques result in enigmatic and engrossing narratives.

His work is found in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Walker Art Center, Whitney Museum of American Art and Yale University Art Gallery.