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museum  
of art

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# CANVAS

knoxville museum of art  
Spring 2012 [www.knoxart.org](http://www.knoxart.org)

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**SEVERAL SILENCES**  
March 16–May 20, 2012

Knoxville Museum of Art  
1050 World's Fair Park Drive  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37916  
865.525.6101 • info@knoxart.org

FREE Admission

#### Hours

Tuesday - Saturday: 10am-5pm  
Sunday: 1-5pm

#### Closed

Mondays, New Year's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Eve

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#### Canvas Newsletter

Published three times a year by the  
Knoxville Museum of Art © 2012  
Kurt Zinser Design, Design and Layout

#### Free for KMA members

Subscription price is \$15 per year.

#### Questions?

Contact Angela Thomas, Director of Marketing,  
865.934.2034, athomas@knoxart.org

knoxville  
museum  
of @art

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#### WELCOME FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This winter and spring the Knoxville Museum of Art is proud to present a varied, high-quality program of local, national, and international content and related programming.

Thanks to a second year of funding from the Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services, we continue to expand our efforts to collect and disseminate information about the art history of Knoxville and East

Tennessee. New works have been rotated into *Higher Ground: A Century of the Visual Arts in East Tennessee*, and new interpretive content can now be accessed from a computer terminal at the entrance to the gallery and through the museum's web site. The most exciting new addition is the spectacular Impressionist landscape by pioneering East Tennessee artist Lloyd Branson, which has been beautifully cleaned, restored, and reframed. This important new acquisition has now taken pride of place in *Higher Ground*.

In other KMA galleries this season, *Liquid Light* presents a rare opportunity to enjoy watercolors and other water-based media from the KMA collection. You'll be surprised at the range, quality, and richness usually hidden away in the storage vault, where these light-sensitive works spend most of their time safely in the dark. *Several Silences*, organized by the Renaissance Society, University of Chicago, continues a distinguished tradition of bringing stimulating and challenging contemporary art to Knoxville.

This year the museum expands its already copious educational offerings with a series of adult studio classes listed elsewhere in this edition of *Canvas*. Children and their parents can have fun and learn together with new games, toys, puzzles, and art-making materials recently added to the Creative Corner. (Several of these educational toys are available for purchase in the museum shop, which as always offers beautiful and unusual artist-made gifts and jewelry and art-related items.) And museum visitors of every age can now participate in docent-led tours of permanent and temporary exhibitions offered on the first Sunday of each month.

We look forward with increasing anticipation to the unveiling of Richard Jolley's monumental work in the Great Hall, now set for the spring of 2014. Planning is in high gear to get the Clayton Building ready for this major milestone in the KMA's history and position the museum to take advantage of this generous gift from Ann and Steve Bailey. A new KMA blog will soon be available online to keep you current on the progress of the Jolley installation and related KMA projects. As a member of the KMA, you are key to the success of all the museum's endeavors. We need your continued support, involvement, and interest to keep the museum moving forward toward an exciting future.

The Knoxville Museum of Art celebrates the art and artists of East Tennessee, presents new art and new ideas, serves and educates diverse audiences, enhances Knoxville's quality of life and economic development, and operates ethically, responsibly, and transparently as a public trust.

## HIGHER GROUND: A Century of the Visual Arts in East Tennessee

# Ansel Adams in East Tennessee

Ansel Adams (1902-1984) is widely considered to be America's greatest landscape photographer. He is best known for his timeless black and white images of Yosemite National Park and other natural wonders of the American West.

Few are aware that in 1948 Adams traveled to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park—his first and only recorded visit to Tennessee—in order to take photographs as part of a Guggenheim Fellowship on America's national parks and monuments. The resulting 47 images represent an extensive and important artistic record of the Smokies approximately 14 years after the park was established.

Adams describes his visit during the fall of 1948 in two letters. The first is addressed to Nancy, his wife, and Beaumont Newhall, his friend and influential photography historian:

*September 30th, 1948  
Dear Nancy and Beaumont:  
Plans all set:  
Leave here tomorrow for S.F.  
Leave S.F. on the City of SF for  
Chicago; then to Chattanooga, thence  
to the Grea [sic] Smokies N.P.  
Arrive Washington October 17th  
Arrive New York 19th or 20th at latest....*

Adams' second letter suggests he discovered the Smokies to be a difficult subject:

*Gatlinburg, Tennessee, October 9th, 1948  
Dear Beaumont,  
Your very good letter of Sept. 30th just  
arrived here in Gatlinburg. The Smokys  
are OK in their way, but they are going  
to be devilish hard to photograph....*

(Text of both letters courtesy of the archives at the  
Center for Creative Photography, Tucson, Arizona)

### Ansel Adams' Complete Smoky Mountain Portfolio

In 2010, the Knoxville Museum of Art applied for and was granted permission to include on its *Higher Ground* educational site the complete set of 47 images Ansel Adams created during his 1948 visit to the Smoky Mountains. This is the first time the complete set of images has ever been made available to the public.

See all the Ansel Adams Smoky Mountain images at [www.knoxart.org](http://www.knoxart.org).

### Adams' Four Published Smoky Mountain Images

Perhaps because Adams found the Smokies "devilish hard to photograph," he only published four images from his visit. Prints of these are exceedingly rare. In 2009, the Knoxville Museum of Art was fortunate to acquire *Dawn, Autumn Mist, Great Smoky Mountains National Park* (top right), and is seeking to acquire prints of the other three published images (below):



(above)  
Ansel Adams (1902-1984)  
*Dawn, Autumn Forest, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee, 1948*  
Gelatin silverprint on paper  
Knoxville Museum of Art; 19 ¼ x 14 ¼ inches,  
Gift of Patricia and Alan Rutenberg and Mary Ellen and Steve Brewington, 2009



(top left)  
Ansel Adams (1902-1984)  
*Mt. LeConte, Autumn, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee, 1948*

(bottom left)  
Ansel Adams (1902-1984)  
*Stream and Tree Trunks, Autumn, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee, 1948*

(below)  
Ansel Adams (1902-1984)  
*Tree, Mist, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee, 1948*

Courtesy of the Center for Creative Photography, Tucson, Arizona.  
All photographs © 2009 The Ansel Adams Publishing Rights Trust.



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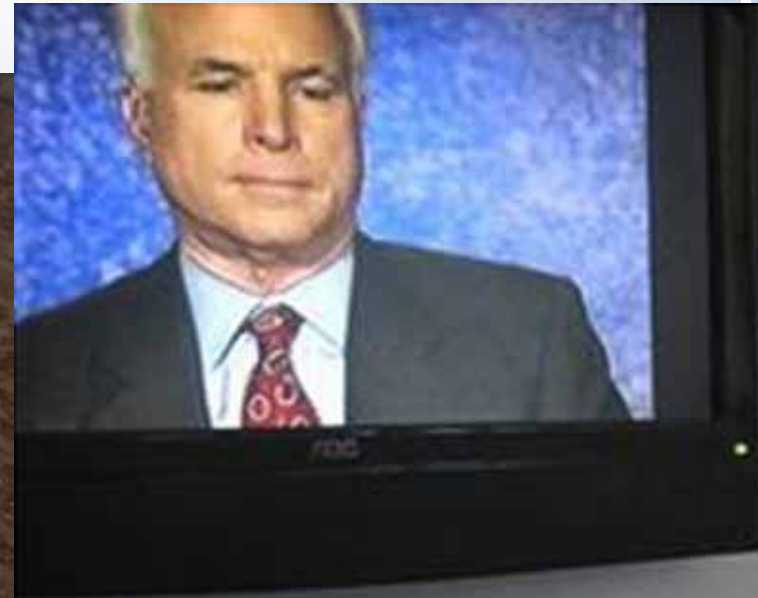
# Several Silences

MARCH 16–MAY 20, 2012

Inspired by experimental composer John Cage's epic 1952 composition *4'33"*, *Several Silences* is a group exhibition exploring various kinds of silence—meditative, ambient, memorial, etc.—and calling attention to the rarity of the absence of sound in our growing “culture of distraction.” The exhibition includes installations, videos, sculptures, drawings, and other works by over 10 contemporary artists from around the world who approach the theme of silence in distinctly individual ways.

Harry Shearer's *The Silent Echo Chamber* is comprised of a cluster of televisions showing pirated video footage of numerous media personalities and politicians. The footage reveals each person's quirks and mannerisms captured unknowingly by the camera in the minutes before going on air. In Troy Brauntuch's *conté crayon* drawings on cotton, stacks of folded men's dress shirts are barely discernable within murky, muted settings. As it turns out, the images are based on photographs of the interior of a Wall Street clothier taken by the artist in the days immediately after September 11, 2001. Ryan Gander's sprawling installation *A sheet of paper on which I was about to draw, as it slipped from my table and fell to the floor* consists of 100 glass spheres scattered throughout the gallery, each containing a laser-etched image of a blank sheet of paper. *Several Silences* is organized by The Renaissance Society, University of Chicago, which hosted the exhibition in 2009 and has assisted the KMA in reassembling it for this special presentation.

Media sponsors include AT&T Real Yellow Pages, Digital Media Graphix, Kurt Zinser Design, and WBIR.



(opposite page bottom)  
Troy Brauntuch  
*Untitled (Shirt #1)* 2007  
Conté on cotton  
63 x 51 inches  
Courtesy of Michael A. Young Collection, New York

(left, opposite page top)  
Ryan Gander  
*A sheet of paper on which I was about to draw, as it slipped from my table and fell to the floor* 2008  
100 crystal balls  
5 7/8 inches in diameter each, installation dimensions variable  
Courtesy of Collection Carnegie Museum of Art  
Purchase Gift of the Friends of the 2008 Carnegie International  
In honor of Richard Armstrong, 2009

(above)  
Harry Shearer  
*The Silent Echo Chamber* 2009  
Multi-screen video installation  
Dimensions variable  
Courtesy of the artist and Susan Inglett Gallery, New York

# at the KMA

## JANUARY

SPRING 2012  
For details visit [www.knoxart.org](http://www.knoxart.org)

## FEBRUARY

## MARCH

## APRIL

1		<b>Elementary Art Exhibition</b> Ritta Elementary School
6		<b>Alive After Five</b> TBA 6-8:30pm
8		<b>Second Sunday Docent Gallery Tours</b> 2pm
13		<b>Alive After Five</b> Wallace Coleman Band 6-8:30pm
20		<b>Alive After Five</b> TBA 6-8:30pm
26		<b>Liquid Light</b> Members-only preview party 5:30-7:30pm
27		<b>Alive After Five</b> TBA 6-8:30pm

1		<b>Elementary Art Exhibition</b> K-Town Youth Empowerment Network Council in collaboration with Sarah Moore Green Elementary School's Third Grades
1, 8, 15, 22		<b>Knitting Workshop</b> Instructor Veronica Ludlow
1		<b>Dine &amp; Discover</b> <i>Higher Ground</i> with Bruce Wheeler 12-1pm
7, 14, 21, 28; March 6, 13		<b>Basic Drawing Course</b> Instructor Bobbie Crews 10am - 1pm
10		<b>Alive After Five</b> TBA 6-8:30pm
12		<b>Second Sunday Docent Gallery Tours</b> 2pm
17		<b>Alive After Five</b> TBA 6-8:30pm
24		<b>Alive After Five</b> <i>Wild Women Don't Have the Blues</i> with TBA 6-8:30pm

1		<b>Elementary Art Exhibition</b> K-Town Youth Empowerment Network Council in collaboration with Sarah Moore Green Elementary School's Third Grades
3		<b>L'Amour du Vin Wine Auction &amp; Dinner</b> 6pm
7		<b>Dine &amp; Discover</b> <i>Higher Ground</i> with Mark Banker 12-1pm
9		<b>Alive After Five</b> TBA 6-8:30pm
11		<b>Second Sunday Docent Gallery Tours</b> 2pm
15		<b>Dine &amp; Discover</b> with Hasma Walker 12-1pm
15		<b>Opening Preview Party</b> for <i>Several Silences</i> 5:30-7:30pm
16-MAY 6		<b>Knoxville Watercolor Society</b> exhibition in the KMA Community Gallery
16		<b>Alive After Five</b> <i>St. Patrick's Day Eve</i> with Four Leaf Peat 6-8:30pm
22-25		<b>Collector's Circle trip to</b> <i>Santa Fe, New Mexico</i>
30		<b>Alive After Five</b> TBA 6-8:30pm

1		<b>Elementary Art Exhibition</b> Norwood Elementary
3, 10, 17, 24 & MAY 1		<b>Exploring Mixed Media</b> Instructor Donna Conliffe
13		<b>Alive After Five</b> TBA 6-8:30pm
17		<b>Annual Volunteer Appreciation Reception</b>
20		<b>Alive After Five</b> TBA 6-8:30pm

COMING SOON!

**Summer Art Academy**  
2012  
June 4 - August 3

January sponsored admission:  
AT&T Real Yellow Pages

February sponsored admission:  
Clayton Bank & Trust

March sponsored admission:  
Pilot Flying J

April sponsored admission:  
Publix

Stop by the  
**KMA Gift Shop**

The museum shop has a variety of exciting and one-of-a-kind gifts for everyone. Along with exhibition-related merchandise, the museum shop also offers an array of novelty and gift items. The children's section has a large selection of fun and educational toys and games, art supplies and books. Also featured are textile, glass, wood, ceramic pieces and jewelry made by local and regional artists. Offerings change, so visit often.

For additional information,  
contact Susan Creswell at 865.934.2042 or  
[screswell@knoxart.org](mailto:screswell@knoxart.org)



The KMA is pleased to acknowledge the support of the **Arts & Heritage Fund**. We are grateful to the Haslam Family Foundation, the Clayton Family Foundation, 21st Mortgage, Cornerstone Foundation, Knoxville Tourism & Sports Corporation, and Scripps Networks for contributing to this new community resource, which supports a wide range of arts organizations and historic sites in our area and is managed by the Arts & Culture Alliance of Greater Knoxville.

# Liquid Light: Watercolors from the KMA Collection

January 27–April 15, 2012

*Liquid Light* celebrates the significant growth of the KMA's watercolor collection and the exciting range of approaches to the medium by artists with ties to East Tennessee and beyond.

The selection of more than 50 works includes landscape images by masters of the medium from East Tennessee, including scenes by Thomas Campbell, Charles Krutch, George Galloway, Betsy Worden, and Hubert Shuptrine, whose compositions describe specific locations in detail. Others, like Richard Clarke and Walter Stevens, use watercolor in explorations of the landscape as a point of departure into abstraction. Alongside works by these local masters are those by internationally known artists Red Grooms, Thornton Dial Sr., and Charles Burchfield, each known for highly expressive scenes rendered in bold contours.

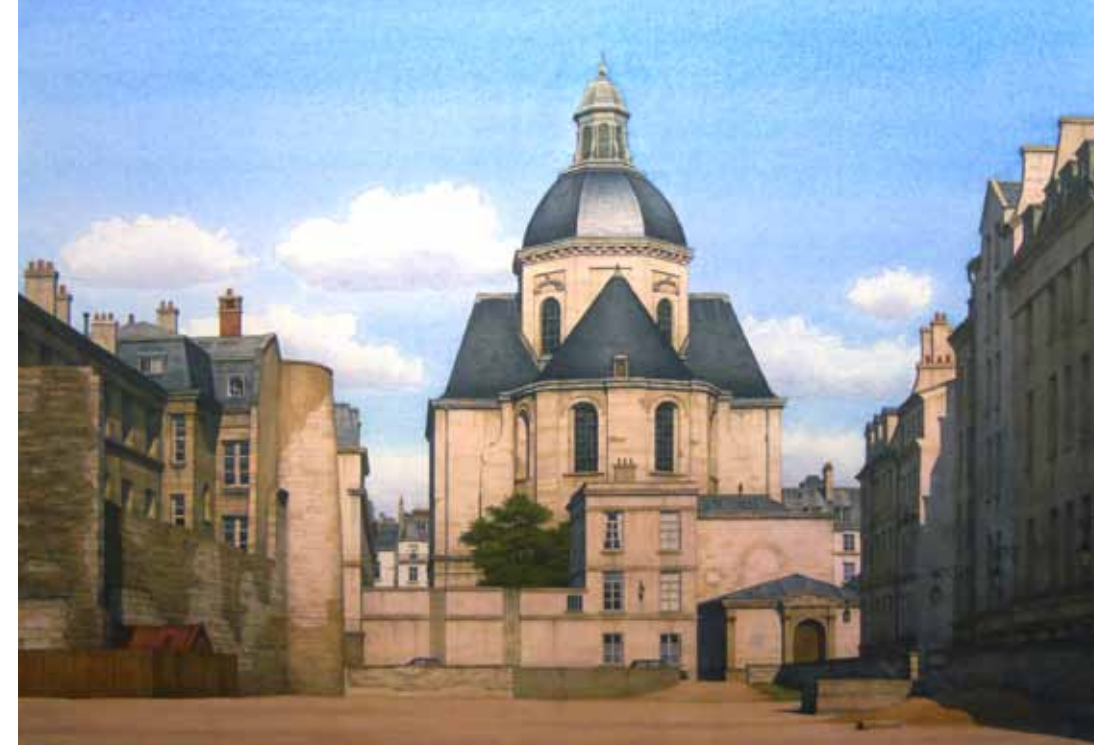
*Liquid Light* also represents a variety of technical approaches to watercolor. Janet Fish, Alice Baber, and Whitney Leland exploit the medium's inherent qualities in images made up of transparent pools of color. Jered Sprecher and Lee Walton build regimented compositions featuring hard-edged imagery and uniform color application. Red Grooms and Carl Sublett manipulate their paper support in order to introduce sculptural qualities to the painted surface. Many of the works featured in *Liquid Light* were acquired recently through generous gifts. The museum is grateful for these important contributions, and hopes exhibitions like *Liquid Light* will encourage additional support of the KMA's collection.

Media sponsors include AT&T Real Yellow Pages, Digital Media Graphix, Kurt Zinser Design, and WBIR.

(top)  
George Galloway  
*Past Gone*, 1985,  
Watercolor on paper,  
29 5/8 x 39 5/8 inches,  
Gift of Janet Bower in memory of Ben Bower, 2008

(middle)  
Jered Sprecher (American, born 1976)  
*Prismatic*, 2005  
Watercolor and gouache on found paper, 14 x 14 inches,  
Gift of the artist, 2009

(bottom)  
Richard Clarke (American, 1923-1997)  
*Untitled (Quarry)*, 1963  
Watercolor on paper, 18 x 23 7/8 inches,  
Gift of the Carl Sublett Family, 2010



(top)  
Frederick Brosen (American, born 1954)  
*At the Marais*, 1990  
Watercolor on paper, 30 1/4 x 40 3/4 inches,  
Gift of Richard Segal, 1992

(middle left)  
Red Grooms (American, born 1937)  
*Hot Dog Vendor No. 3*, 1997  
Paper construction, watercolor, & pencil on paper,  
18 x 20 x 16 inches, Gift of the artist, 1997

(middle right)  
Janet Fish (American, born 1938)  
*A Slice of Meringue Pie*, 1990  
Watercolor on paper, 22 3/4 x 29 3/4 inches,  
Gift of the American Academy of Arts & Letters,  
New York, 1994

(bottom)  
Walter Stevens (American, 1927-1980)  
*Untitled*, 1957  
Watercolor on paper, 20 7/8 x 29 1/4 inches,  
Gift of the Carl Sublett Family, 2010



# knoxville museum of art

The Knoxville Museum of Art is one of the city's most beautiful venues for weddings and receptions. Easy access and free parking combined with beautiful views of World's Fair Park make it the ideal location. Call or come by the museum today to explore your options. [www.knoxart.org](http://www.knoxart.org)

For more information, please contact Facility Sales Manager Diane Hamilton at 865.934.2048 or [dhamilton@knoxart.org](mailto:dhamilton@knoxart.org)



## SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

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David Rhodes, President of Schmid & Rhodes Construction Company: "My partnership with the Knoxville Museum of Art for The Guild's Holiday Homes Tour is the perfect place for me to support the arts and a great way to give back to our community."

The KMA gives gracious thanks to Schmid & Rhodes for twelve consecutive years of partnership as the Presenting Sponsor for the Holiday Homes Tour, which is a favored holiday fundraising tradition presented by the Guild of the KMA.

Schmid & Rhodes Construction Company is a Knoxville based premier custom-home builder. Their mission is to serve people with a spirit of humility, integrity, and excellence in the custom building and remodeling relationship.

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## do<sup>o</sup>cent (do' sɛnt) n.

|| <L docere, to teach || a lecturer or tour guide, as at a museum

### KMA Docent Program

Do you have an interest in art? Do you find yourself easily talking to groups? Perhaps you would like to consider becoming a docent. The KMA is looking to expand its docent program.

If you love art and would like to find out more about what it takes to be a KMA docent, please contact Krishna Adams, assistant curator of public programs at 865.934.2037 or at [kadams@knoxart.org](mailto:kadams@knoxart.org).

## ADULT ART CLASSES

### Knitting Workshop



Instructor Veronica Ludlow  
Sundays, February 1, 8, 15, and 22  
10am-1pm  
\$100 KMA members /  
\$125 non-members

Beginners workshop, bring your fancy yarns and work your way through lessons, and one...two...three...you're knitting! Neck warmers and scarves will be the focal points.

### Oil Painting



Instructor Kathy Holland  
Wednesdays, March 14, 21, 28;  
April 4, 11, 18, and 25  
10am-1pm  
\$130 KMA members /  
\$160 non-members

This class is for all levels of painting ability, but especially those with little or no painting experience. Technical topics will include use of materials, painting supports, sound studio practices, use of color, and choice of source material. Topics will also include developing a personal approach to painting and the process of developing a painting from idea to finished work. Plenty of individual attention will be provided. Some previous drawing experience or instruction would be helpful.

### Exploring Mixed Media



Instructor Donna Conliffe  
Tuesdays, April 3, 10, 17, 24, and  
May 1  
10am-1pm  
\$100 KMA members /  
\$130 non-members

Have fun painting and experimenting using a variety of materials and techniques! By starting with texture, adding paint and collage, you will learn how to incorporate paint with various images and materials to recreate what you started with. At times, you will totally transform your original work. You will work with layering, transfer techniques and collage. Learn to personalize your paintings using found and treasured items. This is an evolving process that will allow each person to discover and actively participate in bringing their own experiences to each work.

### Basic Drawing Course



Instructor Bobbie Crews  
Wednesdays, February 7, 14, 21,  
28; March 6 and 13  
10am-1pm  
\$130 Members/  
Non-members \$160

Class begins by assessing where each student stands with his or her drawing skills, and progresses from there. Each student is unique and will receive encouragement and attention according to their needs. Demonstrations and critiques are an essential part of the class and materials used will consist of traditional drawing media.

To register, contact Rosalind Martin at 865.523.6349 or [rmartin@knoxart.org](mailto:rmartin@knoxart.org)