



ALBANY MUSEUM OF ART

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jim Hendricks  
Director of Marketing & Public Relations  
229.439.8400  
[jim.hendricks@albanymuseum.com](mailto:jim.hendricks@albanymuseum.com)

### CATCH TWO ALBANY MUSEUM OF ART EXHIBITIONS BEFORE THEY CLOSE

Shows Set to Close Jan 4 Feature Works of Nancy Newberry and Local Artists

**[For Release Dec 18, 2019 – Albany, GA]** – A new year will arrive soon, bringing with it the final days of two popular exhibitions at the Albany Museum of Art.

The last chance to see *Smoke Bombs and Border Crossings* in the East Gallery and a juried exhibition of works by the Georgia Artists Guild of Albany in the West Gallery is Saturday, Jan 4, 2020.

The museum's third exhibition, *Origami Variations*, features work by New York artist Gloria Garfinkel. That show continues in the Haley Gallery through Saturday, Feb 8, 2020.

*Smoke Bombs and Border Crossings* is an exhibition of photography by Texas photographer Nancy Newberry, an internationally known artist whose work explores the interplay between individuality and social affiliation.

The Georgia Artists Guild of Albany show features 19 paintings, photographs and sculptures submitted by a nine local artists who are members of the organization. This is the 26<sup>th</sup> annual competition for the group.

Artists whose works are on display in this year's exhibition are Meg Anderson, Alex Davis, Bonnie Davis, Jennifer Herrick, Bob Parker, Ray Pierotti, Janice Rentz, Kay K. Roberts and Mary Sumners.

"We are delighted to highlight the important work of artists from our community," AMA Executive Director Andrew James Wulf, Ph.D., said. "The AMA is and will always be artist-centered, featuring the work of local artists alongside those from further afield. This has the power to reveal universal creative connections."

Newberry's exhibition, *Smoke Bombs and Border Crossings*, comprises photographs that feature brightly costumed cowboys, charros and marching band members, all shot in the region once known as the Wild West.

“Nancy Newberry’s work celebrates anonymous individuals who live along the U.S.-Mexico border and yet whose identities transcend hard definition, making these portraits charming and mysterious,” Wulf said.

In discussing her work, Newberry says she has “long been interested in the American archetype, the Wild West, and how its iconic self-image is represented in television, movies and interpreted in the U.S. and by other cultures. Simply telling people I am from Texas begins a discourse laced with stereotypes made famous by the genre.”

Newberry captured the images in her home state and in Mexico, describing it as a “survey of my own back yard, merging documentary portrayals with dreamlike creations to investigate notions of nationalism and community.”

She says she has been inspired by the Spaghetti Western, which “famously appropriated, reinterpreted and questioned its own and Western mythologies” while developing into a “a repository for issues concerning national identity on both sides of the Atlantic.”

“With an emphasis on costume and uniform, the work combines fact and fiction in punctuated phrases where subjects act out characters as part of a group or a team. The project integrates my ongoing fascination with regalia and continues my exploration of self-representation and cultural identity at large,” Newberry said.

Those who wish to view the two exhibitions before they close Jan 4 also should take note that the AMA will be closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year’s Day.

New exhibitions will open on Thursday, Jan 9, 2020 in the AMA’s East and West Galleries.

### **CURRENT AMA EXHIBITIONS**

- *Origami Variations*, works by Gloria Garfinkel, is in the Haley Gallery through Feb 8, 2020.
- *Smoke Bombs and Border Crossings*, photography by Nancy Newberry, is in the East Gallery through Jan 4, 2020.
- *Georgia Artists Guild of Albany*, 26<sup>th</sup> annual juried exhibition, is in the West Gallery through Jan 4, 2020.

### **ABOUT THE ALBANY MUSEUM OF ART**

The Albany Museum of Art, located at 311 Meadowlark Drive in Albany, Georgia, adjacent to Albany State University West Campus just off Gillionville Road. The museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. The Albany Museum of Art is open 10 am through 5 pm Tuesdays through Fridays and noon until 5 pm on Saturdays. Admission is free.

For more information about the AMA please visit our website, [www.albanymuseum.com](http://www.albanymuseum.com) or call 229.439.8400. Be sure to follow the @AlbanyArtMuseum on Twitter, AlbanyMuseum on Instagram and AlbanyMuseumOfArt on Facebook.

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