



MISSISSIPPI MUSEUM *of* ART
380 South Lamar Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39201

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UPCOMING – RETURNING HOME AGAIN

River and Reverie: Paintings of the Mississippi by Rolland Golden

(Jackson, Miss ...) The Mississippi Museum of Art continues to balance its exploration of international artists and subjects with a steadfast commitment to keeping alive the memories and character of the region. Beginning September 25, 2010, and continuing through January 16, 2011, visitors are invited to discover and rediscover the dynamic beauty of the Mississippi River through the exhibition *River and Reverie: Paintings of the Mississippi by Rolland Golden*. Golden, born in New Orleans, Louisiana, has traveled extensively across the country and beyond in his career of more than five decades, painting the people and places that he's seen. The artist now lives in Natchez, Mississippi, and his homecoming is evident in the artistic expression of these paintings, which he completed between 2009 and 2010.

Included in this collection of work are 45 paintings of the Mississippi River, all from different vantage points and times of day. A painting of the ethereal misty dawn, trees with Spanish moss set against the expansiveness of the water, is set alongside that of a fiery sunset, the dying sunlight lighting up the river like napalm. The variety and diversity remind the viewer that each experience of the

River is individual and unlike any other. The absence of human presence in the works invites interpretation, projection, and redefinition.

It is easy to think of a young Mark Twain in one painting, as a vaguely reminiscent ship melts into the distance of the river. Or perhaps the same shape is an island, holding steady while the current passes around its eroding sides. The import of the paintings is up for contention and discussion.

Yet it is without disagreement that each and every piece in the series is the work of an artist deeply connected to the emotional power of the Mississippi. The simple, surface beauty of the riverscapes is enough to move the viewer. And, like the murky river itself, Rolland Golden's paintings do not readily yield the measure of their depths.

River and Reverie is being made available for Mississippians and visitors from across the region through the support of the law firm of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, P.C.

"It is always a privilege for our firm to sponsor an exhibition so rich in culture and scope, especially one that provides the public an opportunity to explore and reflect on the Mississippi region," said Steve Edds, a shareholder with the firm.

On view in The Donna and Jim Barksdale Galleries for Changing Exhibitions, these works mark Rolland Golden's first solo exhibition at the Mississippi Museum of Art.

Admission to the exhibition, opening September 25, is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors, and \$3 for students. Purchase includes admission to the concurrent

exhibition *Oraien Catledge: Photographs of Cabbagetown*. Museum hours are Tuesday – Saturday, 10 AM – 5 PM, Sunday 12 PM – 5 PM.

For more information about this exhibition and other programs offered by the Mississippi Museum of Art, visit the web at www.msmuseumart.org or call 601-960-1515 or toll free 1-866-VIEW-ART.

The Mississippi Museum of Art and its programs are sponsored in part by the city of Jackson and the Jackson Convention & Visitors Bureau. Support is also provided in part by funding from the Mississippi Arts Commission, a state agency, and in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

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