

Kent Knowles: 'Wayward'

Tuesday, Feb. 16 - Sunday, June 12

Opening reception: Tuesday, Feb. 16

The exhibition 'Wayward' takes place as part of SCAD deFINE ART 2016, the seventh annual program of fine art exhibitions, lectures, performances and public events organized by Savannah College of Art and at SCAD locations in Atlanta and Savannah, Georgia and Hong Kong.

"Wayward," the inaugural exhibition of a new body of paintings and sculptures by Kent Knowles, aims to envelop the viewer in an environment of fantastical imagery. His colorful, large-scale paintings are positioned in an ambiguous space between allegory and personal symbolism, as he adopts myths for the sake of personal expression and narrative. Knowles draws from the influence of Thomas Hart Benton, Stanley Spencer and Paula Rego for his figurative works. As with these earlier painters, Knowles' compositions are often dominated by robust human figures who morph or de-emphasize the space they occupy.

Knowles takes this to an extreme in "Wayward," and the women he portrays diminish their surroundings in unsettling ways. Their inability to coexist within their environment creates a sense of awkward tension and restlessness in this new series. Knowles is a SCAD alumnus and SCAD Atlanta associate dean of fine arts and foundation studies. This exhibition is curated by Amanda York, SCAD assistant curator of exhibitions.

For more information:

<https://www.scad.edu/event/2016-02-15-kent-knowles-exhibition-wayward>



Kent Knowles, "Wayward," detail, acrylic on canvas, 24" x 24", 2015. Image courtesy of the artist.

ABOUT KENT KNOWLES

Kent Knowles (B.F.A. painting) has been featured in numerous solo and group exhibitions throughout the Southeast. As the son of a U.S. Air Force chaplain, Knowles grew up traveling around the world, including high school years spent in Europe where he was introduced to the figurative and allegorical paintings of the Old Masters. Knowles became the SCAD Atlanta associate dean of fine arts and foundation studies after teaching in the foundation studies department for nearly 10 years. He holds a Master of Fine Arts degree in painting and drawing from the University of Georgia and a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in painting from SCAD. Knowles lives and works in Atlanta, Georgia

SOCIAL MEDIA

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SCAD: THE UNIVERSITY FOR CREATIVE CAREERS

The Savannah College of Art and Design is a private, nonprofit, accredited institution conferring bachelor's and master's degrees at distinctive locations and online to prepare talented students for professional careers. SCAD offers degrees in 42 majors, as well as minors in more than 60 disciplines across its locations in Savannah and Atlanta, Georgia; in Hong Kong; in Lacoste, France; and online through SCAD eLearning. With more than 32,000 alumni worldwide, SCAD demonstrates an exceptional education and unparalleled career preparation. The diverse student body, consisting of more than 12,000 students, comes from across the all 50 U.S. states and more than 100 countries. Each student is nurtured and motivated by a faculty of nearly 700 professors with extraordinary academic credentials and valuable professional experience. These professors emphasize learning through individual attention in an inspiring university environment, and the innovative SCAD curriculum is enhanced by advanced, professional-level technology, equipment and learning resources. In 2015, the prestigious Red Dot Design Rankings placed SCAD in the top four universities in the Americas and Europe. Career preparation is woven into every fiber of the university, resulting in a superior alumni placement rate. In a survey of Spring 2014 SCAD graduates, 97 percent of respondents reported being employed, pursuing further education or both within 10 months of graduation.

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