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Affairs Officer
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Watercolor USA 2022 Selected by The Ekru Project's Kevin Umaña



Springfield, MO. (March 24, 2022) – The Springfield Art Museum is pleased to announce that *Watercolor USA 2022* will feature 85 works from 85 contemporary artists working in watermedia, representing 26 states. The 61st exhibition of *Watercolor USA* was selected by juror Kevin Umaña, co-founder of The Ekru Project, a Kansas City-based artist-run gallery focused on contemporary, emerging, and historically excluded artists.

Two hundred and thirty-six artists from 37 states entered 386 works for consideration. Fifty-seven of the 236 artists submitting their work for consideration were new entrants. Umaña had the unenviable task of narrowing those entries down into a sampling of the very best in contemporary American watermedia. Unique among the many juried watercolor exhibitions across the country, *Watercolor USA* is exhibited in a museum setting and the Museum frequently acquires and continues to exhibit work from the show in focus exhibitions.

A number of cash prizes, artist materials awards, and possible purchase awards from both the Museum and the Watercolor USA Honor Society totaling approximately \$20,000 will be announced prior to the opening of the exhibition on June 4. The opening reception, which has a long history of generous support from the Southwest Missouri Museum Associates, will be held Friday, June 3 from 5:30 to 7:00 PM and will be free and open to the public.

See *Watercolor USA* from June 4 through August 28, 2022 at the Springfield Art Museum located at [1111 East Brookside Drive](#) in Springfield, Missouri. A color catalog, a complete record of the exhibition, will be available for purchase. Admission is always free. Donations are gratefully accepted.

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The Springfield Art Museum is Springfield, Missouri's oldest cultural institution, founded in 1928. A department of the City of Springfield, the Museum invites you to connect with the world, your community, and yourself through active engagement with art objects. For more information, please visit www.sgfmuseum.org.