

Art. Craft. Design.

CONTACT:

Krystle Brewer
Exhibitions Director, 108 Contemporary
918-895-6302
krystle@108contemporary.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 10th , 2017

108|Contemporary Opens 'Rooted, Revived, Reinvented: Basketry in America'

Tulsa, Oklahoma – May 11 2017 – 108|Contemporary announces the opening of the traveling exhibition organized by the National Basketry Organization and the University of Missouri, *Rooted, Revived, Reinvented: Basketry in America*. Curated by Professor and Chair of the Art Department, Jo Stealey, and Associate Professor of American Art, Kristin Schwain, this exhibition will open with a reception on June 2 and close on July 23, 2017.

The exhibition chronicles the history of American basketry from its origins in Native American communities and slavery to its presence now in the contemporary art world. The objects are divided into five subsections: cultural origins, new basketry, living traditions, basket as a vessel, and beyond basket. This exhibition examines not only the beauty and technique of basket weaving, but the purpose of the vessel and the basket as a starting point for creating other forms of artwork.

“Jo Stealey and Kristin Schwain have curated not only a beautiful display of basketry examples,” said Kathy McRuiz, Executive Director of 108|Contemporary, “They have created a visual story beginning with the origins and traditional uses of baskets through new directions for contemporary basket making.”

The National Basketry Organization is a non-profit organization invested in providing education and promoting the continuation of basket making. Members include collectors, gallery owners, scholars, art educators, museums, and others.

“Exposing Tulsans to the histories and the revitalization of fine craft in society is deeply rooted in our mission,” said McRuiz, “Showcasing *Rooted* gives us the opportunity to explore more in depth a beautiful skill that crosses cultures and communities.”

In addition to the exhibition, Stealey will be conducting a three-day basket weaving work shop titled, ‘Sticks, Twigs, and Ties’, a course that will teach traditional weaving skills using non-traditional materials. The workshop will be held at the Hardesty Arts Center June 3 through 5.

###