

Liz Ward

Watershed

February 25 - April 1, 2017

Reception for the artist Saturday, February 25, 6-8 pm

Artist Talk Saturday, February 25, 5:30 pm

Moody Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of new work by Liz Ward. *Watershed* features fourteen paintings on paper made with watercolor, gouache, graphite, pastel and collage elements that explore the Mississippi River. It also marks her ninth solo exhibition with Moody Gallery since 1995.

“Both the geographical definition of ‘watershed’ (an area of land drained by a body of water) and its alternate meaning (an event that marks a turning point) are in play in this exhibition, which brings together works from two series concerning the Mississippi River. Our present moment in time is certainly a watershed in the affairs of the nation, but my use of the term is also a reflection on the many such ‘watershed’ moments that one encounters in any investigation of the natural and human history of North America.

The first series, *Ghosts of the Old Mississippi*, is based on geological maps of the ancient courses of the Lower Mississippi River, and was inspired by memories of my childhood in South Louisiana. The second series, *Veritas Caput*, is a body of work concerning the search for the source of the Mississippi, undertaken by various explorers, and ultimately discovered by Henry Rowe Schoolcraft in 1832.” – Liz Ward, 2017

Liz Ward’s work has been widely exhibited at numerous venues including the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; the Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston; the Weatherspoon Museum, University of North Carolina, Greensboro; the Austin Museum of Art; and the International Print Center, New York. Her work is also represented in many private, public and corporate collections, notably the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and the Menil Collection. In 2012, Ward received a Brown Foundation Dora Maar House Fellowship, an international artist-in-residence program in Ménerbes, France. With support of the fellowship, she completed a series of drawings for a Trinity Press book project, *Unchopping a Tree*, with renowned poet W.S. Merwin. Her work has also been recognized with two Mid-America Arts Alliance/NEA Fellowships, and the Dozier Travel Award from the Dallas Museum of Art. Liz Ward received an M.F.A. in painting from the University of Houston in 1990, and a B.F.A. cum laude from the University of New Mexico in 1982. She joined the faculty of Trinity University in 1999, where she is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Art and Art History, and an Environmental Studies faculty.

The exhibition *Watershed* will be on view at Moody Gallery February 25 – April 1, 2017. A reception for the artist will be held Saturday, February 25 from 6-8 pm with an Artist Talk at 5:30 pm. Moody Gallery is located at 2815 Colquitt, Houston, Texas 77098. The gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10:30-5:00, and Saturday, 11:00-5:00. For more information, please contact Moody Gallery at 713-526-9911 or by email at info@moodygallery.com.