



MONTCLAIR ART MUSEUM

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

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For Immediate Release

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**MONTCLAIR ART MUSEUM EXHIBITION NOMINATED
FOR AICA-USA ARTS AWARD**

Robert Smithson's New Jersey: Best Monographic Museum Show Nationally

MONTCLAIR, NJ, March 4, 2015—Earlier this week, the United Section of the International Association of Art Critics (AICA-USA) announced the nominees for its 2014 awards, which honor exhibitions, performances, writers, and blogs. The Montclair Art Museum's exhibition *Robert Smithson's New Jersey*, on view February 24–June 22, 2014, was named among the nominees for Best Monographic Museum Show Nationally. This is the first time MAM has been nominated for an AICA award.

This groundbreaking show focuses on Robert Smithson (1938-1973), a pioneer of earthworks and native son of New Jersey. Featured together in an exhibition for the first time, Smithson's sculptures, works on paper, photographs, and other conceptual art rooted in his time spent in the Garden State form a coherent body of work and sheds important light on his artistic practice. This is the first exhibition in which all four of the New Jersey Nonsites, indoor earthworks for which various unorthodox materials at that time—limestone, concrete, and rocks—were brought out of their usual environment into a gallery and arranged in bin-like containers, were shown together. The exhibition was organized by Phyllis Tuchman, Guest Curator and Gail Stavitsky, Chief Curator.

Over 400 AICA member will vote to determine first and second places winners, which will be announced in April.

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About the Museum

The Montclair Art Museum, a notable, community-based institution with an international reputation, boasts a renowned collection of American and Native American art that uniquely highlights art making in the United States over the last three hundred years. The collection includes more than 12,000 objects: paintings, prints, original works on paper, photographs, and sculpture by American artists from the 18th century to the present, as well as traditional and contemporary Native American art and artifacts representing the cultural developments of peoples from all of the major American Indian regions. The Museum's education programs serve a wide public and bring artists, performers, and scholars to the Museum on a regular basis.

MAM's Yard School of Art is the leading regional art school, offering a multitude of comprehensive courses for children, teens, adults, seniors, and professional artists. The Yard School was recently recognized in the Discover Jersey Arts People's Choice Awards 2012 as the Favorite Place to Take a Kid's and Adult Art Class.

The Montclair Art Museum is located at 3 South Mountain Avenue in Montclair, N.J. Information and directions are available on the Museum website, montclairartmuseum.org, or by calling 973-746-5555. MAM is open Wednesdays through Sundays, Noon – 5 p.m., and on the first Thursday night of the month (October–June), from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. It is closed on Mondays, Tuesdays, and major holidays. Museum admission is \$12 for nonmember adults, \$10 for senior citizens and students with I.D., and free for members and children under 12. Free First Thursday Nights and Free First Fridays are free for everyone. The Store at MAM is open Tuesdays through Sundays, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and has extended hours until 9 p.m. on Free First Thursday Nights.

All Museum programs are made possible, in part, by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, and by funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Vance Wall Foundation, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, and Museum members.

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