



MEDIA CONTACTS

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THE BMA PRESENTS 21ST-CENTURY PAINTINGS BY BALTIMORE-BASED ARTIST SETH ADELSBERGER

BALTIMORE, MD (April 21, 2014)—This summer The Baltimore Museum of Art (BMA) presents a variety of luminescent and textured paintings from Baltimore-based artist Seth Adelsberger. On view in the Contemporary Wing from June 29 – November 2, 2014, **Front Room: Seth Adelsberger** features nearly a dozen works produced over the past five years that demonstrate the artist's innovative approaches to painting.

Adelsberger's experimentation with materials and techniques recalls the painterly investigations undertaken by artists ranging from Jackson Pollock and Willem de Kooning to Morris Louis and Frank Stella. He creates his *Submersion Paintings*, in intense blues and saturated magentas, by staining untreated canvases with rich washes of acrylic paint before applying a thick layer of gesso. In his hands, this viscous white paint, normally used as a base coat, is unorthodoxly sandwiched in between the initial stained layers and a final wash of color, adding texture and dynamic form.

In his *Border Paintings*, the artist treats a painting's surface as material to be cut away, leaving only a painted and wrapped edge to frame the void where one would expect to find the most important part of a picture. In other pieces, carpet fragments replace paint and canvas as the media from which a 'painting' is made. For these works, Adelsberger digitally manipulates an image of an abstract carpet design to heighten the carpet's pile and pattern before printing the results onto rectangles of actual carpet. He then displays the resulting works in meticulously fabricated cases.

Adelsberger (American, born 1979) is the co-Founding Director of Nudashank Gallery, which has exhibited work by emerging artists, many from Baltimore's vibrant arts community. His own work has been featured in group and solo exhibitions across the country. In 2008, he received the top award for painting from the Maryland State Arts Council. He received his BSA in Fine Arts from Towson University in 2002, and is a native of Emmitsburg, Maryland.

The exhibition is organized by Curator of Contemporary Art Kristen Hileman.

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ABOUT THE BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART

The Baltimore Museum of Art (BMA) is home to an internationally renowned collection of 19th-century, modern, and contemporary art. Founded in 1914 with a single painting, the BMA today has 90,000 works of art—including the largest holding of works by Henri Matisse in the world. The Museum is currently undergoing an unprecedented \$28 million renovation to provide visitors with a more welcoming environment and more imaginative and inspiring encounters with art. The BMA is remaining open throughout the multi-year project so that visitors can enjoy its outstanding selection of European and American painting and sculpture from the 17th through 20th centuries and the newly reinstalled Contemporary Wing with 14 galleries showcasing the art of our time. Two beautifully landscaped gardens display an array of 20th-century sculpture that is an oasis in the city.

The museum's 100th anniversary will be celebrated in November 2014 with the reopening of the grand historic entrance designed by John Russell Pope and a beautiful new presentation of the museum's distinguished collection of American art. Subsequent reopenings include expanded galleries for the African and Asian art collections and a new learning and creativity center that will open in 2015. Since 2006, the BMA has eliminated general admission fees so that everyone can enjoy the power of art.

RENOVATION

The BMA's exciting multi-year [renovation](#) is underway. If you are visiting the BMA to see a specific work of art or collection, please call ahead to make sure it will be on view. In addition to renovating galleries, we continue to loan works and send traveling exhibitions from our outstanding collection to museums in the U.S. and abroad. Contact Visitor Services at 443-573-1701 during Museum hours for more information.

VISITOR INFORMATION

General admission to the BMA is free. The BMA is open Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11a.m.-6p.m. (except major holidays). The Museum is closed Monday, Tuesday, New Year's Day, July 4, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. The BMA is located on Art Museum Drive at North Charles and 31st Streets, three miles north of Baltimore's Inner Harbor. For general Museum information, call 443-573-1700 or visit artbma.org.

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