



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE--MAY 28, 2014

Juan José Barboza-Gubo: Pink Narcissus



IMAGE: Juan José Barboza-Gubo, *The Clearing*, 2014, ceramic and cast crystal.

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About FAM

The Fitchburg Art Museum serves the cities of Fitchburg and Leominster and the surrounding communities in North Central Massachusetts and Southern New Hampshire. FAM was founded in 1925, and its five-building complex, with over 20,000 square feet of exhibition space, features exhibitions from its art historical collections as well as special exhibitions focused on regional contemporary art. FAM plays a vital role in the cultural life of the region and the Museum maintains active educational partnerships with the local school systems, as well as Fitchburg State University. FAM is an engine for creativity, education, community building and fun!

FAM is proud to present *Juan José Barboza-Gubo: Pink Narcissus*, a solo exhibition awarded to the artist as the first-prize winner of last summer's 78th Regional Exhibition of Art & Craft. This year's exhibition opens to the public June 22, 2014.

Juan José Barboza-Gubo's work usually involves figures – both human and animal – that appear as symbolic characters from mysterious narratives about religion, spirituality, and personal identity. In *Pink Narcissus*, which makes its public exhibition debut at the Fitchburg Art Museum, the artist turns his attention away from these actors and towards a stage on which they could appear. Here, he conjures a shadowy, enigmatic place that bears traces of human or animal activity. Viewers are asked to engage with this forest of the mind, to actively imagine the stories that could be told in this setting.

According to the artist, “the title, *Pink Narcissus*, is derived from the 1971 film of the same name by artist James Bidgood. I was primarily inspired by a scene in which the film's main character experiences a similar intimate event within a forest – and the way his connection to his environment mirrors the visceral and fragile connection of our emotional selves to our physical selves.”

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Museum Hours:

Wednesday 12-4 PM
Thursday 12-4 PM
Friday 12-4 PM
Saturday 11-5 PM
Sunday 11-5 PM

FREE First Thursdays:

On the First Thursday of every month, the Museum is free to the public from 3-7 PM.

Admission is free for:

FAM Members, children under 12, Fitchburg State University and Fitchburg Public School students, faculty and staff, Fitchburg Residents of Ward 4B, AAM & NEMA Members +1, Active Military and their family, Corporate Members' and their employees & family.

General admission:

\$9 for adults
\$5 for seniors (62+)
\$5 for students (13+)

Barboza-Gubo enjoys the mastery of many media, and in *Pink Narcissus* he displays his technical prowess in painting, sculpture, installation art, and digital printmaking.

Juan José Barboza-Gubo earned MFAs in both sculpture and painting at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design in Boston, and holds a BA from the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, in Lima. He currently lives and works in Providence, RI, where he is on the faculty of Rhode Island College. This exhibition was organized by FAM Director Nick Capasso.

Juan José Barboza-Gubo: Pink Narcissus

June 22 – August 31, 2014

Opening Reception: June 22, 1-3pm