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Steffen Thomas Museum of Art
(STMA)

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STMA Presents *Clowns, Humor, and Commentary* Works by Steffen Thomas Held in Private Collections

Buckhead – Steffen Thomas was among the most prolific American artists of the second half of the 20th century. During his career, he expressed his artistic vision through almost all art media including oil and watercolor paintings, pen and ink drawings, mosaics and sculpture. Often times he used several techniques in the execution of a single piece of art. Primarily an Expressionist grounded in his German tradition Thomas was a fearless experimenter and worked during his 60-year career in Cubism, Realism, and various other styles.

Although the museum displays hundreds of these works, many are housed in private collections throughout the country. In an effort to present a selection of these outstanding works, some never before seen by the public, the Steffen Thomas Museum of Art continues a series of five exhibits featuring works borrowed from private collections.

According to guest curators Drs. Hathia and Andrew Hayes, the series of five exhibits have been organized into themes that Thomas favored throughout his career. Because of the quantity of works Thomas produced and the wide variety of styles, topics and media he used, many observers find the total body of his work difficult to understand. This series of exhibits is designed to make his work more meaningful by organizing all those variety of media into narrow subject categories.

This exhibit, *Clowns, Humor, and Commentary* is the fourth in the series and opens on August 11, with a reception beginning at 6:00 PM, immediately following STMA's Annual Meeting of Membership. The reception honors STMA Sponsors, Patrons, and Volunteers in addition to introducing the 55 works chosen for the latest in the Art of Steffen Thomas from Private Collections.

Quoting the guest curators, "The works selected for this exhibit represent a small sample, but wide variety of Thomas' impressions, covering a broad range of public, private, political, economic, and social issues." Depicting deep emotional

experiences, witty humor, human foibles, or satire, these works and their commentary are certainly as relevant to the current events and conditions of today as they were when Thomas created them several decades past.

The Steffen Thomas Museum is located at 4200 Bethany Road, Buckhead, GA 30625. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 AM to 4 PM. Admission is \$5 adults; seniors and students, \$3; STMA members and children under 6, free of charge.