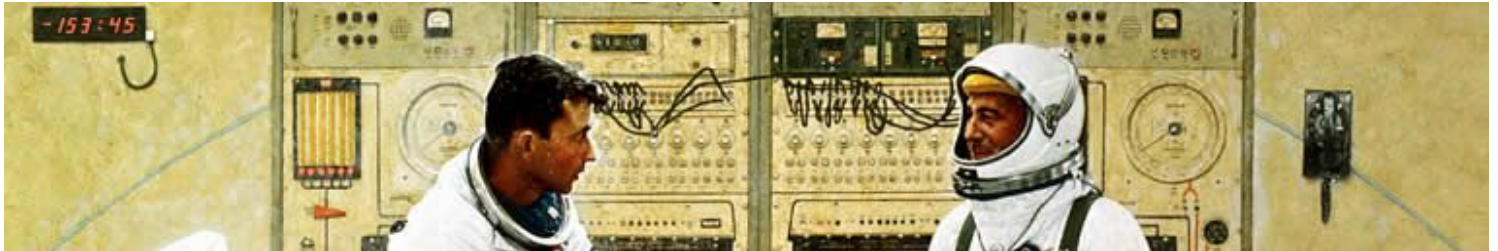



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## NASA | ART

### 50 Years of Exploration

Established soon after the inception of the U.S. space program in 1958, NASA's Art Program provides a unique way to communicate the accomplishments, setbacks, and sheer excitement of space exploration to the public. Over the years, more than 200 NASA-commissioned artists have enjoyed a behind-the-scenes perspective of the agency, often working directly with the astronauts, scientists, and other personnel who have shaped its missions and programs. Some watched Neil Armstrong "suit up" for his mission to the moon, or, more recently, witnessed contact with Mars rovers from mission control rooms.

In celebration of its 50th anniversary in 2008, NASA is collaborating with SITES and the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum (NASM) on *NASA | ART: 50 Years of Exploration*.



Courtesy NASA Art Program

*Remembering Columbia, 2006*  
Chakaia Booker  
Rubber

Drawn from works in NASA and NASM's archives that range from the illustrative to the abstract, the exhibition features approximately 50 paintings, drawings, photographs, sculpture, and other media by such artists as Annie Leibovitz, Nam June Paik, Robert Rauschenberg, Norman Rockwell, Doug and Mike Starn, Andy Warhol, William Wegman, and Jamie Wyeth.

Exhibitors will also receive a copy of the companion book of the same title (Abrams, 2008), which was featured in the *New York Times Book Review*, December 7, 2008.

" . . . the theme of space exploration never ceases to fascinate." —Steven Heller, *New*

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[Exhibition Images](#)
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air & space  
museum

Courtesy Smithsonian National Air and Sp



*First Steps*, 1963  
 Mitchell Jamieson  
 Acrylic, gauze, and paper on canvas

*York Times Book Review*



## Exhibition Specifications

<b>Contents</b>	73 framed photographs, paintings, and works on paper, sculpture, audio art, mixed media, text and graphic panels, labels
<b>Supplemental</b>	Educational and promotional resources; exhibition brochures for public distribution; copy of companion book, <i>NASA   ART</i> (Harry N. Abrams, 2007)
<b>Participation Fee</b>	\$33,000 per venue
<b>Size</b>	300 running feet, est.
<b>Crates</b>	18
<b>Weight</b>	4,846 lbs.
<b>Category</b>	Art
<b>Security</b>	High
<b>Shipping</b>	Prorated, SITES-designated carrier
<b>SITES Contacts</b>	<a href="#">Devra Wexler</a> , 202.633.3114 <a href="#">Ed Liskey</a> , 202.633.3142
<b>Tour Through</b>	September 2012: Fully Booked



## Tour Itinerary

Opening	Closing	Host Institution	Status
10/25/2008-	01/18/2009	Art League of Bonita Springs, Bonita Springs, FL	Booked
02/06/2009-	05/03/2009	City of Lake Charles Arts & Cultural Center, Lake Charles, LA	Booked
05/23/2009-	08/16/2009	Huntsville Museum of Art, Huntsville, AL	Booked
09/05/2009-	11/29/2009	<a href="#">Irving Arts Center</a> , Irving, TX	Booked
12/19/2009-	03/07/2010	<a href="#">Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center</a> , Colorado Springs, CO	Booked

04/03/2010- 06/27/2010	<a href="#">Lauren Rogers Museum of Art</a> , Laurel, MS	Booked
07/22/2010- 10/10/2010	<a href="#">Museum of Florida History</a> , Tallahassee, FL	Booked
10/30/2010- 01/23/2011	<a href="#">Arizona Museum for Youth</a> , Mesa, AZ	Booked
02/12/2011- 05/08/2011	<a href="#">Clay Center for the Arts and Sciences of West Virginia</a> , Charleston, WV	Booked
05/28/2011- 10/09/2011	<a href="#">National Air and Space Museum</a> , Washington, DC	Booked



### Tour Extension

Opening	Closing	Host Institution	Status
11/04/2011- 01/29/2012		<a href="#">Las Cruces Museum of Art</a> , Las Cruces, NM	Booked
04/14/2012- 06/17/2012		<a href="#">Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum</a> , Wausau, WI	Booked
07/07/2012- 09/30/2012		<a href="#">Figge Art Museum</a> , Davenport, IA	Booked



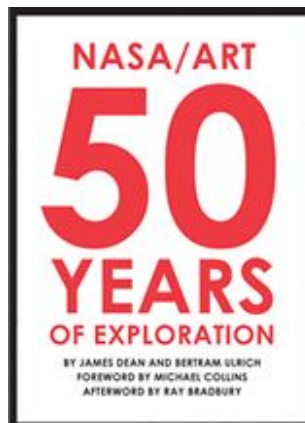
### Related Publications

**NASA | ART** : 50 Years of Exploration, by James Dean and Bertram Ulrich. Forward by Michael Collins. Introduction by Thomas Crouch. (Harry N. Abrams, 2007), 176 pages.

Artists, like astronauts, are constantly probing into the unknown. It is fitting that, shortly after the establishment of NASA in 1958, the NASA Art Program was created on the principle that artists are uniquely equipped to interpret and document the experience of space exploration. In the

program's early years, artists as diverse as Robert Rauschenberg, Andy Warhol, Norman Rockwell, and James Wyeth participated. The collection includes works by Alexander Calder, Nam June Paik, William Wegman, Mike and Doug Starn, Vija Celmins, and Annie Leibovitz. Amazon book review.

Exhibitors will receive a copy of the companion book of the same title (Abrams, 2008), which was featured in the New York Times Book Review, December 7, 2008.





## Press Release

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May 20, 2008

**Media only:** Jennifer Schommer (202) 633-3121

**Public only:** (202) 633-1000 or TTY (202) 633-5285

### ***Smithsonian Celebrates NASA's 50th Anniversary with Traveling Art Exhibition***

NASA's historic triumphs and pioneering legacy are well known to millions, but the inspiring rocket launches, moon landings and planetary explorations also have had an impact on the imaginations of America's leading artists. As the space agency turns 50 this fall, the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES) will launch a national tour of *NASA | ART: 50 Years of Exploration*, featuring 73 works from those artists.

*NASA | ART* opens at the Art League of Bonita Springs in Bonita Springs, Fla., Oct. 25. It will be on view there through Jan. 17, 2009, and then travel to 10 museums through 2011.

The exhibition is organized by SITES and NASA in cooperation with the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum. It features nearly five decades of creations by artists as diverse as Annie Leibovitz, Nam June Paik, Norman Rockwell, Doug and Mike Starn, Andy Warhol and William Wegman. Drawn from the collections of NASA and the National Air and Space Museum, the exhibition includes drawings, photographs, sculpture and other art forms and media. These works—ranging from the illustrative to the abstract—offer unparalleled insight into the private and personal moments, triumphant victories and tragic accidents that form the storied history of NASA.

For example, in Henry Caselli's "When Thoughts Turned Inward," the artist captures the serene, almost spiritual moment before takeoff, when an astronaut must prepare mentally for a mission. In Chakaia Booker's "Remembering Columbia," the tragedy and pain of the lost Space Shuttle Columbia and its crew are transformed in the twisting tire remnants preserved from one of the shuttle's earlier missions. And Andy Warhol melds Buzz Aldrin's historic steps on the lunar surface with the unbridled exuberance and flashiness of the 1960s in his neon-highlighted "Moonwalk" silkscreen.

The works featured in the exhibit date from the inception of the NASA Art Program in 1962, when NASA administrator James E. Webb asked a group of artists to illustrate, interpret and elucidate the space agency's missions and projects. Since then, painters, musicians and conceptual artists have been with NASA every step of the way, strolling along launch pads, training in flight simulators, talking with engineers and technicians and visiting with astronauts before and after their flights.

A companion book complements the national traveling exhibition. *NASA | ART: 50 Years of Exploration* will be published in fall 2008 by Harry N. Abrams.

NASA was established by Congress in 1958 "to provide for research into the problems of flight within and outside the Earth's atmosphere, and for other purposes." The agency is headquartered in Washington, D.C., with 10 field centers and other facilities across the nation. NASA's mission is to pioneer the future in space exploration, scientific discovery and aeronautics research.

The National Air and Space Museum, composed of the flagship building on the National Mall in Washington and the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly, Va., is home to the world's finest collection of flight artifacts. From aircraft

and space vehicles to engines, art and models, the wide array of the museum's holdings tells the story of the history and technology of air and space exploration. The museum is also a key resource for research into the history, science and technology of aviation and space flight.

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