

Norton Museum of Art

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

American Artist Mark Fox views Monet's fabled lily ponds in a striking, new light

THE RESULT IS THE FIVE-CHANNEL VIDEO, *GIVERNY: JOURNAL OF AN UNSEEN GARDEN*, NOW PART OF THE MUSEUM COLLECTION AND ON VIEW THROUGH THE END OF OCTOBER

WEST PALM BEACH, FL (June 29, 2016) – Few landscapes are as iconic as Impressionist Claude Monet's garden at Giverny in the Normandy region of France. The artist's studies of the garden's lily ponds are among the most recognizable series of works in Western culture. For almost 20 years, the Monet Foundation has sponsored annual residencies there.

In 2010, Brooklyn-based artist Mark Fox became one of a select few Americans to earn a residency, and spent three months living and working on the grounds. The result is *Giverny: Journal of an Unseen Garden*, a five-channel, high definition video that pays homage to Monet's practice of studying the effects of shifting light on a single subject. The work is now part of the Museum Collection and is on view from July 5 through Oct. 30, 2016. Curator Tim B. Wride will discuss this unique installation at 6:30 p.m. on July 7. And Fox will join Wride for a conversation on Oct. 27.

During his residency, Fox felt the pressure of history as he searched for a way to capture the iconic garden from a fresh perspective. This led to experimentation with underwater photography in the famed lily pond. Fox videotaped beneath the pond's surface, marking hourly shifts of light and seasonal changes in this "unseen garden."

Each high-definition video projection portrays Fox's underwater "garden" at a different time of day, and in different locations in the waterscape. Each is of a different duration and looped in endless repetition so the resulting installation is never seen the same way twice. Fox's intention is to affect visitors in a way that's consistent with Monet's original concept for his masterpieces on view in the Musée de l'Orangerie in Paris – "to surround the viewer with a watery world."

Says Fox: "The resulting images are surprising in the way they reveal an aspect of the garden both unknown and oddly familiar in the 'impressionistic' atmosphere created by the light filtering through water."

ABOUT THE NORTON MUSEUM

Founded in 1941, the Norton Museum of Art is recognized for its distinguished holdings in American, European, and Chinese art, and a continually expanding presence for Photography and Contemporary art. Its masterpieces of 19th century and 20th century European painting and sculpture include works by

Brancusi, Gauguin, Matisse, and Picasso, and American works by Stuart Davis, Hopper, O'Keeffe, Pollock, and Sheeler.

The Norton presents special exhibitions, lectures, tours, and programs for adults and children throughout the year. In 2011, the Norton launched RAW (Recognition of Art by Women), featuring the work of a living female painter or sculptor and funded by the Leonard and Sophie Davis Fund/MLDauray Arts Initiative. In 2012, the Norton established the biennial, international Rudin Prize for Emerging Photographers in partnership with Beth Rudin DeWoody, named in honor of her late father, Lewis Rudin.

In 2016, the Norton broke ground for a visionary expansion designed by architecture firm Foster + Partners, under the direction of Pritzker Prize-winning architect Lord Norman Foster. The project reorients the Norton's entrance to the main thoroughfare of South Dixie Highway, restoring the symmetry of the museum's original 1941 design, and includes a new 42,000-square-foot West Wing that doubles education space, and increases gallery space for the Norton's renowned collection. The transformation of the Museum's 6.3-acre campus will create a museum in a garden, featuring new, verdant spaces and a sculpture garden.

The Norton is located at 1451 S. Olive Ave. in West Palm Beach, FL., and during construction through December 2018 is open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday noon to 5 p.m. and Thursday, noon to 9 p.m., **and is free to the public**. The Museum is closed on Mondays and major holidays. For additional information, please call (561) 832-5196, or visit www.norton.org.

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