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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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*(Editor's Note: High-resolution images of works from each exhibition are available upon request.)*

**The Cornell Fine Arts Museum at Rollins Announces  
Spring 2009 Exhibitions**

WINTER PARK, FL—Opening January 24, 2009, the Spring 2009 exhibitions at the Cornell Fine Arts Museum at Rollins College celebrate the **portrait**, the **poet** and the **printed word**.

They include the intricately composed drawings, paintings, and collages of the influential artist known simply as **Jess**; portraits of leading contemporary poets by the singular portraitist **Jack R. Smith**; and some of the best and most beloved depictions of women from the Cornell's strong holdings in portraiture.

CFAM is proud to be the premiere venue for the United States tour of **Jack R. Smith: Portraits of American Poets**. Smith (1950-) has forged his own place amongst the most powerful of contemporary portraitists working in America. The Taos-based artist spent three years traveling across the country to the homes and studios of poets who are recognized for their important contributions to the literary compass of American writing, including Donald Hall, Carolyn Forché, Poet Laureates Billy Collins and Charles Simic and Nobel Laureate Derek Walcott. The result: 28 poets, luminously evoked in six-by-six-inch oil paintings on copper, accompanied by a representative work by each poet. The exhibition coincides with Rollins College's venerable **Winter With the Writers: A Festival of the Literary Arts**, which will host two of the poets included in the exhibition—Nobel Laureate **Derek Walcott** and former U.S. Poet Laureate and Irving Bacheller Chair in English at Rollins, **Billy Collins**. *On view January 24-April 19.*

Complementing the literary theme is *Jess: To and From the Printed Page*, which focuses on the diverse artistic output by the artist simply known as “Jess” (1923-2004), who was active in the San Francisco Bay Area from the 1950s to the 1990s. Central to the exhibition are the artist’s intricately composed drawings and collages as well as the books and magazines in which they were reproduced. Taken as a whole, these works examine the ways in which Jess’s imagery forms a dialogue with the written word. *Jess: To and From the Printed Page* is a traveling exhibition organized and circulated by iCI, (Independent Curators International), New York. Guest curator for the exhibition is Ingrid Schaffner. The exhibition, tour, and catalogue are made possible, in part, by grants from The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the iCI Exhibition Partners. ***On view January 24-March 21.***

CFAM’s permanent collection is particularly strong in the genre of portraiture, and *Portrait of a Lady* will highlight some of the best and most loved depictions of women in our holdings. This small-focus exhibition illustrates how the depiction of women has changed over time as tastes and fashions have evolved and the status of women in society has been raised. Works exhibited will include, *Portrait of Harriet Gordon* by Sir Thomas Lawrence, *Portrait of Annie Russell*, by John White Alexander, and the *Comtesse de Beaufort*, by Louis-Michel Van Loo. *Portrait of a Lady* will remain on view throughout the summer. ***On view January 24-August 30.***

The Cornell Fine Arts Museum has been recognized as one of the finest collegiate museums in the southeast. Gallery hours are 10 AM to 4 PM Tuesday through Friday, and weekends 12 to 5 PM. Admission is \$5 for adults. There is no charge for CFAM Members, Rollins College Faculty, Staff, and all students with current ID. The Cornell Fine Arts Museum is located on the campus of Rollins College in Winter Park. For additional information, please call 407-646-2526, or visit [www.rollins.edu/cfam](http://www.rollins.edu/cfam).



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