

For Immediate Release  
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### **Exhibition to Showcase 20<sup>th</sup> Century Clothing and Illustration**

More than 40 garments by 20<sup>th</sup> century fashion designers will be on display at the Ohio Arts Council's Riffe Gallery from April 26 through July 9, 2000. Curated by Charles Kleibacker, *Reality and Interpretation: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Clothing and Illustration* will include more than 100 illustrations by influential fashion artists. Student designs that foreshadow the fashion industry's future will be included. Actual garments and illustrations will be shown side by side.

Clothing designers represented in the exhibition include Adrian, Balenciaga, Balmain, Bruyère, Chanel, Dior, Randolph Duke, Galanos, Givenchy, Grès, Irene, Norell, Patou, Shannon Rodgers, Stavropoulos, Isabel Toledo, Traina-Norell, Trigère, Ungaro and Valentino. The exhibition includes illustrators Antonio, Kenneth Paul Block, Jean Cunningham, Tod Draz, Richard Ely, Gruau, Jim Howard, Billie Ingram, Esther Larson, Sandra Leichman, Steven Stipelman, Ruben Toledo and Margaret Voelker-Ferrier. Student designs come from the University of Cincinnati, Columbus College of Art & Design, Kent State University and Mount Mary College in Milwaukee.

The Riffe Gallery will present two special events related to the exhibition. *The Clothesline, A Life Style Show & Tell*, a series of personal narrative essays about garments associated with pivotal moments in the lives of curator Charles Kleibacker and humorist Patricia Wynn Brown, will take place on Thursday, May 11 at 7 p.m. Admission is \$5.

There will be a Family Day on June 11 from 2-4 p.m. Children of all ages and their adult companions are invited to create their own paper doll fashions. Paper dolls, fabric and accessories will be provided. Admission is free.

*Reality and Interpretation* explores relationships among the garments, the artists' sketches and paintings of them. The exhibition asks viewers to contemplate the illustrators' unique approaches to color, fabric and silhouette in fashioning two-dimensional representations of three-dimensional designs.

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Study of the garments also reminds viewers of the intricacy and complexity of timelessly designed clothing. The combination of design talent, superb fabric and carefully engineered construction is obvious in the work of such masters as Balenciaga, Grès, Galanos and Trigère.

Items in *Reality and Interpretation* will include garments and illustrations from the 1920s into the 1990s. This exhibition of historic work will allow viewers to contemplate the impact that economic, political and social culture have on the fashion industry. The way garments are designed and the materials used in their construction are affected by events of the time they were made.

The exhibition will include videos of significant designers and their creations as well as videos by illustrators that give insight into their approach.

Garments and illustrations will be loaned by the Historic Costume and Textiles Collection, Geraldine Schottenstein Wing, The Ohio State University; Kent State University Museum and the Shannon Rodgers/Jerry Silverman School of Fashion Design and Merchandising, Kent State University; Mount Mary College, Milwaukee; James Galanos, Los Angeles; Isabel and Ruben Toledo, New York; Margaret Voelker-Ferrier, University of Cincinnati; and the Kleibacker Historic Collection.

*Reality and Interpretation: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Clothing and Illustration* is supported by the Ohio Building Authority. Media sponsors include Columbus Alive, Small Business News, Time Warner Communications and WWCD 101.1 FM.

The Riffe Gallery, operated by the Ohio Arts Council, showcases the work of Ohio's artists and curators and the collections of the state's museums and galleries. The gallery is in the Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts, State and High Streets, Columbus, OH. Hours are Monday and Tuesday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturday 12-8 p.m. and Sunday 12-4 p.m. Admission is free. For information or to schedule a tour call the Riffe Gallery at 614/644-9624.

The Ohio Arts Council, a state agency established in 1965, builds the state through the arts—economically, educationally and culturally—preserving the past, enhancing the present and enriching the future for all Ohioans. The Council believes the arts should be shared by the people of Ohio. The arts arise from public, individual and organizational efforts. The OAC supports and encourages those efforts.

## **PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**

### **Calendar Listings**

#### ***Reality and Interpretation: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Clothing and Illustration***

April 26—July 9, 2000

Curated by Charles Kleibacker, this exhibition will include beautiful examples of 20<sup>th</sup> century garments by famous designers and illustrations by influential fashion artists. Student designs that foreshadow the future of the fashion industry will be included. Actual garments and illustrations of them will be shown side by side. In the Riffe Center, across from the Statehouse on High Street in downtown Columbus. Admission is free. Call 614/644-9624 for more information.

#### ***The Clothesline, A Lifestyle Show & Tell***

May 11, 7 p.m.

Charles Kleibacker and humorist Patricia Wynn Brown will present personal narratives about garments associated with pivotal moments in their lives. The event will be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Mezzanine of the Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts. Admission is \$5 and includes refreshments. RSVP to Shane Cartmill at 614/466-2613. Kleibacker will lead a special tour of *Reality and Interpretation: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Clothing and Illustration* immediately following the event. In the Riffe Center, across from the Statehouse on High Street in downtown Columbus. Call 614/644-9624 for more information.

#### **Family Day: Make Your Own Paper Doll Fashions**

Sunday, June 11, 2-4 p.m.

Free, fun, fashion collage activity for children of all ages and their adult companions. Paper dolls, fabric and accessories provided. Admission is free. In the Riffe Center, across from the Statehouse on High Street in downtown Columbus. Call 614/644-9624 for more information.