

NEWS RELEASE
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Press Contact:
USF Contemporary Art Museum
Don Fuller, fuller@usf.edu



USF Contemporary Art Museum Presents a New Exhibition
OFFSET: Robert Rauschenberg at USF Graphicstudio
January 19 – March 2, 2024



Above: Robert Rauschenberg, *Chinese Summerhall*, 1983. chromogenic print. 30 x 1200 in. Published by Graphicstudio, University of South Florida Collection. Photo: Peter Foe.

Left: Robert Rauschenberg, *Eco-Echo VIII*, 1992-93. acrylic and screenprinting ink on aluminum and Lexan, with sonar-activated motor. 88 x 73 x 26 in. Collection of Ruth and Don Saff. Image Courtesy Saff Tech Arts, Photo: George Holzer.

(TAMPA, FL – December 13, 2023) The USF Contemporary Art Museum (USFCAM), part of the Institute for Research in Art in the USF College of The Arts, presents ***OFFSET: Robert Rauschenberg at USF Graphicstudio***. *OFFSET* is co-curated by USFCAM Director Margaret Miller and Research Administrator Mark Fredricks, and organized by USFCAM. The exhibition tells the story of Robert Rauschenberg's long and fruitful collaboration with Donald J. Saff, founder of Graphicstudio in 1968, Distinguished Professor, Chair of the Art Department, and Founding Dean of the College of The Arts at the University of South Florida. Together, Rauschenberg and Saff worked on projects that had profound impacts locally, regionally, nationally, and globally.

Rauschenberg collaborated with Saff and the Graphicstudio team of printmakers to produce more than thirty editions of prints and sculpture multiples over three decades. This relationship would expand the method, scope, and very idea of printmaking through important series including *Made in Tampa* (1972-73), *Crops* (1973), and *Airport Suite* (1974). From 1984 to 1991, Saff served as artistic director of the Rauschenberg Overseas Culture Interchange (ROCI), a global exhibition tour and cultural exchange program that involved Rauschenberg's travel to each participating country and the development and exhibition of work inspired by his travels. Several key works related to the ROCI project are included in the exhibition, notably *Chinese Summerhall* (1983), a 100-foot-long photographic print from images captured on the trip to China that inspired the ROCI project.

In addition to the artist's experimentation across mediums, Rauschenberg's legacy is explored through the works of artists that recall his radical approach to materials, process, and concepts, including Trisha Brown, Rochelle Feinstein, Christian Marclay, Narsiso Martinez, Bosco Sodi, and Tavares Strachan.

VISITOR INFO // **Admission:** Exhibitions are free and open to all. **Address:** 3755 USF Holly Drive, Tampa, FL 33620. **Parking:** Visitor parking in lot 3B. USF parking permits required, and available at the pay station in the CAM parking lot. **Hours:** Monday-Friday 10am-5pm; Thursday 10am-8pm; Saturday 1-4pm; Closed Sundays. **Special Hours:** Jan. 19th 7-9pm. **Contact:** 813-974-4133; 24HR Info 813-974-2849; caminfo@usf.edu; ira.usf.edu/cam

RELATED EVENTS // All events are free and open to all.

OFFSET OPENING CELEBRATION

Friday, January 19, 2024

DONALD J. SAFF IN CONVERSATION WITH JOHN BLAKINGER

6:00pm, USF Theatre 2 (THR)

3829 USF Holly Drive, Tampa, FL 33620

Scholar Dr. John Blakinger will discuss the origins, experiences, and impacts of the Rauschenberg Overseas Culture Interchange project with artistic director and founder of USF Graphicstudio, Donald J. Saff.

OFFSET OPENING RECEPTION

7:00-9:00pm, USF Contemporary Art Museum (CAM)

3821 USF Holly Drive, Tampa, FL 33620

Following the conversation, join us at CAM for a reception celebrating *OFFSET: Robert Rauschenberg at USF Graphicstudio*.



Tavares Strachan, *Happy World*, 2022. oil, enamel, pigment, acrylic.
47-1/2 in. diameter x 2 in. depth. Courtesy of the artist.

SCHOLARS CHOICE GALLERY TALK

Thursday, February 8, 2024

6:00pm, USF Contemporary Art Museum (CAM) - 3821 USF Holly Drive, Tampa, FL 33620

In response to *OFFSET: Robert Rauschenberg at USF Graphicstudio*, scholars from interdisciplinary departments across USF will each select an artwork from the exhibition and give a brief talk about that artwork's historical and contemporary significance.

UBIQUITY AS LEGACY: A LECTURE WITH CHRISTIAN VIVEROS-FAUNÉ

Thursday, February 22, 2024

6:00pm, USF School of Art & Art History Lecture Hall (FAH 101) - 13001 USF Laurel Drive, Tampa, FL 33620

Christian Viveros-Fauné, USFCAM Curator-at-Large, will discuss Robert Rauschenberg's outsized significance and influence in the world of contemporary art.

EXHIBITION WORKBOOK // A full color workbook featuring texts by scholar Dr. John Blakinger, Curator-at-Large Christian Viveros-Fauné, USFCAM Director Margaret Miller, and Research Administrator Mark Fredricks will be available to students and museum visitors without cost.

ABOUT USF CONTEMPORARY ART MUSEUM // USF Contemporary Art Museum (USFCAM) organizes and presents significant and investigative exhibitions of contemporary art from Florida, the United States and around the world. Serving as a teaching laboratory, USFCAM's curatorial and socially engaged initiatives and educational programs are designed to present the students, faculty, and community with current issues of contemporary art practice, and to explore the role of the arts in society. USFCAM publishes relevant catalogues, presents critically recognized traveling exhibitions and commissions new projects by national and international artists. USFCAM maintains the university's art collection, comprising more than 5000 contemporary art works. The Contemporary Art Museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. For more, visit CAM.USF.EDU and follow CAM's social channels: [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/usfcam), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/usfcam), [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/usfcam), and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/usfcam).

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