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Lisa D. Watson, “Refuge, Land For Sale”

Savannah-based artist brings landscape exhibit to Armstrong Campus Fine Arts Gallery

December 13, 2018

“Avanguardia,” an exhibition by Savannah-based artist Lisa D. Watson, invites viewers to slow down and take note of the landscapes that often seem mundane when viewed through the windows of a moving car.

The works explore the moments of intersection between the infrastructure of highways, bridges and suburban sprawl with the surrounding natural environment. These points of contact express the dichotomies of life: permanence and change, and stillness and movement.

“Visiting artist programs are a vital component of any art program, serving as a means to expand and foster the artistic community, which our students and the greater public participate in,” Gallery Director Raymond Gaddy said. “Through demonstration, lecture and engaging in student discourse, a visiting artist exposes students and the public to a range of artistic approaches and fosters discussion about contemporary art and ideas.”

While the exhibition celebrates the human ingenuity that built sweeping structures and thriving cities, it also cautions against modern conveniences demanded by a growing human population that can lead to the destruction of indigenous wildlife and ecological habitats. Ultimately, the show expresses a desire to see humanity strike a balance between the vigor of a burgeoning city and the energy of its natural surroundings.

As part of the environmentally-conscious considerations for the exhibition, all of the works were made with 95 percent reclaimed materials such as industrial waste, junk mail and product packaging in order to keep the ecological footprint small.

The exhibition will run weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 10 through Friday, Jan. 18 at the Georgia Southern Armstrong Campus Fine Arts Gallery. A reception will be held Wednesday, Jan. 16 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the gallery. The exhibition and reception are free.

Georgia Southern University, a public Carnegie Doctoral/Research institution founded in 1906, offers 141 degree programs serving nearly 26,500 students through nine colleges on three campuses in Statesboro, Savannah, Hinesville and online instruction. A leader in higher education in southeast Georgia, the University provides a diverse student population with expert faculty, world-class scholarship and hands-on learning opportunities. Georgia Southern creates lifelong learners who serve as responsible scholars, leaders and stewards in their communities. Visit GeorgiaSouthern.edu.

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