

Carnegie Museum of Art Presents *Lyndon Barrois Jr.: Rosette*

From May 5–August 27, 2023, Pittsburgh-based artist Lyndon Barrois Jr. will present a mixed-media installation inspired by the heist film genre for the 86th installment of the Forum series

Pittsburgh, PA (April 5, 2023) – On Friday, May 5, Carnegie Museum of Art launches its 2023 artistic program with [Lyndon Barrois Jr.: Rosette](#), a solo exhibition featuring a new body of work by Pittsburgh-based artist Lyndon Barrois, Jr. (b. 1983). Inspired by his love of the heist film genre, Barrois has created a never-to-be-realized film script featuring two museum conservators who may be forgers. The fictional script will come to life in the museum’s Forum Gallery, using the visual language of Hollywood—film stills, posters, sets, and props—among paintings, sculptures, and objects borrowed from both Carnegie Museums of Art and Natural History. The exhibition presents a story in which visitors can enter a world of cinema, art, and history.

Barrois's script takes place in present-day Belgium and explores the country's colonial history for narrative development. Belgium’s wealth—prominently displayed in its royal and civic buildings, including museums—is evidence of its colonial exploits in present-day Democratic Republic of Congo. In the exhibition, visitors will find an elephant molar, a taxidermy leopard, minerals, and a Flemish carving, all representing ongoing colonial legacies. The story's protagonists, tasked with caring for objects deemed invaluable to cultural heritage, may be committing forgeries that could sabotage a system of values based on authenticity. By raising questions of authorship, authenticity, and ownership, Barrois asks us to consider what it means to care for these objects physically, culturally, and intellectually.

Organizing curator, Liz Park, the Richard Armstrong Curator of Contemporary Art at Carnegie Museum of Art, says, “This exhibition foregrounds the intention of the Forum series by inviting Barrois, a living artist, to think about the museum as a resource for his work. For his presentation, he has engaged with our collection, as well as the collection of Carnegie Museum of Natural History, and positioned them in a way that both inspires and prompts questions from our visitors. Barrois’s captivating narrative invites a closer look at mainstream perceptions of art and its many functions within a museum context. *Lyndon Barrois Jr.: Rosette* will have visitors guessing to the end.”

This exhibition ignites a series of public conversations centered on the questions: How do art objects tell stories? What is art for? How can art question our value system and reorient power? What is ownership, and what does it mean for a museum to own art?

- **Thursday, May 4, 2023, 6-8 p.m.** The museum will host an in-gallery conversation with artist Lyndon Barrois Jr. and Liz Park, Carnegie Museum of Art’s Richard Armstrong Curator of Contemporary Art, to mark the opening of *Lyndon Barrois Jr.: Rosette* in the Forum Gallery. This conversation will welcome the public into the exhibition and introduce the artist’s work and process. Free, museum admission not required. Forum Gallery.
- **Thursday, May 25, 2023, 6 p.m.** Hear from Lyndon Barrois Jr. and Mary Wilcop, associate objects conservator at Carnegie Museum of Art, as they discuss their perspectives on what it means to preserve art. Free, museum admission not required. Carnegie Museum of Art Theater.

Lyndon Barrois Jr.: Rosette is organized by Liz Park, the Richard Armstrong Curator of Contemporary Art. The exhibition will be on view from May 5 through August 27, 2023.

More information about *Lyndon Barrois Jr.: Rosette* and its programs can be found at carnegieart.org/exhibition/forum-86/.

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Support

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About Carnegie Museum of Art's Forum Series

Carnegie Museum of Art's Forum series invites living artists to deepen their relationship to and understanding of the museum and expand their practice through a commission or new presentation of existing works.

About Carnegie Museum of Art

Carnegie Museum of Art creates experiences that connect people to art, ideas, and one another. The museum is committed to global engagement and regional advancement. We champion creativity and its importance to society with experiences that welcome, inspire, challenge, and inform. Our core activities—collecting, conserving, presenting, and interpreting works of art—make those experiences possible. Our collection of over 34,000 works emphasizes art, architecture, photography, and design from the 19th century to the present. In addition, the museum houses the archive of more than 70,000 images by Pittsburgh photographer Charles "Teenie" Harris, whose work comprises one of the most detailed and intimate records of Black life in America. Through its programming, exhibitions, and publications, Carnegie Museum of Art frequently explores the role of art and artists in confronting key social issues of our time, combining and juxtaposing local and global perspectives. One of the four Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Museum of Art was founded by industrialist and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie in 1895. To learn more, please call 412.622.3131 or visit carnegieart.org.