

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***Watercolors and Bronzes: Richard Saul Wurman*
opens at the Coral Gables Museum.**



Installation view of the exhibition *Watercolors and Bronzes; Richard Saul Wurman*, Carole A. Fewell Gallery, August 6 - November 8, 2021.

Coral Gables, FL, August 6th, 2021 - The Coral Gables Museum is pleased to announce the opening of the exhibition, *Watercolors and Bronzes: Richard Saul Wurman*, on view at the Carole A. Fewell Gallery from August 6th to November 8th, 2021. The show encompasses a selection of watercolors and bronzes by American architect and graphic designer Richard Saul Wurman.

“Everyone knows of Richard Saul Wurman, the man who created TED, and most people will also know him as a writer of inestimable merit, having authored nearly 100 books. What many may not know is that Richard is also an incredibly talented artist, and arguably, one of the only true geniuses I know. While he first started painting in the 1950s, Richard really dove deep in watercolors of a unique perspective more recently and, most lately, bronze sculpting. An amazing, kind, witty gentleman, the Coral Gables Museum is very proud to present his first art exhibition. It is clearly a different take on

fine art, and we hope everyone will have the opportunity to see this special public debut of "Watercolors and Bronzes: Richard Saul Wurman" said John Allen, Executive Director of the Museum.

Over forty paintings realized in two periods of Wurman's life - the late fifties, and the past ten years- are unconventionally displayed in the Museum's largest gallery. Despite the time-lapse between them, they share a similar technique and subject. In this regard, Chief Curator Yuni Villalonga comments: "The compositions are very simple - figures are always against the subtle white of the rice paper, wrinkled by the watery pigments." "The birds in the paintings are not posing quietly for the viewer, but rather seem agitated and daring. Semi-abstract, expressionistic brushstrokes are often combined with clean lines of ink and small pieces of gold leaf."

Regarding his motivation for working with bronze, Wurman explains, "The pandemic made it so that I couldn't go out to get more frames for paintings, but I could get deliveries of plasticine. I had never created any sculpture until that point in time, and I rather liked it. I had studied *cire perdue*, the lost-wax process, and was fascinated by this mysterious and complex process."

Multiple copies of **Vitra's 1967 Panton Chair** are randomly arranged throughout the space. They not only set an interesting conversation with the art but also serve as a backdrop for a series of wireless-mic conversations with presenters in different fields that will take place during the time of the show. This program, in the style of Mr. Wurman's renowned conferences, is a key element to the show and helps round the figure of this multifaceted man. It will be organized by the Museum in collaboration with Mr. Wurman and Mitch Kaplan, the owner of Books & Books, who first introduced Wurman to the Museum.

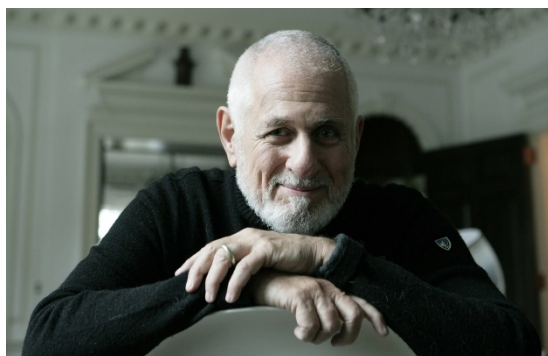


Photo by Melissa Mahoney

"What my life is, is documenting the journey from not knowing to knowing." -**Richard Saul Wurman**

Throughout his life, Richard Saul Wurman (Philadelphia, PA., 1935) has challenged traditional forms of presenting and understanding facts. He has lectured extensively, and published nearly a hundred books on

different subjects, with a focus on **information architecture** (a term that he coined.) He created an array of conferences where great minds from the most varied backgrounds

converged, including the popular **TED**, from 1984 to 2002, and a spinoff **TEDMED** Conferences from 1995 to 2010. His trailblazing, multidisciplinary approach to Knowledge and Understanding has granted him numerous accolades, including several honorary doctorates and the **Lifetime Achievement Award from the Smithsonian, Cooper-Hewitt in Design.**

Mr. Wurman's latest milestone is the **Wurman Center for Understanding Understanding at RIT, Rochester Institute of Technology** in New York State which is currently in development.



The catalog ***Richard Saul Wurman: Watercolors and Bronzes*** was created by Wurman to accompany the exhibition. He says: "The catalog is the work of one of my most talented former employees, Jenn Shore, who moved down here from Newport with me for a few years to help complete my Understanding Understanding book, then moved back north and opened an extraordinary and successful and creative graphic design office and worked with Nigel Holmes and myself to produce my Mortality book".

With 28 pages and 31 full-color images, this publication records a selection of paintings and sculptures included in the show, along with poetic texts by artist **Michele Oka Doner** and designer and artist **Ken Carbone**; as well as the introductions to the project by **Richard Saul Wurman** and exhibition co-curator **Yuni Villalonga**. It can be acquired both at the Museum and online.

The Museum would like to thank all the persons and institutions that made this exhibition possible, especially **Richard Saul Wurman** and his wife, best-selling author **Gloria Nagy**; **Mitch Kaplan**, Owner of Books and Books; **Cheryl Durst**, Executive Vice President, and CEO, the International Interior Design Association (IIDA); and **Nora Fehlbaum**, CEO, Vitra.



Coral Gables Museum
285 Aragon Avenue
Coral Gables, FL 33134
305.603.8067

Watercolors and Bronzes; Richard Saul Wurman

Carole A. Fewell Gallery | August 6th - November 8th, 2021
Curated by Richard Saul Wurman and Yuneikys Villalonga

Museum Hours

Monday - Friday: 12:00pm - 5:00pm
Saturday & Sunday: 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm

**Amid the current COVID-19 Pandemic the museum has implemented a few changes to better protect our visitors and staff. Sanitation stations will be available throughout the venue, as well as yellow floor markers to assist in maintaining social distancing. Facial coverings are mandatory.*

About the Coral Gables Museum:

The Coral Gables Museum fosters an appreciation for the Civic Arts in Coral Gables. It explores and celebrates the history, vision, urban and environmental design, and cultural landscape of the City Beautiful within a broad audience that goes from children, families, and community members to national and international visitors. The museum optimizes its mission by cultivating effective partnerships and providing programming that includes exhibitions, educational programs, lectures, tours, publications, and special events.

For more information:

Pamela Londono
pamela@coralgablesmuseum.org
305 603 8067



Coral Gables Museum
285 Aragon Avenue
Coral Gables, FL 33134
305.603.8067

Special Thanks to our Exhibition Sponsor



We are very grateful to our Season Partners

