





NEWS RELEASE

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URL links to hi-res images of artwork are at the end of this release.

Gunnar Tryggmo Named 2024 Woodson Art Museum Master Wildlife Artist

WAUSAU, WISCONSIN: The Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum announced Swedish artist Gunnar Tryggmo as its 2024 Master Wildlife Artist. He will be honored during the 49th annual *Birds in Art* exhibition this fall. Tryggmo, the 41st Master Artist, will receive the Master Wildlife Artist Medal during the Birds in Art Opening Weekend, September 7 and 8.

"I have the biggest smile, my wildest dream as a wildlife artist came through," said Tryggmo when he received the news. "I am so grateful to the Woodson Art Museum. When I look at the lineup of previous Masters, I feel very honored. To be included in this prestigious group of artists is beyond compare the biggest milestone in my career."

The inspiration for Tryggmo's captivating artworks comes from an interest in wildlife and its natural environment, that he developed at an early age during his childhood in Sweden. Diverse landscapes, from coastlines to dense forests, appear in his work in watercolor, oil, and drawings. Sweden has a rich tradition of watercolor, and Tryggmo is highly revered for his paintings using the medium. Traditional watercolor presents challenges because of its transparency and unpredictable nature. Tryggmo's skill and commitment to painting in this medium is impressive and appreciated by viewers.

"Gunnar Tryggmo's artwork has been long admired by Woodson Art Museum visitors and his peers in *Birds in* Art," said Museum director Matt Foss. "Since his first inclusion in the exhibition in 2010, Gunnar's work evolved, seemingly getting stronger each year while maintaining the delicate nature of his subjects, which always seem at peace with their surroundings in nature. Beyond that, Gunnar is a gentle and unassuming person, whose character has been as impressive as his artistic output. The Museum looks forward to celebrating Gunnar and his work this September during the *Birds in Art* opening weekend."

The 2024 Birds in Art exhibition, on view Saturday, September 7 through Sunday December 1, will feature a selection of Tryggmo's artwork along with more than 100 original paintings, sculptures, and graphics created within the last three years by artists from throughout the world. The exhibition's full-color catalogue, featuring an essay about the 2024 Master Wildlife Artist, will be available for purchase in September at the Woodson Art Museum.

For more information, visit <u>www.lywam.org</u>, e-mail the Museum at info@lywam.org, call 715-845-7010, and follow us on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.

Links to high-resolution photos

To access high-resolution images to accompany news or feature articles, click on the following underlined URL links. Please include the corresponding provided caption with each image used.

BIA 2023 Gunnar Tryggmo, Out of the Mist, 2023, watercolor on Saunders Waterford watercolor paper

BIA 2022 Gunnar Tryggmo, In the Sun, 2021, watercolor on Arches rough paper

BIA 2021 Gunnar Tryggmo, A Hunter's View, 2021, watercolor on Arches cold press paper

Woodson Art Museum

Hours: Tuesday – Friday 9am – 4pm

First Thursdays each month 9am – 7:30pm Saturday – Sunday Noon – 5pm

Closed Monday & holidays, including Easter

Admission: Always Free Admission

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Location: Franklin and 12th Streets, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403-5007

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