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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Hilliard Art Museum set to release new A. Hays Town book Dec. 4,  
celebrating the architectural image of Louisiana**

*Lafayette, Louisiana.* The Hilliard Art Museum is pleased to announce that a new 200-page book celebrating the work of A. Hays Town will be officially released Dec. 4. The book, titled *A. Hays Town and the Architectural Image of Louisiana*, written by Carol McMichael Reese\*, Favrot professor in the Tulane School of Architecture, is based on the 2018 exhibit at the Hilliard by the same name. For five years, Reese focused a scholarly lens on Town's work and the historic architecture that informed his practice. Reese's work led to both the exhibit and the new book.

"Her work serves as a valuable resource for understanding the historic precedents of our regional domestic architecture as well as the ways in which Town's houses produced an image redolent of South Louisiana," said LouAnne Greenwald\*, director of the Hilliard Art Museum. "The new book reveals Town's unique approach to an intensely personal practice in which he developed almost familiar relationships with his clients, many of whom considered him a mentor and father figure."

Lafayette-based photographer Philip Gould\* provided images of Town's buildings for the book. Gould has been photographing Town's architecture for the past 20 years.

Greenwald says that neither the exhibition or the book would have been possible without the support of Hays Town Jr., Blanche Town Gladney and their families. Additionally, the current owners of seven Town homes opened their homes to be featured in the 2018 exhibition and new book — including Chase and Maura Nelson (Daly House), Madlyn Boustany Hilliard,\* Elizabeth Heebe-Russo (Ward House), Dr. Donald Voorhies (McMahon House), Melanie and Mike McKenzie (Landry House), Celia Foard and Ann McDade.

Homeowner Madlyn Hilliard said, "Hays Town was not only a great architect and artist, he was a true friend to the clients that he served. The book captures so many colorful stories about him through interviews with homeowners, family members and other architects."

The book not only documents Town's architectural legacy, but also provides an overview of the evolution of the art museum at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette from its early days on campus to its role today as the Hilliard Art Museum.

"Proceeds from the book will support future renovations of the A. Hays Town building on campus of the Hilliard Museum," said Greenwald.

The book is priced at \$45 and available for purchase in the Hilliard Art Museum Store, open Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

\*Reese, Greenwald, Gould, Hilliard are available for interviews regarding the new book. Email or call Joelle Polisky at [jposlisky@goshiftkey.com](mailto:jposlisky@goshiftkey.com) for interview requests.

### **About the Hilliard Art Museum**

Our Museum is a bridge. Our Museum is a catalyst. Our Museum is for everyone. We connect art and education, our university and our community, generations and cultures. The Hilliard Art Museum-University of Louisiana at Lafayette is not just a place to look at art. It's a place where visitors are encouraged to truly see art. It is a place of learning, where students sketch in the galleries and artists talk about their work. It's a destination for families, where kids express their own creativity through hands-on activities. And it's a resource for academic research and observation. Museum experiences build skills that extend into every aspect of life. Viewing art promotes dialogue and understanding between individuals, among families, and throughout our community. Art makes life richer. And better. For everyone.