



OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

MUSEUM of ART



News Release | For Immediate Release

Contact: Hayley Bondank, 405-744-2783 or hayley.bondank@okstate.edu

LGBTQIA+ histories uncovered in 50 States exhibition, opening Feb. 12

(STILLWATER, Oklahoma, Feb. 8, 2019) — The OSU Museum of Art presents the historical and emotionally-compelling exhibition *50 States: Oklahoma, Colorado, Texas and Wyoming*, a series of installations that explore LGBTQIA+ histories and contemporary experiences in the United States. The exhibition opens Feb. 12 with a public reception Feb. 14 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Oklahoma, Colorado, Texas and Wyoming represent the first four developments of the ongoing *50 States* project. Artists Nick Vaughan and Jake Margolin have traveled across the country to inspire their work, retracing historical events and discovering LGBTQIA+ histories predating the 1969 Stonewall riot that launched the modern LGBTQIA+ rights movement. The exhibition includes immersive multi-channel video installations, prints, photographs and intricately hand-cut works on paper which layer LGBTQIA+ imagery over “found” road maps the artists came across during their travels.

“These installations explore astonishing people and their stories, and the broader role that LGBTQIA+ folk have played in influencing the identities of each state,” Margolin said. “The *50 States* project is an effort to make ballads out of real histories, and to use our power as artists to bring the emotional and complex humanity behind our community’s historical narratives.”

Based in Houston, Texas, interdisciplinary artists Vaughan and Margolin have had solo exhibitions at Devin Borden Gallery, Art League Houston and Aurora Picture Show. They are recipients of a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship, a Tulsa Artist Fellowship, and grants from the MAP Fund, The Idea Fund, and the Houston Arts Alliance. The artists are currently developing *50 States: Arkansas*, which will debut March 2019 at The Invisible Dog in Brooklyn, New York.

50 States: Oklahoma, Colorado, Texas and Wyoming is on view at the OSU Museum of Art Feb. 12 - June 29, 2019. In conjunction with the exhibition, performances will explore the themes of each individual state installation. All exhibitions, performances and events at the museum are free and open to the public.

- More -

Performance Schedule

50 States: Oklahoma

Feb. 14, 6 p.m. at the OSU Museum of Art

50 States: Texas

March 26, 6 p.m. at the University of Central Oklahoma Melton Gallery

50 States: Colorado

March 27, 6 p.m. at Living Arts of Tulsa

50 States: Wyoming

March 30, 7:30 p.m. at Lake Carl Blackwell in Stillwater

Learn more: <https://museum.okstate.edu/50-states>

Class Tours: To schedule a class visit, teachers may contact Casey Pankey at 405-744-2781.

Photo:

This project is provided in part by a grant from the Oklahoma Humanities (OH) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this exhibition do not necessarily represent those of OH or NEH.

About the OSU Museum of Art

For more information about the OSU Museum of Art, visit museum.okstate.edu or call 405-744-2780. The museum is located at 720 S. Husband Street in downtown Stillwater. Hours: Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Hours are extended on Wednesdays and Thursdays until 7 p.m. Admission is free, thanks to generous support from the OSU Museum of Art Advocates.

Oklahoma State University is a modern land-grant university that prepares students for success. OSU is America's Brightest Orange. Through leadership and service, OSU is preparing students for a bright future and building a brighter world for all. As Oklahoma's only university with a statewide presence, OSU improves the lives of people in Oklahoma, the nation, and the world through integrated, high-quality teaching, research, and outreach. As America's Healthiest Campus, OSU is committed to the health and well-being of its students, employees and the community. OSU has more than 36,000 students across its five-campus system and more than 25,000 on its combined Stillwater and Tulsa campuses, with students from all 50 states and around 120 nations. Established in 1890, OSU has graduated around 255,000 students to serve the state of Oklahoma, the nation and the world.

