**PARRISH ART MUSEUM**

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**PARRISH ART MUSEUM CHIEF CURATOR ALICIA G. LONGWELL DISCUSSES**

**THE EXHIBITION “FRED W. MC DARRAH,” FEATURING PORTRAITS OF ARTISTS BY THE ICONIC PHOTOGRAPHER, AND THEIR WORKS**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 6PM**



Fred W. McDarrah (1926-2007), *Andy Warhol with Brillo Boxes, Stable Gallery*, 1964. 11 x 14 inches.

Gift of the Estate of Fred W. McDarrah

**WATER MILL, NY 12/27/2019**—The work of Fred W. McDarrah, the iconic *Village Voice* staff photographer who chronicled the New York culture scene for nearly 50 years, will be the subject of an illustrated talk by Alicia G. Longwell, Parrish Art Museum Lewis B. and Dorothy Cullman Chief Curator, on Friday, January 11, at 6pm. *Into the Artist’s World: The Photographs of Fred W. McDarrah,*currently on view at the Museum,presents 27 portraits of artists who are represented in the Parrish collection and contributed to the rich creative legacy of the East End. A related exhibition features 19 works by the artists themselves.

These photographs by Fred McDarrah give us an extraordinary glimpse into the cultural milieu of the ‘60s and ‘70s, and an intimate view of some of the most important artists of the time,” said Longwell.

Dating from 1959 to1979, they include images of significant American artists such as Norman Bluhm, James Brooks, Elaine de Kooning, Willem de Kooning, Roy Lichtenstein, and Robert Motherwell. A gift from McDarrah’s estate, the photographs are intimate and largely candid, showing the artists in their homes, studios, and popular Manhattan haunts, and East End locales. Like many of the artists who lived and worked below 14th Street, Greenwich Village was McDarrah’s home as well. Abstract Expressionist Franz Kline was his neighbor on 14th Street and visits to the studio often ended in a photo session. McDarrah was the only artist to document Carolee Schneeman’s legendary performance of *Interior Scroll* in August 1975 at Ashawagh Hall in Springs, close to McDarrah’s summer home. According to the artist’s family, he carried his camera, a battered 35mm Nikon, with him every time he left the house, even for a trip to the supermarket.

Viewed in tandem with McDarrah’s photographs, the 19 works on view by the artists bring their portraits to life. Motherwell’s lyrical 1966 ink drawing, Spontaneity No.3, points to the gestural sweeps in oil paintings seen behind him in McDarrah’s image. The photograph of Bluhm from 1961, spraying arcs of paint across the canvas in his studio, echoes his ink on paper drawing from the same year.

**About Alicia Longwell**

At the Parrish Art Museum, Alicia Longwell has pursued a special interest in the history of the art and artists of Eastern Long Island. She has organized numerous survey exhibitions, including *Malcolm Morley: Painting, Paper, Process* (2012), *Dorothea Rockburne: In My Mind’s Eye* (2011), *Sand: Memory, Meaning and Metaphor* (2008); and *North Fork/South Fork: East End Art Now* (2004) and has curated solo exhibitions on the work of artists Barbara Bloom, Marsden Hartley, Frederick Kiesler, Alan Shields, Esteban Vicente, and Jack Youngerman, among others. Longwell has authored many publications for the Parrish including *Jane Freilicher and Jane Wilson: Seen and Unseen* (2015); *William Glackens* (2014, contributing essay); *William Merritt Chase in the Collection of the Parrish Art Museum*, 2014; *Angels, Demons, and Savages: Pollock, Ossorio, Dubuffet* (2013; contributing essay), and many others Longwell received her Ph.D. degree from the Graduate Center, City University of New York, where her dissertation topic was John Graham, the subject of a critically acclaimed retrospective she organized for the Parrish Art Museum in 2017.

Friday nights are made possible, in part, by the generous support of The Corcoran Group, BNB Bank, and Sandy and Stephen Perlbinder.

**THE CURATOR’S VIEW:**

**ALICIA LONGWELL ON FRED W. McDARRAH**

Friday, January 11, 6pm

$12, free for Members, children, and students; includes Museum admission

**About the Parrish Art Museum**

Inspired by the natural setting and artistic life of Long Island’s East End, the Parrish Art Museum illuminates the creative process and how art and artists transform our experiences and understanding of the world and how we live in it. The Museum fosters connections among individuals, art, and artists through care and interpretation of the collection, presentation of exhibitions, publications, educational initiatives, programs, and artists-in-residence. The Parrish is a center for cultural engagement, an inspiration and destination for the region, the nation, and the world.

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