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Contact: Julie Ericsson, 408-354-2646; jericsson@numulosgatos.org

WINTER EXHIBITIONS AT NUMU FEATURING TONY MAY

Views of the T. House opens January 15, 2021 In the Artist's Studio: Featuring Tony May opens February 5, 2021



LOS GATOS, CA, December

2020—NUMU is pleased to present two
exhibitions featuring works by San
Jose-based artist Tony May.

Views of the T. House (1991-1992) opens in the Spotlight Gallery on January 15th and features May's meticulous photo-realist paintings that document the gradual progression of his idiosyncratic, functional, and on-going construction

project, the T. House—a full scale backyard installation on May's property, that features detailed craftsmanship and Japanese-style carpentry. With each of the 18 paintings in the series, May deftly captures the details like the grit of cinder blocks in the T. house foundation wet after a rainstorm, and places each moment in context with graphic novel style captions on a crisp black frame. The exhibition runs through May 9, 2021.

In the Artist's Studio: Featuring Tony May opens in the Michael and Alyce Parsons reception area on February 5. It is the first installation of NUMU's ongoing exhibition



series, *In the Artist's Studio* in 2021. The exhibition offers a glimpse of May's interior world, and his highly interactive creative process. The visitor follows May on his journey of creating the site-specific installation for the San Jose Museum of Art,



Variable Book Construction (Bookmobile), (1991-1995). With behind-the-scenes photos of May's T. House, workspace, and drafting table, as well as a few select tools that help May get the job done, visitors will learn about the artistry in the time and the care that May dedicates to his tasks. To further engage visitors and illuminate the process behind the creative concept, May's Bookmobile Maquette,

recently donated to NUMU's permanent collection, will be on view. This maquette is a component in the process of creating *Variable Book Construction: Bookmobile*, which is in the collection of the San Jose Museum of Art. The exhibition runs through May 9, 2021.



Tony May began his career as an artist in his native Wisconsin, and earned an MFA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1966, and learned the craftsmanship of carpentry and other practical skills from his father on their family farm. In 1967, May moved to San Jose, CA, where he lives and taught art at San Jose State University for over 30 years. Tony May has exhibited his meticulous paintings and conceptual,

whimsical structures to international acclaim. NUMU's exhibitions will continue that



legacy, inviting visitors for a timely reflection on the details of our never more familiar quotidian surroundings with patience, reverence, and a sense of humor.

NUMU's *In the Artist's Studio* ongoing exhibition series supports the Museum's mission to share stories in new ways. Most people do not have the opportunity to visit an artist's studio and learn firsthand how artwork is made, and more importantly why it is made. Through this series NUMU offers insight into the practice of artmaking and shares with the community the ingenuity, intelligence and empathy that goes into the creative process.

In the Artist's Studio: Featuring Tony May is made possible by the generous support of **The Borgenicht Foundation** that works to promote the understanding of secularism as the way and hope for establishing peace in the world. The Borgenicht Foundation supports social justice, conservation and historic preservation, the arts, health, and education. NUMU exhibitions and programs support is also generously provided by the **Town of Los Gatos**.

ABOUT NEW MUSEUM LOS GATOS

New Museum Los Gatos (NUMU), formerly The Museums of Los Gatos founded in 1965, is a public non-profit art and history museum. NUMU's mission is to engage the community at the intersection of art, history and education through innovative, locally connected and globally relevant exhibitions, programs and experiences. NUMU offers equal and equitable representation, opportunities and services to all stakeholders through our operations, exhibitions, public programs, and permanent collection. Visit: numulosgatos.org

Image 1: Tony May, *The T. House Maquette*, 1983, Acrylic on panel, courtesy of the artist Image 2: Tony May, *Early Bookmobile Prototype. C. 1990*, Acrylic on panel, courtesy of the artist Image 3: *Bookmobile (detail)* at San Jose Museum of Art, photo by David Pace

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