

City of Dallas
News Release
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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT

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*Dallas artist pays homage to naturalist and painter John James
Audubon at the White Rock Lake Museum*

The White Rock Lake Museum and the Bath House Cultural Center present

Ode to Audubon
Found-Object Sculpture by Kathy Boortz

January 10-May 3, 2009

Opening Reception:

Saturday, January 10, 2009 (7-9 PM) – Free and open to the public

DALLAS –The Bath House Cultural Center and the White Rock Lake Museum present *Ode to Audubon*, a fascinating art exhibition of found-object sculptures by Dallas artist **Kathy Boortz**. The exhibition will be on display at the White Rock Lake Museum from January 10 through May 3, 2009.

An opening reception with the artist will be held on Saturday, January 10, 2009 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Both the exhibition and the reception are free and open to the public.

About the Exhibition:

Ode to Audubon is an imaginative show that celebrates the bird world of John James Audubon, the prominent artist from the early nineteenth century whose influential book of life-size prints describing and illustrating 435 birds of America has become a source of significant inspiration for environmentalists, ornithologists, visual artists, and bird lovers.

For many years, the highly inventive and enchanting artwork of East Dallas artist Kathy Boortz has brought joy and delight to large audiences in Dallas. Boortz is often found walking near the shores of White Rock Lake collecting pieces of discarded wood and other objects that eventually become part of her distinctively awe-inspiring and exquisite mixed media sculptures. When asked about her attraction to nature and her choices of artistic expression, Boortz explains:

"When I was a child, I ran barefoot through the streams, the rocks, the cedar-clad hills of the Texas Hill Country where my parents owned a dude ranch. My profound love of nature and the singular beauty of all its separate entities inspire me to create art rooted in observation, whimsy, and a deep empathy for the animals that coexist with an encroaching human presence.

In addition, a childhood game that I have loved to play with my children and others is the scribble game where one person must make a spontaneous drawing from another person's scribble. I approach my found objects in this way, often reflecting a variety of human foibles and funky animals. My enjoyment at working from life ultimately aims at expressing my awe at the beauty and perfection of life forms adapted for success on earth." Please visit <http://bathhousecultural.com/museum/boortz.html> for more information and to preview selected art pieces from the exhibition.

About the White Rock Lake Museum

The Bath House Cultural Center is the home of the new White Rock Lake Museum. The museum's mission is to preserve and present the human and natural history of White Rock Lake Park and its surrounding environment. The White Rock Lake Museum was inaugurated in September of 2004. Please visit <http://www.whiterocklake.org/?p=186> for more information about the museum.

Press Photographs

To download print-resolution (300 dpi) JPEG press photographs of this exhibition, please visit: the online press room at <http://www.bathhousecultural.com/press.html>. Publication of photographs must contain the credit line provided on the webpage. Photographs may only be used for promotional, educational, or non-commercial purposes.



"Robin Vignette" - Found wood and metal
by Kathy Boortz
Photograph by J R Compton

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The Bath House Cultural Center is a division of the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs. The center is dedicated to fostering the growth, development and quality of multi-cultural arts within the City of Dallas. The center emphasizes innovating visual and performing arts as well as other multi-discipline events throughout the year. Funding for the Bath House Cultural Center is provided by the City of Dallas, with additional support from the Texas Commission on the Arts.

LOCATION AND HOURS:

The Bath House Cultural Center is located on the eastern shore of White Rock Lake at the end of Northcliff Dr. off of Buckner Blvd. at 521 E. Lawther, Dallas, TX 75218. Hours of operation are Tuesday-Saturday, 12:00 noon to 6:00 PM. The center is open until 10:00 PM on nights with theatre performances. For general information about cultural programs at the Bath House Cultural Center, please call (214) 670-8749 or visit the center's website at www.bathhousecultural.com

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