

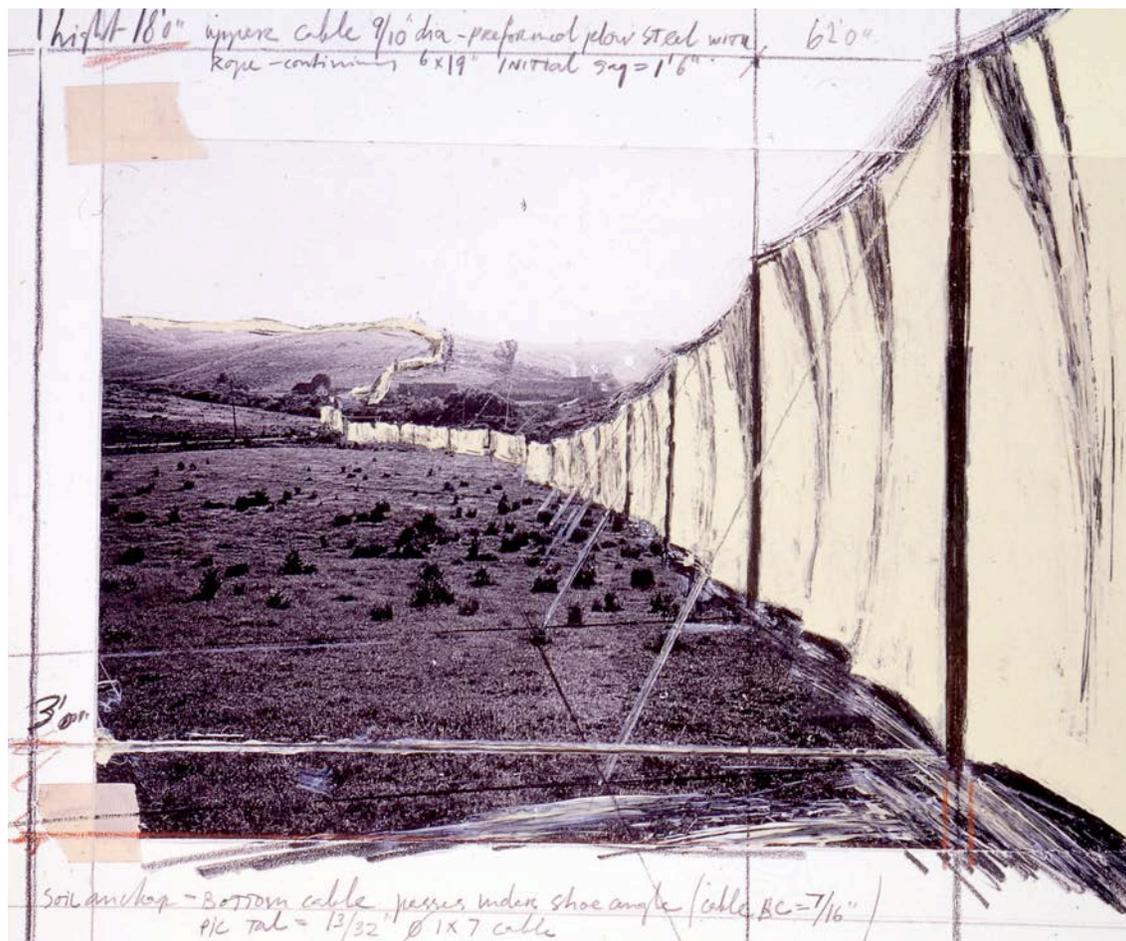
Biggs Museum of American Art

For Immediate Release
July 11, 2017
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CHRISTO AND JEANNE-CLAUDE: THE TOM GOLDEN COLLECTION TO BE PRESENTED AT BIGGS MUSEUM

Opening Reception on Friday, August 4th



Dover, DE (July 11, 2017) - A traveling exhibition of a unique, rare collection of works of art by renowned artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude will visit the Biggs Museum of American Art from August 4 - October 22, 2017.

This blockbuster exhibition chronicles the career of husband and wife artistic team, Christo and Jeanne-Claude, well known for projects such as *The Gates* (Central Park, NYC, 2005) and *Running Fence* (Pictured Above - Sonoma and Marin Counties, California, 1976). The exhibition features extremely rare artworks that commemorate and celebrate the large-scale environmental installations undertaken by Christo and Jeanne-Claude for more than forty years. The collection includes original drawings, sculptures, collages and photographs capturing the versatility, longevity and international scope of the duo's extensive career.

Charlie Guerin, Executive Director of the Biggs Museum, was fortunate to work with the couple in 1977 and is responsible for bringing this exhibition to Dover.

"I met them while installing the *Valley Curtain* installation in Colorado and worked with them several times as they traveled exhibitions to museums around the country. I'm thrilled to see this exhibition come to our community," shares Charles Guerin. "People in our region may best remember the artists from *The Gates* installation in Central Park but their work has spanned the globe and it's a true honor to have some of it chronicled here at the Biggs."

The collection that will be on view is one of the largest collections of art by Christo and Jeanne-Claude in the United States, and was started by Tom Golden in the summer of 1974. Golden's personal and professional relationship with the artists began during the 1974 public hearings for Christo and Jeanne-Claude's project *Running Fence*. Golden continued to manage and assist with several of the artist's large-scale projects such as *The Umbrellas* and *Over the River*. Drawings and collages of the large-scale public works, sold to fund the actual installations, are an important component of this collection.

As partners for more than 40 years, Christo and Jeanne-Claude have created lasting environmental installation art throughout the world. Their works include the wrapping of the Reichstag in Berlin and the Pont Neuf bridge in Paris, the 24-mile long curtain titled *Running Fence* in California, and more recently *The Gates* in New York City's Central Park. Because their large-scale public projects are temporary, the preliminary artworks in this exhibition remain as evidence of the installations.

This collection represents not only the special relationship between an artist and a collector, but also the collaborative effort between the artists and the many people involved in producing the works. The circulating exhibition is organized by the Sonoma County Museum, Santa Rosa, CA which received the collection in 2001 as a donation by Tom Golden, a close friend of the artists.

The exhibition will be accompanied by a variety of programming, outlined below.

Event Quick Facts

Christo and Jeanne-Claude: The Tom Golden Collection

August 4 - October 22, 2017

It's a wrap! This blockbuster exhibition chronicles the career of husband and wife artistic team, Christo and Jeanne-Claude, well known for projects such as *The Gates* (Central Park, NYC, 2005) and *Running Fence* (Sonoma and Marin Counties, California, 1976). The exhibition features extremely rare artworks that commemorate and celebrate the large-scale environmental installations undertaken by Christo and Jeanne-Claude for more than forty years. The collection includes original drawings, sculptures, collages and photographs capturing the versatility, longevity and international scope of the duo's extensive career.

Programming

Opening Reception

Friday, August 4 | 5 - 7 p.m.

Free with Admission

Be the first to see this landmark exhibition as well as the annual Award Winners XVII. Refreshments will be served.

Lecture: Art History in the Making

Saturday, August 26th | 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Free with Admission

The Biggs will host scholar Dr. Ellen Notar, who will address Christo's installation work, *Running Fence*, in Sonoma and Marin Counties, California. The lecture will be complemented by a showing of a renowned documentary that chronicles this same work. Pre-registration recommended.

Lunchtime Lecture: Behind the Scenes Working with Christo and Jeanne-Claude

Thursday, October 12th | Noon - 12:40 p.m.

Free with Admission

Bring your own "bag lunch" and hear from Biggs Museum Executive Director Charles Guerin about his personal experiences working with Christo and Jeanne-Claude on several notable projects. Pre-registration recommended.

For more information, call (302) 674-2111 or visit www.BiggsMuseum.org.

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