

The **Florida Chapter** of the **National Association of Women Artists** is pleased to announce that it has been invited by the curator and museum manager of the **Marco Island Historical Museum and Gallery** to exhibit its members' work. The exhibition, titled ***MS CONCEPTIONS***, will open on October 2, 2019 and close on January 30, 2020 at the Museum's beautiful Marco Island campus, located at 180 S. Heathwood Drive, Marco Island, FL 34145. The Museum is one of five that are established and operated by Collier County, Florida.

The exhibit will be juried and judged by respected gallerist, Joseph Panarelli of Quidley and Company, Naples, Boston, Nantucket, and Westport.

The **Marco Island Historical Museum & Gallery** and **Marco Island Historical Society** are delighted to present ***MS CONCEPTIONS***, during another traveling exhibition of ancient pre-Columbian Native American artifacts on loan from the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, DC on the Museum's campus. The latter exhibition, ***THE RETURN***, is drawing visitors from around the world. Among these historic artifacts is the famous Calusa Cat, which was recovered by archaeologists on Key Marco in 1896. ***THE RETURN*** is the first exhibition in which all relics recovered in the dig have been shown together for more than 100 years.

On Thursday, January 9, 2020 at 3:00 pm, selected **NAWAFL** artists and the Museum and Gallery will host an artist talk, which will be moderated by Jane Monreal, evening news anchorwoman for southwest Florida's FOX television network affiliate.

The artist talk will be held in the Museum's auditorium at 3:00 p.m. An awards presentation and a reception with refreshments will follow in the Museum Gallery, ending at 6:00 pm. Both events are free and open to the public.

The **National Association of Women Artists** was founded in NYC in 1889 by five artists in order to provide more opportunities to women artists to exhibit and network in a male-dominated industry. Its mission is to elevate the purpose, quality, and visibility of our best female artists. All members are juried into the organization. Over the last 130 years, members invited

into the organization have included notable artists: Mary Cassatt, Georgia O'Keefe, Rosa Bonheur, Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney, Judith Pfaff, Faith Ringgold, Louise Nevelson, Audrey Flack, Dorothy Dehner, and Judy Chicago. Its members have made other significant achievements, such as the establishment of the Whitney Museum in NYC and the Brookgreen Gardens in South Carolina. In 1995, Liana Moonie founded the Florida Chapter.

Today, NAWA (and the Florida Chapter) remains a significant and vibrant organization for contemporary female and self-identified female artists across the nation.