

**If you go**

**WHAT:** Works by Hunt Sloanem from Albion Plantation.

**WHEN:** Sunday through Oct. 24.

**WHERE:** Meadows Museum of Art on Centenary College campus, 2911 Centenary Blvd., Shreveport.

**MUSEUM HOURS:** noon to 4 p.m. Tuesday; Wednesdays and Fridays; noon to 5 p.m. Thursday; 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

**ADMISSION:** Free.

**Courtesy photos**

Clockwise from top left, "Group of Parrots," "Monkey," "Butterflies" and "Rabbits" are paintings by artist Hunt Sloanem. His work will be shown at the Meadows Museum of Art from Sunday through Oct. 24.

# Exotic Inspiration

Meadows exhibit to feature works inspired by travel

**If you go**

**WHAT:** Artist's Gallery Talk.

**WHEN:** 2 to 3 p.m. Sept. 12.

**WHERE:** Meadows Museum of Art, 2911 Centenary Blvd., Shreveport.

By Shary P. Shephard  
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Hunt Sloanem has been painting ever since he could hold a brush.

"When I was in second grade we had to draw a picture of what we wanted to do when we grew up and I drew a picture of myself painting," he said. "And that's pretty much what I've been doing ever since."

Beginning Aug. 22, some of Sloanem's creations will be on display in the exhibit "Works by Hunt Sloanem from Albion Plantation," at the Meadows Museum of Art. The exhibit will be up through Oct. 24.

Featured in the exhibit will be several works selected from Albion Plantation, a historic mansion in Jeanerette that Sloanem bought and restored.

Diane Dufils, museum director, said there will be approximately two dozen pieces of art, which will include mostly images of Central American animals and a few standing sculptures.

"There are birds and flowers and monkeys. It's quite an array of images," she said. "He has taken these very modern works into this old structure and has integrated these into this historic house."

Some of Sloanem's individual canvases have sold for as much as \$300,000 and he has paintings in the permanent collections of more than 80 museums, including the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum and the Metropolitan Museum in New York.

He also has had exhibitions at galleries in Paris, Venice, Madrid, Amsterdam, Oslo, Tokyo and Hong Kong.

Represented by the Mathborough Gallery in New York, Sloanem's work has been shown this year in Bulgaria, Boston, Chicago, San Francisco, Santa Fe, Lafayette and New Orleans.

"It goes on and on and on," he said.

Sloanem said his inspiration comes from 29 years of traveling the earth from corner to corner.

"I live between New York and Louisiana and I live surrounded by my pet birds. I have 25 birds and orchids and plants and my furniture collection and 19th century frames," he said. "And I have spent times in very exotic places from early childhood to present. I grew up a bit in Hawaii and I was an exchange student in Nicaragua in high school."

Sloanem said he always has had a keen interest in historic architecture.

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"I have paintings that go back at least 25 years to the present, which is unusual," he said. "A lot of these paintings have never been shown."

Cluttering is how Sloanem describes his way of collecting art.

"It just means that I'm an obsessive collector. Blank walls make me nervous," he said. "It's kind of a phobia — empty space. I just keep adding and adding. I need a certain amount of that to feel comfortable in life."