NEW EXPERIENCENTER FAMILY GALLERY EXHIBITION EXPLORES CONNECTIONS BETWEEN MUSIC AND ART

‘I See the Rhythm’ opens Saturday, May 4

(DAYTON, OHIO) – April 26, 2013 – The latest exhibition in The Dayton Art Institute’s Experiencenter family gallery will explore the creative space where music and art overlap. *I See the Rhythm* opens with special family activities on Saturday, May 4.

The artistic urge to merge the language of visual art with musical notation, composition and sound is particularly pertinent today, as many artists frequently and freely cross disciplines in their work.

*I See the Rhythm* will feature an interactive, 20-foot sound sculpture, *Delirioso* by Anthony Luensman, along with displays of several 20th century works of art from the museum’s collection and musical instruments from around the globe. The exhibition is curated by The Dayton Art Institute’s Director of Education Susan Anable.

Hands-on gallery activities will explore visual and musical composition, movement, art making, dramatic play, and storytelling. A *Prepared Piano* will invite visitors to “prepare” a baby grand piano and play improvised compositions. Art activities will highlight the connections between art and music, and traditional instruments will reveal their sounds and stories.

For the youngest visitors, The Art Place for Young Learners will present art, song, rhyme and pattern through the lens of classic nursery rhymes, which represent some of our first experiences with rhythm.

The sound installation *Delirioso*, created by Luensman specifically for the Experiencenter, takes advantage of a large curved wall in the Experiencenter to create an “amphitheater” for sound. This amphitheater will be filled with an eclectic orchestra of kinetic and electronic instruments that guests may play and conduct, through a series of joystick movements and pushbutton switches. *Delirioso*’s range of unusual sounds, textures, and combinations swings from quiet, atmospheric passages to dense walls of sound, depending on how many guests are participating and how many instruments are activated.
An accomplished multimedia artist, Luensman has exhibited nationally and internationally. In 2007, he was invited to create a series of sculptures and installations, called Arenas, for the Cincinnati Art Museum. His recent 2012 solo show at the Weston Art Gallery in the Aronoff Center for the Arts won support from the National Endowment for the Arts and incorporated thought-provoking sculpture, photography, sound and video. Luensman is the recipient of several awards, including two Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Awards, three City of Cincinnati Individual Artist Grants and the prestigious Efroymson Contemporary Arts Fellowship.

The Experiencenter will host a grand opening celebration for I See the Rhythm on Saturday, May 4, 1 – 3 p.m., featuring refreshments, a music-themed art activity, and the chance to meet artist Anthony Luensman. The grand opening event is free for museum members and $10 for a non-member family of four ($2 for each additional child). Contact Alex Otte, at 937-512-0167 or aotte@daytonart.org, for information or to register in advance.

The Experiencenter will feature new works and activities throughout the year that continue the exploration of art and music. In September, Dayton artist Michael Bashaw will install a large-scale interactive sound sculpture called Sonic Interplay, and Sanford Biggers’ interactive hip-hop dance floor and video return in December.

Since 1976, The Experiencenter has been providing families and youth with participatory experiences that are creative, stimulating and serve to deepen knowledge about the myriad forms of art and the wonder of the creative process. The Experiencenter is open during regular museum hours, and admission is included in the museum’s suggested general admission.


For more information about this and other programs at The Dayton Art Institute, please visit www.daytonartinstitute.org or call the museum at 937-223-4ART (4278). Be sure to also connect with The Dayton Art Institute on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram for additional information, behind-the-scenes photos and exclusive offers.

ABOUT THE DAYTON ART INSTITUTE
As one of the Miami Valley’s premier fine art museums, The Dayton Art Institute offers a full range of programming in addition to exhibiting its collection. Galleries hours are Tuesday – Friday, 11 a.m. – 8 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday, noon – 5 p.m. With support from the Chase Endowment Fund, suggested admission to the museum’s permanent collection is $8 adults, $5 seniors, active military and groups. Admission is free for museum members, students (18+ w/ID) and youth (17 and under). Some special exhibitions, programs and events may carry an additional charge and include admission to the museum’s permanent collection as part of that price. Free parking is available at the museum and the facility is fully accessible to physically challenged visitors. The DAI’s new Museum Store and Leo Bistro are now open during regular museum hours. For more information, please call 937-223-4ART (4278) or visit www.daytonartinstitute.org. The Ohio Arts Council helped fund this organization with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. The DAI also receives support from the Montgomery County Arts and Cultural District.

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