MEADOWS MUSEUM ANNOUNCES 2015 MOSS/CHUMLEY ARTIST AWARD WINNER: ANNETTE LAWRENCE

DALLAS (SMU) (December 10, 2015) – The Meadows Museum has announced that Annette Lawrence has won the 2015 Moss/Chumley Artist Award. The award is given annually to an outstanding North Texas artist who has exhibited professionally for at least ten years and has a proven track record as a community advocate for the visual arts. Lawrence received the award on Dec. 9 at the Meadows Museum’s Annual Members Holiday Celebration.

“The combination of her talent, experience and her commitment to being engaged with the community makes Annette the perfect choice for this year’s Moss/Chumley Award,” said Nicole Atzbach, Curator of the Meadows Museum and a member of the award jury.

This year’s Moss/Chumley Award winner is a visual artist who has been based in Texas since 1990. Lawrence’s work is related to text and information – often in response to physical space and time – and is grounded in autobiography, counting, and the measurement of everyday life. Her subjects range from body cycles to ancestor portraits, music lessons and unsolicited mail.

She has done a number of string installations, which she considers a response to architecture as monumental text. In Lawrence’s work, the string presents a visual lightness, balanced by the substantial physicality and scale of the work. References to lattice, woven vessels, suspension bridges, and musical instruments often emerge.

Lawrence’s art is widely exhibited and held in museums and private collections, including the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, the Dallas Museum of Art, the Rachofsky Collection, ArtPace Center for Contemporary Art, the Blanton Museum, American Airlines, and the Dallas Cowboys Art Collection at AT&T Stadium. Lawrence has participated in artist-in-residence programs in Houston, Texas; Skowhegan, Maine; Johannesburg, South Africa; Tanera Mor, Scotland; and Melbourne, Australia.

Her recent solo exhibitions include Leaning Towards an Algorithm, the Cliff Gallery, Mountain View College, Dallas, in 2014; Midway and Counting, the Gallery at Vaudeville, Fredericksburg, Texas, 2014; and Accumulation, The Center for Creative Connections, the Dallas Museum of Art, 2012.
“I’m honored to join the list of all the wonderful artists who’ve won this award,” said Lawrence. “Jim Chumley and Frank Moss did so much to support and nurture the local arts community, and I’m thrilled to receive an award that honors their many important contributions.”

The Moss/Chumley Award was founded to recognize not only talented artists living in North Texas, but also to acknowledge those who have proven track records as community advocates for the arts.

Lawrence has worked extensively in the community, serving on the Program Advisory Council at the Nasher Sculpture Center, the National Alumni Council of the Maryland Institute College of Art, as a juror of the 26th Annual Juried Undergraduate Art Student Exhibition at Texas Tech University, and as curatorial team member of the TX*13 Texas Biennial.

She has given public talks at the Kimbell Art Museum, the Nasher Sculpture Center, the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, Mountain View College, Southern Methodist University, Booker T. Washington High School for the Visual and Performing Arts, North Tarrant County Community College and the University of Houston.

Born in 1965, Lawrence grew up in Queens and Freeport, NY. She received a BFA from the Hartford Art School and an MFA from the Maryland Institute College of Art. Currently, Lawrence lives and works in Denton, Texas and is a Professor and Chair of Studio Art at the University of North Texas, College of Visual Arts and Design. Lawrence has been honored with numerous fellowships and awards. She is a 2009 recipient of the Dallas Museum of Art’s Dozier Travel Grant, and a 2000 winner of the African American Art Advisory Association Award from the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston. The jury for the 2015 Moss/Chumley award included Atzbach; Willie Baronet, artist and Stan Richards professor in Creative Advertising, Meadows School of Arts; Joan Davidow, director emeritus, Dallas Contemporary; Shelley DeMaria, curatorial assistant, Meadows Museum; Heyd Fontenot, artist and director of Central Trak; Stephen Lapthisophon, professor of art and art history at UT Dallas and UT Arlington, and 2012 winner of the Moss Chumley Award; and David Leggett, membership manager, Meadows Museum.
Moss/Chumley Memorial Fund and Artist Award

The Moss/Chumley Memorial Fund was begun in 1989 by Frank Moss and the Meadows Museum as a tribute to Jim Chumley; Moss's name was added to the fund upon his death in 1991. Moss and Chumley were two Dallas art dealers who made outstanding contributions to the visual arts in North Texas during the 1980s. The pair operated the Nimbus Gallery on Routh Street from 1980 to 1987 and the Moss/Chumley Gallery at the Crescent Court from 1986 to 1989, where they showcased numerous new artists.

Established in 1995, the Moss/Chumley Artist Award is given in their memory. The award -- which carries a cash prize of $2,500 -- is open to artists working in any medium who live in one of the eleven North Texas counties: Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, and Wise.

Established in 1965 by oilman Algur H. Meadows, the Meadows Museum is located on the campus of Southern Methodist University in central Dallas. Its permanent collection of Spanish art is one of the finest in the world and contains works from the 10th through the 21st centuries by such masters as Velázquez, Goya, Miró and Picasso. Visit http://www.meadowsmuseumdallas.org for more information.

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