



Quilt National '17

The Dairy Barn Arts Center
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For Immediate Release

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The Dairy Barn Arts Center Presents the 20th Quilt National and the Crazy Quilt Crawl

ATHENS, OH- This summer brings the 20th biennial of Quilt National and the whole town will be celebrating. May through August, visitors to Athens will not only experience 85 incredible contemporary quilts in *Quilt National '17* at the Dairy Barn, they will also have the opportunity to go on the Crazy Quilt Crawl, which will feature contemporary and traditional quilts from local Athenians at over 45 locations in town and throughout Athens County.

This year's Quilt National exhibition will feature 85 artists representing 28 states and 9 foreign countries. Jurors were Nancy Crow, Petra Fallaux and Art Martin. An **artist's reception and awards ceremony will be held on May 26 from 5-7pm** and the media is invited to attend. ***Quilt National '17* will officially open to the public Saturday, May 27, 2017 at 11a.m.** and will remain open until September 4, 2017.

The kick-off for the Crazy Quilt Crawl will be held on May 25 at 4pm outside of the Courthouse uptown. A reception at Jackie O's Public House and Brewpub will be held immediately following the ceremony and will feature a specially brewed Quilt National beer. Crazy Quilt Crawl Maps can be found at The Dairy Barn Arts Center and at each crawl location.

Over the last 20 years, Quilt National has given artists a space to experiment within the medium.

"*Quilt National '17* is, in the final selections, a celebration of the spirit of the original 1979 exhibition, a declaration of the power and versatility of the quilt as a means of artistic expression," said Art Martin, *Quilt National '17* juror. "It is a testament to the ongoing innovations and explorations of the artistic community, and the need to understand and express the world we share that drives them."

More than 6,000 visitors are expected from all over the world to see *Quilt National '17*. Although parts of the collection will travel to museums and galleries throughout the country until late 2018, the Dairy Barn Arts Center, located in Athens at 8000 Dairy Lane, is the only exhibition venue where visitors can view the complete collection. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursday and Friday 11 a.m. to 8p.m. Admission costs include \$10 for general admission, \$8 for students and seniors, with free admission for members and children under 12.

Visitors will experience a newly expanded facility and be able to take home unique mementos of Quilt National from The Dairy Barn's new Gallery Shop. The shop will feature specially produced items by the Quilt National exhibitors, in addition to other hand-crafted items made by regional artists. The limited edition of the 20th biennial *Quilt National '17* Catalog, The Best of Contemporary Quilts will be available for purchase in the Gallery Shop beginning May 27, 2017.

Quilt National '17 is produced by the Dairy Barn Arts Center with sponsorship from the Ohio University Inn & Conference Center, Quilts Japan Magazine/Nihon Vogue Co., Ltd., the Athens County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Friends of Fiber Art International, Nelsonville Quilt Company, the Ohio Arts Council, Studio Art Quilt Associates, eQuilter.com, The Chaddock Group, Athens Uptown Business Association and many other generous individuals.

To see a full list of the participating artists in the exhibition, to read more about Quilt National or to view an online version of the Crazy Quilt Crawl map, please visit <http://dairybarn.org/quilt-national/5759-2/>. For high resolution images, please contact Julie Weller at julie@dairybarn.org.

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