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University of **NOTRE DAME**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Mauricio and Tomás Lasansky
Father and Son**

*January 18 to March 15, 2015
O'Shaughnessy West Gallery*

NOTRE DAME, INDIANA –December 12, 2014

This exhibition organized by the Snite Museum of Art features twenty-three paintings and drawings by Tomás Lasansky (b.1957) and nineteen prints by his deceased father, the renowned and influential American printmaker and professor, Mauricio Lasansky (1914 – 2012).

Mauricio Lasansky, considered to be one of the “Fathers of 20th-century American Printmaking” and, according to *Time Magazine* in the 1960s, “the nation’s most influential printmaker,” was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in 1914. As an artist whose importance has been widely recognized, his work can be found in private collections and over 140 museums nationwide, as well as in Europe and Latin America. During his long career until his death in 2012, he had more than 250 solo shows in thirty-five countries and received six honorary doctorate of arts degrees.

While Tomás Lasansky formally trained at the University of Iowa (B.F.A., 1979; M.A., 1983; and M.F.A., 1984), his art education began much earlier. As a five-year-old, he made drawings depicting pieces in his parents’ African art collection, worked in clay and wax, and made prints alongside his father. The youngest child in a family of visual, literary, and performing artists, he visited major art museums as a child. Indeed, Tomás Lasansky asserts that he grew up in a museum—a reference to his parents’ extensive collection of art from many cultures.

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Tomás Lasansky's artworks featured in this exhibition are heroic-scale portraits, and their subjects include Native Americans, artists, composers, musicians, writers, great thinkers, presidents, female models, and a depiction of Christ. Observant visitors to the exhibition will note that Mauricio and Tomás Lasansky portrayed two of the same subjects, Einstein and Verdi.

Since 2008, Notre Dame alumnus Joseph A. Bisignano '59 has given the Snite Museum over forty-one prints by Mauricio Lasansky, nineteen of which are featured within this exhibition. Bisignano has also long supported the career of Mauricio Lasansky's son Tomás.

This exhibition is made possible with support from the Humana Foundation Endowment for American Art. The exhibition catalog is made possible by generous gifts from Mr. Joseph A. Bisignano '59, Dr. and Mrs. John J. Callaghan, Mr. and Mrs. James Cownie, and Dr. and Mrs. Michael J. Richards.



Photo Caption: Tomás Lasansky (American, b. 1957), *Painted Face*, 2008, acrylic on canvas, 65 x 53 inches. Artist Collection.

For additional images contact Gina Costa at gcosta@nd.edu or 574-631-4720.

Exhibition Reception

The public is invited to a free exhibition reception scheduled for 2 to 4 pm, Saturday, February 7, 2015.

The Snite Museum of Art, University of Notre Dame

The Snite Museum of Art is located on the campus of the University of Notre Dame, near South Bend, Indiana. Museum hours are 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Tuesday through Friday; and noon–5:00 pm Saturday and Sunday. Admission is free. Museum information is available at the Museum's website:

<http://sniteartmuseum.nd.edu>. Driving directions and parking information are available at <http://nd.edu/visitors/directions/>. Find us at inthebend.com and facebook.com.

The Snite Museum of Art provides opportunities to enjoy, respond to, learn from, and be inspired by original works of art. As a department of the University of Notre Dame, the Museum supports teaching and research, creates and shares knowledge, celebrates diversity through the visual arts, serves the local community, and explores spiritual dimensions of art.

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