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***“Making New Impressions” A Juried Art Competition and Auction
Opens Thursday, March 9 at 6pm
Including works from two Second Generation Highwaymen***

March 1, 2017, Fort Lauderdale, FL - Two works from second generation Highwaymen have been donated to Bonnet House for its 17th Annual Juried Art Competition and Auction, *Making New Impressions*. Richard Edwards and Kelvin Hair have generously donated two pieces to this year's exhibition with 100% of the proceeds benefiting Bonnet House and its programs. The two 16" x 20" paintings will be on display on the verandah along with last year's first place winner, Jorge Leon's piece, *Koi World*. The lavish opening reception is scheduled for Thursday, March 9, 2017 at 6:00pm and includes cocktails, gourmet food from A Alexander Catering, music from Eddie B Entertainment, exotic floral decorations from Event Bliss, moonlight and adventurous innovative art.

We would like to thank Mariavelia Savino, this year's juror, for selecting the artwork. This is Ms. Savino's second stint as juror for the exhibit, but as her extensive resume attests, she is no novice in the art world. Ms. Savino has presented exhibitions at international sites, from the Imperial Palace Archives, Beijing, China, to the Historical Society of Washington D.C. In 2016, she was the curator of *Contemporary Art Projects USA*, Art Fairs during Art Basel Miami week, consultant curator at *Valli Art Gallery*, Wynwood, FL, *Broward Art Guild*, Judge of *Summer Sizzle Exhibit Competition*, Fort Lauderdale and guest speaker, *Volunteer Appreciation Dinner*, *Hollywood Academy of Arts & Science*.

A preview of the artwork selected for *Making New Impressions* is on the Bonnet House website at <http://www.bonnethouse.org/impressions/>.

The artists chosen to participate in the exhibition work in a variety of media and styles. All guests and participating artists are invited to cast their votes for their favorite artist in the exhibition. The artist receiving the highest number of votes will receive the *People's Choice Award*, awarded that evening. All of the artwork in the *Impressions* competition will be available for sale with 50% of the proceeds benefitting the ongoing preservation of Bonnet House and its cultural programming that reaches over 70,000 visitors, including 13,000 area youth each year. The *Impressions* exhibition will be on display from March 9 through April 30, 2017 during Bonnet House regular tour hours.

Tickets are \$50 and include a fun-filled evening with fine food, cocktails, art, music and moonlight. For more information or to purchase tickets please call (954) 703-2614 or visit us online at <http://www.bonnethouse.org/impressions/>.

About Bonnet House Museum & Gardens: Accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Bonnet House Museum & Gardens is a 35 - acre subtropical estate and historic house museum located on Fort Lauderdale Beach.

Bonnet House, in addition to being open for guided public tours six days per week, year round, offers a myriad of specially-designed programs for schools, adults and families. Bonnet House also has membership opportunities that include an annual pass to the estate and a program geared to local artists. Music students from nearby universities and opera companies gain experience through their performances on property in the annual Young Artist Music Series and orchid enthusiasts have an opportunity to see and buy an exclusive selection of orchids as well as learn how to grow and care for orchids in their own homes during the Orchid Festival, the first weekend in December of every year. The mission of Bonnet House Museum & Gardens is to steward the legacy of the Bartlett and Birch families by preserving their historic estate and providing programming that nurtures creative expression, delights the senses, educates, and honors the natural environment.