



Academy Art Museum Celebrates Robert Rauschenberg's 100th Birthday with Intimate Centennial Gathering

EASTON, MD – October 24, 2025 – More than 100 of the Academy Art Museum's closest supporters and donors gathered on October 22, to celebrate the centennial of visionary artist **Robert Rauschenberg**. The intimate evening—filled with champagne, storytelling, and reflection—honored one of the most influential figures in modern art and previewed the Museum's upcoming exhibition, [Rauschenberg 100: New Connections](#), opening December 11.

Guests enjoyed a Rauschenberg-inspired cake and heartfelt remarks from **Don Saff**, Rauschenberg's longtime collaborator and Easton, Maryland resident, who shared personal stories from their creative partnership. **Curator Lee Glazer** offered an inside look at the exhibition and screened a short preview of [100 Foot Photo](#), the documentary chronicling the making of Rauschenberg's monumental [100-foot work Chinese Summerhall](#).

A centerpiece of the upcoming exhibition, *Chinese Summerhall* is among the artist's most fragile and rarely exhibited works. The Rauschenberg Foundation is highly selective in granting loans of such magnitude due to the artwork's sensitivity and size.

"Now I'm really letting you in on some insider information," shared Charlotte Potter Kasic, Museum Director. "This exhibition almost didn't happen if it weren't for our tenacious curator. These works require an extraordinary level of care to display, and being approved for a loan of this caliber is a true testament to our team's professionalism and our donors' commitment. We are so fortunate to share such significant works with our community."

In concert with the Rauschenberg Foundation's global centennial celebration, the Academy Art Museum proudly represents the Eastern Shore among museums worldwide honoring Rauschenberg's radical creativity, collaborative spirit, and enduring legacy.

“My hope is that this extraordinary exhibition draws visitors from our community and from communities well beyond the Eastern Shore,” said Kasic. “Given Rauschenberg’s profound commitment to building community, I think that’s something he would have loved.”

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About Robert Rauschenberg Foundation

The Robert Rauschenberg Foundation builds on the legacy of artist Robert Rauschenberg, emphasizing his belief that artists can drive social change. Rauschenberg sought to act in the “gap” between art and life, valuing chance and collaboration across disciplines. As such, the Foundation celebrates new and even untested ways of thinking.

About the Academy Art Museum

Founded in 1958, the Academy Art Museum is the Eastern Shore’s leading cultural institution, accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. It combines the dynamism of an ambitious contemporary art museum with the intimacy of a community space. With five working studios, a 24,000 sq. ft. facility, and innovative programs including a robust artist-in-residence initiative and major commissions for its soaring atrium, the Museum is a destination for artists, scholars, collectors, and families alike.

Press Contact: Janelle Burchfield | communications@academyartmuseum.org | 757.439.0139