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The exhibition *Kenny Scharf* opens at Nassau County Museum of Art on Saturday, March 19 and remains on view through July 10, 2016. The exhibition is sponsored by TAHARI Arthur S. Levine.

from throughout the artist's career. Highlights of this exhibition are the expansive mural *Pop Renaissance* that surrounds the viewer, a version of the artist's *Cosmic Cavern* club-like environment, as well as a recreation of the artist's former Brooklyn studio complete with spattered walls, painted furniture and other workspace ephemera.

In speaking about his art, Kenny Scharf commented: "I believe the artist has a social responsibility to engage others in a thought process that ultimately brings the creative process into everyday life thereby enhancing the quality of our experience." According to *Art News*, he inaugurated his iconic *Cosmic Cavern* installations when he turned his basement into one of the day-glo environments that have been his trademark since the 1980s. Versions of these *Cosmic Cavern* installations have been seen at the 1985 Whitney Biennial and at MoMA PS1 in Long Island City. Works by Scharf are also in the collections of such major New York institutions as the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Guggenheim Museum and the Jewish Museum. Internationally, works by Scharf have been collected by Mexico's Museo de Arte Contemporaneo de Monterrey; the Ludwig Museum in Cologne, Germany; and the Stedelijk Museum of Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

In conjunction with the showing of *Kenny Scharf*, the Museum is offering related public programming for adults and family groups. Museum docent Riva Ettus presents lunchtime talks on Kenny Scharf and his career on April 14, May 12 and June 9. Visitors are invited on June 19 to watch Kenny Scharf paint a new outdoor mural for the future Manes Family Art & Education Center on the Museum's grounds. While the *Kenny Scharf* exhibition is on view, the artist's vibrant and imaginative works serve as inspiration for other family and children's programs, including weekly *Neiman Marcus Family Sundays at the Museum*, as well as *Nature + Kids = Art* on April 17, *Spring Break for Art* on April 26-28, and *Summer Picnic Party* on June 26.

A companion exhibition, *Glamorous Graffiti*, looks at the work of Kenny Scharf's contemporaries in the exciting New York graffiti and street art movement of the 1980s. Including a 1988 portfolio of five silk-screened prints by Keith Haring, a range of graffiti styles are explored through the work of the artists Jean Michel Basquiat, Lee Quinones, Crash, Futura 2000, Toxic and many others. Films documenting early 1980s graffiti and urban culture are included in the exhibition. The artists A-One, Daze, Dondi, Koor, Lady Pink, Noc, Richard Hambleton and Rammellzee appear in the films *Downtown 81* by Edo Bertoglio, *Wild Style* by Charlie Ahearn and *Style Wars* by Henry Chalfant and Tony Silver.

Nassau County Museum of Art is located at One Museum Drive in Roslyn Harbor, just off Northern Boulevard, Route 25A, two traffic lights west of Glen Cove Road. The museum is open Tuesday-Sunday, 11 a.m.-4:45 p.m. Docent-led tours of the exhibition are offered at 2 p.m. each day; tours of the mansion are offered each Saturday at 1 p.m.; meet in the lobby, no reservations needed. Tours are free with museum admission. Family tours and art activities are offered Sundays from 1 pm; free with museum admission. Call (516) 484-9338, ext. 12 to inquire about group tours. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors (62 and above) and \$4 for students with ID and children aged



Kenny Scharf From the Cosmic Cavern Installation Collection of the artist



Kenny Scharf Cosmic White Frosted Donut. 1982 Oil on linen 24 X 24 inches Private

4 to 12. Members and children under 4 are admitted free. The Museum Store is open Tuesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call (516) 484-9337 for current exhibitions, events, days/times and directions or log onto nassaumuseum.org.

Collection

Nassau County Museum of Art is chartered and accredited by New York State as a not-for-profit private educational institution and is governed by a privately elected Board of Trustees. The Museum and its programs are made possible through the support of Nassau County under County Executive Edward P. Mangano and the Nassau County Legislature; the Board of Trustees and Museum Members; Sponsors of Exhibitions and Events, Government and Foundation Grants, Corporate and Private Donors as well as earned income.



Kenny Scharf, Pink Frosted Cruller in Outer Space, 2010 Oil on linen 24 x 24 inches Private Collection



Kenny Scharf Tangletop, 2015 Oil, acrylic, silkscreen and diamond dust on linen 60 X 60 inches Private Collection



Kenny Scharf Pop Renaissance, 2013 Oil on canvas Variable dimensions (17 panels)

Pop Renaissance4, detail (Dixan) Oil, acrylic, enamel, silkscreen on canvas 77 X 119

Inches Collection of the artist Courtesy Honor Fraser Gallery

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