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SAMA-JOHNSTOWN EXHIBITION TO SHOWCASE WORKS BY SURREALIST ARTISTS

Johnstown – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Johnstown is pleased to announce its latest exhibition, *Surrealities: The Graphic Work of William D. Davis and Peter Milton*. The exhibition features twenty-five works by the two Surrealist artists from the Museum's permanent collection. *Surrealities* opens December 20 and will remain on view through March 15.

Although they worked independently of each other, William D. Davis (1936-2003) and Peter Milton (1930-) share a surprisingly similar artistic outlook. Both are graphic artists working primarily in black and white, and in their art, each persistently explores the nature of reality and sur-reality. The exacting prints of Milton recall dream states, where one scene shifts into another and impossible juxtapositions of the historic and the contemporaneous come together. Davis, whose drawings are equally intense, invokes the unconscious in his boiling collages of mysterious, yet vaguely familiar imagery. Sometimes disturbing, yet always compelling, the prints and drawings of these contemporary masters offer a fresh take on the Surrealist and Magic Realist movements of the twentieth century.

Among the twenty-five works on view will be several of Davis's graphite drawings, as well as a selection of his etchings and engravings. Highlights include *Indestructible Object* and *Pairs*, both from the artist's *Ecology and Debris* series, and the large drawings *Black Hat/Black Glove* and *Roman Arches*. Milton is represented by a group of his intaglio prints, among which are some of his most accomplished works, notably two large etchings from his *Points of Departure* series. Other etchings by Milton include *Mornings with Judd*, *Pavane*, and *Passage III*, a major work from the early 1970s.

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Johnstown is located in the Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown. Hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Museum is a handicapped-accessible facility and is open to the public free of charge. For more information, please call the Museum at (814) 269-7234 or visit www.sama-art.org.