

Second Rotating Art Exhibit Opens at Tampa International Airport

For immediate release

Tampa, Fla. (June 14, 2000) - - The Hillsborough County Aviation Authority (HCAA) is pleased to announce the opening of its second Rotating Art Exhibit at Tampa International Airport. The art exhibit is situated in Airside A rotunda before passing through the security checkpoint.

On Wednesday, June 14, 2000, at 10:00 a.m. a reception is planned to celebrate the inaugural exhibition which features well-known regional artist Theo Wujcik. Five large paintings averaging 13 by 17 feet, all acrylic on canvas, have been selected by the Airport Public Art Committee and Ken Rollins, Executive Director of the Gulf Coast Museum of Art. Wujcik's artwork will be on display from June 1, 2000 through August 31, 2000. Mr. Rollins has curated this exhibition of Wujcik's paintings as a preview of the upcoming retrospective exhibition scheduled in September 2000 at the Gulf Coast Museum.

The Public Art Committee members currently include Stella F. Thayer, HCAA Vice Chairman; Arthenia L. Joyner, past HCAA board member; Louis E. Miller, HCAA Executive Director; Renee' Williams, Director of Cultural Affairs, City of Tampa; Robin F. Nigh, Administrator, Art in Public Places, Tampa Museum of Art, and Ted Corwin, Chairman Hillsborough County Public Art Program.

Wujcik has a long educational and teaching background. He arrived in Tampa in 1970 from Detroit. He had already established a national presence as a Master Printer and a significant artist, represented by the Donald Morris and Brooke Alexander galleries. He came to Tampa as shop director at the University of South Florida's print atelier, Graphicstudio. In 1972, he was appointed to the faculty of the USF Art Department and continues today as an Associate Professor teaching painting and drawing. His paintings have been in public collections all over the United States and Europe.

The Airport's Public Art Program was established in July 1998. It created an Airport Art Committee for the purpose of establishing a Public Art Program to enhance the appearance of the Airports under the Aviation Authority's control and to present a Florida, historical and cultural theme to the users of the Airport System.

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