FAU’s MacArthur Campus to Host ‘The Next Attempt for Life on Earth’ Exhibition by Rick Newton through October 15

BOCA RATON, Fla. (September 11, 2013) — Florida Atlantic University will host “The Next Attempt for Life on Earth,” an exhibition of futuristic paintings by West Palm Beach artist Rick Newton, now through Friday, Oct. 13, at the John D. MacArthur Campus Library Gallery, Parkside Drive, Jupiter.

The oil, acrylic and Venetian plaster on wood panel paintings in the exhibition are inspired by scientific textbook illustrations and the state of Florida, where development and nature often conflict. The paintings show technology and architecture interacting with animals in surreal landscapes. Newton also uses images of Cold War weaponry and military aircraft to create apocalyptic undertones in his paintings.

“I would like anyone viewing my work to take away their own personal conceptualization, but make a connection to the message I want to convey,” said Newton, who grew up during the Cold War era. “Landscape and technology collide to form a New Earth regime.”

In “Flight from Noah’s Ark,” the artist portrays a struggle to reclaim technology and re-stabilize the natural world. Giant crab claws hold back space rockets against a backdrop of fragmented landscapes and industrial plumbing. Newton uses a stork to symbolize the hope of the future.

“Spitfire,” another one of Newton’s works, features one crab claw with surveillance equipment and another crab claw clutching a fighter plane. The painting elicits nostalgia about spies during the Cold War, and suggests that a new breed of lowly life form is rising up for a revolution of the planet.
“Rick Newton is a highly under-represented artist whose skill and creativity make his work multidimensional,” said Diane Arrieta, the gallery’s exhibition coordinator. “Each time you interact with his paintings, you find new details and are able to go further into the narrative.”

The exhibition is free and open to the public. Hours for viewing are Monday through Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 11 p.m., Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 12:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. For more information, call 561-799-8530 or visit www.library.fau.edu/npb/npb.htm.

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Photo Caption


About Florida Atlantic University:
Florida Atlantic University, established in 1961, officially opened its doors in 1964 as the fifth public university in Florida. Today, the University, with an annual economic impact of $6.3 billion, serves more than 30,000 undergraduate and graduate students at sites throughout its six-county service region in southeast Florida. FAU’s world-class teaching and research faculty serves students through 10 colleges: the Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, the College of Business, the College for Design and Social Inquiry, the College of Education, the College of Engineering and Computer Science, the Graduate College, the Harriet L. Wilkes Honors College, the Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine, the Christine E. Lynn College of Nursing and the Charles E. Schmidt College of Science. FAU is ranked as a High Research Activity institution by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The University is placing special focus on the rapid development of three signature themes – marine and coastal issues, biotechnology and contemporary societal challenges – which provide opportunities for faculty and students to build upon FAU’s existing strengths in research and scholarship. For more information, visit www.fau.edu.