



## Media Release

### A Department of Art and Design Announcement:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## James Gibson: A Life in Sculpture, A Retrospective Exhibition

The MTSU Department of Art and Design is pleased to announce an exhibition of selected works by celebrated former professor emeritus James S. Gibson. Entitled *James Gibson: A Life in Sculpture, A Retrospective*, the exhibit is a decade-by-decade Memoriam of his lifetime's work. Scheduled March 14–April 2, 2022, in the Todd Art Gallery, Todd Hall, Room 224A, the exhibition is an homage to the artist's ingenuity, humility, and national renown; and offers viewers the opportunity to purchase Gibson's work while also supporting students with financial aid afforded them through the department's James S. Gibson Scholarship in sculpture.

Gibson was originally from Charleston, West Virginia, and earned two bachelor's degrees from the University of Charleston. He followed those achievements with a Master's of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) in sculpture from Ohio University. Then, after he retired from MTSU, the University of Charleston also awarded him via induction into its Alumni Gallery of Achievement in 2000.

Gibson taught at MTSU from 1970 to 1999, creating more than 500 pieces of artwork during his lifetime. As a retired sculpture professor, he once summarized his work with,

My interest in the human figure and mythology affected my continued development of a personal shape and color vocabulary. However, the key to the existence of aesthetic content is the uniqueness and idiosyncrasies that I demonstrated in selecting and using materials, art elements, and tools to formulate my ideas. My work is abstract and materialized in either welded metal or carved/constructed wood; often, the two are combined. So, it fluctuates from small-scale to 12 feet. The size of each piece is determined by my thoughts and the materials used.

Join us at 2 p.m., Saturday, March 19, 2022, for the exhibit's opening reception in Todd Art Gallery, followed at 3 p.m., by the Gibson Family's Retrospective Talk and Discussion featuring the work and achievements of the artist.

Half the sale of each artwork purchased during the exhibit and reception will benefit Art and Design Students through James S. Gibson Scholarship.

To purchase or contribute to the James S. Gibson Scholarship and for parking, directions, or other questions, contact 615-898-5532 or [eric.snyder@mtsu.edu](mailto:eric.snyder@mtsu.edu).