

RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY Office of Development Press Release August 25, 2022

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'SHALOM GOREWITZ: EXITBITION' showcases 40 years of artwork by esteemed Ramapo College professor

MAHWAH, N.J. - SHALOM GOREWITZ: EXITBITION, a 40-year survey of artworks by retiring Contemporary Arts professor Shalom Gorewitz, opens on Wednesday, September 14, with an opening reception from 5-7 p.m. The exhibition continues through October 14.

Shalom Gorewitz taught art and cultural theory courses at Ramapo College from 1982-2022. The exhibition features his work in a variety of media, including painting, digital photography, and video. John Hanhardt, a leading curator, has written that Gorewitz "leads a new generation of artists who are creating unique styles in the media arts. He has a unique and personal vision when he transforms images recorded from nature, giving us a new impression of the world around us."

In addition to creating his personal work, Gorewitz collaborated with dancers, musicians, and poets; wrote about the early days of the medium for several journals; and produced one of the first artist cable television program in New York City. His work was included in three Whitney Biennials and is in the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art and many other museums. In addition, his videos have been broadcast on public and cable television and featured in many international festivals.

Since his arrival at Ramapo, Gorewitz has been a champion of the Rodman Collection and the College's growing collection of Haitian Art. Gorewitz produced

two notable films during his visits to Haiti. *The Last Tourist* (1993) was broadcast on PBS. *Elegy for Stivenson Magloire* was selected for the Haitian Film Festival in Brooklyn. During his two terms as Dean, Gorewitz facilitated Oscar Award-winning filmmaker Jonathan Demme's time as artist in residence at Ramapo College when Demme worked with students on what became the critically acclaimed film *The Agronomist*. Gorewitz received two Fulbright Grants to teach in Kumasi, Ghana at the Kwame N'krumah University of Science and Technology and holds a position as Adjunct Professor of Video Art there.

"Ramapo College was very supportive of my art career, scholarship, and experiments with online teaching. I feel honored to be part of the innovative and progressive tradition the College represents," Gorewitz said. "I especially want to acknowledge the hundreds of students who have listened carefully, taken me seriously, and cooperated/collaborated on the ever-evolving world of postmodernist art and new technologies. Their success is at least partially due to our positive intentions and creative pedagogy. In that spirit I dedicate this exhibition to Chris Clark, James Conyers, Jennifer Morrison, and all the rest, too numerous to name."

This project is supported in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. Gallery hours are Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 1-5 p.m. and Wednesday from 1-7 p.m.

For further information, contact Sydney Jenkins at 201-684-7147.

Ramapo College of New Jersey is the state's premier public liberal arts college and is committed to academic excellence through interdisciplinary and experiential learning, and international and intercultural understanding. The College is ranked #1 among New Jersey public institutions by College Choice; is recognized as the state's top college on the list of Best Disability Schools by *Great Value Colleges*; was named one of the 50 Most Beautiful College Campuses in America by *CondeNast Traveler*; and is recognized as a top college by *U.S. News & World Report, Kiplinger's*, Princeton Review and *Money* magazine, among others. Ramapo College is also distinguished as a Career Development College of Distinction by CollegesofDistinction.com, boasts the best campus housing in New Jersey on Niche.com, and is designated a "Military Friendly College" in Victoria Media's *Guide to Military Friendly Schools*.

Established in 1969, Ramapo College offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business, data science, humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which include business, education, nursing and social work. In addition, the College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary

levels, and offers graduate programs leading to master's degrees in Accounting, Applied Mathematics, Business Administration, Contemporary Instructional Design, Computer Science, Creative Music Technology, Data Science, Educational Leadership, Nursing, Social Work and Special Education, as well as a Doctor of Nursing Practice.