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**New Featured Acquisition
The Racine Art Museum Debuts
Elenor Wilson's Sculpture**

Racine Art Museum (RAM) is pleased to debut Elenor Wilson's sculpture American Tourister Still Life, a piece that has just entered the museum's collection.

Racine, WI July 22, 2015 - At a time of year when many of us hit the road or the airport for vacations, it is fitting for Racine Art Museum (RAM) to debut **Elenor Wilson's sculpture American Tourister Still Life**, a piece that has just entered the museum's collection.

Many of us find ourselves "traveling" through every waking moment as massive amounts of information and images flow through our fingertips and before our eyes. Wilson seeks to offset some of this electronic barrage by encouraging us to recall our past through confronting objects that remind us of earlier-and quieter-times.

Her ceramic sculpture, *American Tourister Still Life* is a stack of cast forms depicting hard-case carry-on luggage that we associate with train travel and the "golden age" of flying. These multiple cases appear to have been placed on a pallet for shipping or storage. The slightly antiquated nature of this travel gear is emphasized by the carved feet that recall the legs of an old cast-iron bathtub or steam radiator. A pair of women's pumps from the 1950s is casually set at the work's base as if kicked off by a traveler, seeking to rest her feet. Evoking even more nostalgia, a Coke® bottle of the same era links these elements together as a record of bygone days, cast aside by us for decades. By gathering them together, Wilson transforms these recognizable objects in ways that provide associations with our shared past while also encouraging us to consider the value of tangible objects in a digital era.

Wilson received her BFA degree from Southeast Missouri State University and her MFA from the State University of New York, New Paltz in 2009. From

2010 to 2013, she lived in Taiwan as a Resident Artist at the New Taipei City Yingge Ceramics Museum, which also holds her work in its permanent collection. She now lives and maintains a studio in the United States and is also the editor of *The Studio Potter Journal*. This sculpture was included in the exhibition *Flow* held at the Milwaukee Art Museum during the 2014 conference of the National Council on Education in the Ceramic Arts in Milwaukee where it was purchased for RAM's collection by the David and Jacqueline Charak.

Exhibitions are made possible at Racine Art Museum by Platinum Sponsors - Karen Johnson Boyd and William B. Boyd, SC Johnson, Windgate Charitable Foundation.

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Together, the two campuses of the Racine Art Museum, RAM in downtown Racine at 441 Main Street and the Charles A. Wustum Museum of Fine Arts at 2519 Northwestern Avenue, seek to elevate the stature of contemporary crafts to that of fine art by exhibiting significant works in craft media with painting, sculpture and photography, while providing outstanding educational art programming.

Docent led contemporary craft and architectural tours of the museums are available. Both campuses of the Racine Art Museum, are open to the public Tuesday - Saturday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, and are closed Mondays, Federal holidays and Easter. RAM is open Sunday Noon - 5:00 pm, while Wustum is closed Sundays. An admission fee of \$5 for adults, with reduced fees for students and seniors, applies at RAM. Admission to Wustum is free. Members are always admitted without charge to either campus.

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