

# happenings

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT  
MAGAZINE

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FREE

## Wayne White exhibit opens Sept. 11 at the Bob Rauschenberg Gallery

Florida SouthWestern State College has announced an exhibition of paintings, drawings and a newly-commissioned, site-specific installation, Wayne White: Here Comes Mr. Know-It-All at the Bob Rauschenberg Gallery from Sept. 11 – Nov. 7.

An opening reception will take place Friday, Sept. 11 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Los Angeles-based, internationally-acclaimed artist Wayne White won three Emmy Awards for his set design and puppeteering on the landmark children's TV show Pee-wee's Playhouse, creating iconic characters including Randy, Cool Cat, Chicky Baby and Dirty Dog. The subject of a 2012 feature-length documentary Beauty is Embarrassing, directed by Neil Berkeley and a 382-page hardbound monographic book designed and edited by Todd Oldham, Maybe Now I'll Get the Respect I So Richly Deserve, Wayne White will be in res-



Wayne White

idence at Florida SouthWestern State College for a week in advance of his show to work with FSW students to create a super-sized puppet/sculpture of Lee County resident artist and Gallery namesake Bob Rauschenberg.

In addition to his newly commissioned Bob Rauschenberg puppet/installation and related opening night performance, the exhibition Wayne White: Here Comes Mr. Know-It-All will also include a selection of the artist's now iconic and often "laugh-out-loud"-humorous "Word" paintings and a series of recent water-color drawings and collages (on subjects including local environmentalist, author and political cartoonist Ding Darling) produced during Wayne White's month-long Robert Rauschenberg Foundation

Residency on Captiva Island in 2013.

White reveals, "I've always had the do-it-yourself approach. I grew up in this blue collar family and didn't have a lot of toys, so you had to make your own fun. Building forts out of sticks and scrap lumber – that's where I learned the joy of making something from nothing."