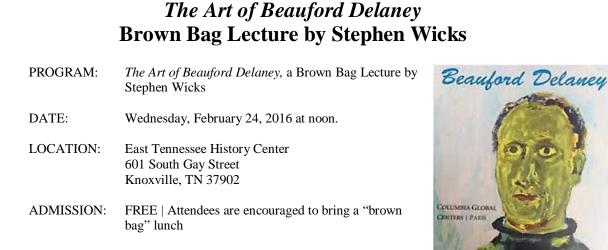
EAST TENNESSEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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For Immediate Release

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(Knoxville, TN) In a Brown Bag Lecture on February 24, Stephen Wicks, curator at the Knoxville Museum of Art, will explore the legacy of painter Beauford Delaney, one of the country's most significant African American modernists. Born in Knoxville in 1901, Delaney went from sketching on Sunday school cards to

formal lessons with Knoxville's Lloyd Branson to joining the artistic revolution in Harlem, New York. From 1953 until his 1979 death he lived in Paris, where his artistic focus shifted from depictions of city life to abstract expressionism. While you are at ETHS for the program, we invite you to view the watercolor painting by Delaney in the museum's current exhibition, *Celebrating a Life in Tennessee Art: Lloyd Branson 1853-1925*.

Stephen Wicks has guided the Knoxville Museum of Art's curatorial department for more than 20 years. He has organized dozens of exhibitions, including *Higher Ground: A Century of the Visual Arts in East Tennessee, Awakening the Spirits, Facets of Modern and Contemporary Glass*, and *New Directions in American Drawing*. He previously served as Curator of Collections and Exhibitions at the Columbus Museum in Georgia, and is active as a guest curator, juror, lecturer and writer. Wicks received his Bachelor of Arts in Art History from the University of Tennessee, his Master of Arts in Art History and Museum Studies from Case Western Reserve University, and was awarded back-to-back Cleveland Museum of Art Fellowships.

The lecture is sponsored by the Harriet Z. Albers Memorial and is free and open to the public. The lecture will begin at noon at the East Tennessee History Center, 601 S. Gay Street, Knoxville. Guests are invited to bring a "Brown Bag" lunch and enjoy the lecture. For more information on the lecture, exhibitions, or museum hours, call 865-215-8824 or visit the website at <u>www.EastTNHistory.org</u>.

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