

Media Advisory

For High Res photos, additional information or a free tour Please Contact:
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On display in the Chris Harris Permanent Collection Gallery at the Museum of Florida Art:

The World of Minnie DesChamps **On Exhibit: September 14, 2007 – November 25, 2007**

Minnie DesChamps was a very intriguing woman. She was an angler, hunter, farmer, and folk artist. She knew the rural communities of the coastal south before over development and documented her observations on this vanishing way of life through her naive paintings.



According to Doris Leeper writing in the 1969 issue of the *Sandlapper* magazine, DesChamps "painted the African-American farm laborers of Shiloh and Mayesville, chopping cotton, planting seedlings or just resting in the sun. She knew these rural communities intimately and her great devotion to them pervades her work".

DesChamps' also traveled to Florida, and coastal South Carolina, where she painted some wonderful "circus" pictures from the Ringling Brothers summer compound. Her brush also captured ocean scenes from Garden City. Her work is direct, honest and unaffected by academic "restrictions". "The simple, untrained style seems eminently suited to her subject matter", wrote Leeper.

DesChamps work has been in storage for many years, even surviving Hurricane Hugo. Through the diligent efforts and strong commitment of her nephew, Scott Schroeder, this show became a reality.

The Museum of Florida Art takes great pleasure in presenting this unique collection of paintings and sharing the inspiration of Minnie DesChamps. *The World of Minnie DesChamps* will be on display at the Museum of Florida Art, 600 North Woodland Boulevard in DeLand Florida September 14 to November 25. Museum Hours: Tues.-Sat. 10 am-4 pm, Sun 1-4 pm. Gallery Admission: Members - Free, Non Members - \$3.00, Children under 12 and Sundays – Free. For more information, contact the museum at (386) 734-4371 or visit www.delandmuesum.com.

The Museum of Florida Art offers a venue where: creativity is fostered, appreciation of art is nurtured, all people are welcomed. The mission of the Museum of Florida Art is to integrate exhibitions and education to create an enriching and stimulating experience for a diverse audience. The Museum of Florida Art offers a venue for emerging and established Florida artists to support the cultural legacy of our state.

Above: "Minnie Crabbin", by Minnie DesChamps

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