“ORIGIN” EXHIBITION MARKS DARWIN’S BIRTH YEAR,
ON THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES ANNIVERSARY
Rare First Editions and Scientific-Artistic Collaborations Featured

The origin and evolution of creativity in visual art, science and literature is the theme of “Origin,” the Schatten Gallery exhibition on display now through Jan. 29, 2010.

This multi-faceted exhibition includes paintings, drawings, etchings, literary analysis, biological specimens, scanning electron microscope photography -- and features Darwin’s four great books, including two rare first editions of Charles Darwin’s On the Origin of Species, says Schatten Gallery Director and exhibition curator Julie Delliquanti.

“The materials in this exhibition and the commentary of the artists and scientists who created them illustrate the origin of creativity, and how our work and art evolve as we are exposed to new ideas, new evidence or new processes,” Delliquanti said.

The centerpieces of “Origin” are a rare first edition of On the Origin of Species and a presentation copy of the book signed by Darwin. Arriving by Tues., Nov. 17 are signed first editions of Darwin’s The Descent of Man, The Expression of Emotions in Man and Animals, and the finest such copy in private hands of Voyage of the HMS Beagle. All are on loan from the personal collection of Emory alumnus Stuart Rose, a rare book collector and friend of the Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library.

The paintings of Emory biology research specialist Nancy Lowe, along with her commentary on portions of Darwin’s writings, make up one section of the exhibition titled “Species Icons,” which are complemented with animal, plant and insect specimens on loan from Fernbank Science Center in Atlanta (http://www.fernbank.edu/).

A second section, “The Evolution of Crow,” includes literary scholarship by Tara Bergin on Ted Hughes’ Crow, as well as etchings by visual artist Alan Turnbull. Both were inspired by reading Hughes’ work and exploring materials in the late poet’ archives, which are cared for in MARBL.

The third section of the exhibition, “Innerspace,” features scanning electron microscopy photos shot by the University of Georgia’s Michael Oliveri that feature nanostructures created by his colleague

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Dr. Zhengwei Pan and two post-doctoral researchers. Oliveri is chairperson of UGA’s digital media department and Pan is an assistant professor of physics and engineering.

The exhibition is open to the public at no charge. For more information, contact Julie Delliquanti at jdelliq@emory.edu or 404.727.0136.

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