



**Thomas Hall**

[Ft. Myers Galleries Examiner](#)

## Tools in Motion opens March 4 at Center for the Arts of Bonita Springs

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"Man on a Limb" by Stephen Hansen is one of the works included in the Hechinger Collection exhibition.

When was the last time you regarded a trip to Lowe's, Home Depot or Ace Hardware as a fine art expedition? Never? Then you need to take in *Tools in Motion*, a traveling exhibition that goes on display beginning Friday, March 4th, at the Center for the Arts of Bonita Springs.

*Tools in Motion* is an exhibition of witty, light-hearted works by emerging and prominent contemporary artists including Arman, Jim Dine, Claes Oldenburg, Ron English, Stephen Hansen and Jacob Lawrence. The 47 colorful, motion-related and visually-intriguing works will appeal not only to contemporary art lovers but to children, families and school groups. The latter will particularly appreciate the emphasis on alternative media such as wood, glass, paper, metal and stone.

The works included in this exhibition were chosen by International Art & Artists, a Washington D.C. non-profit organization whose mission is to increase cross-cultural understanding and exposure to the arts internationally through exhibitions, programs and services to artists, art institutions and the public. They come from the collection of do-it-yourself-industry pioneer John Hechinger, Sr., whose father Sidney started the bricks-and-mortar hardware chain in 1911. Hechinger began collecting and displaying tool-related art in the company's headquarters in Landover, Maryland to inspire his employees. Over time, he assembled a rich modernist collection of eclectic allegorical and sometimes metaphorical artworks.

The [exhibit's opening](#) will be marked by a reception on Friday, March 4th, from 6-8 p.m. The Center for the Arts invites families for special Family Activity Days each Saturday beginning March 5th and ending April 30th. Between 1 and 3 p.m., the Center will conduct guided tours of the exhibition, followed by hands-on art projects that will introduce young art lovers and would-be artists to the idea of tools as art motifs.

The [Center for the Arts of Bonita Springs](#) is located at 26100 Old U.S. 41 Road, Bonita Springs. Please contact Meghan Easterly at 239-495-8989 for more information.