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FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Members,

The cover of this magazine tells the story of a meeting of Pope Pius VI and Doge Paolo Renier in 1782. The artist, Francesco Guardi, was commissioned to document the event; the first time a pope had visited Venice in 600 years. The exhibition Eyewitness Views: Making History in Eighteenth-Century Europe, which opened here on February 25, brings together nearly 40 masterworks from museums around the world. Each of these magnificent paintings vividly re-creates an actual festival, state visit, or horrendous disaster, while evoking the famous city or distinctive landscape in which it took place. Betsy Wiseman’s article on page 26 introduces this fascinating and absolutely gorgeous exhibition.

This is the issue of the magazine that describes acquisition highlights of the past year, and I know our readers will be as eager and excited as we were both to see and to learn about some of the remarkable works that joined the collection in 2017. Introducing the section is an article by chief curator Heather Lamonides about a focus exhibition that features a selection of our major acquisitions of the past four years—a type of show that we plan to organize periodically in the years ahead to call attention to our ever-changing collection.

Although the spring thaw has barely begun, we look ahead to July, when Yayoi Kusama: Infinity Mirrors will open at the museum. Based on the experience of other institutions that have hosted the same dazzlingly immersive exhibition, organized by the Hirshhorn Museum in Washington, DC, we anticipate that it will be a hot ticket and that many time slots will sell out. This is one time to take advantage of your members’ privileges to purchase tickets before the general public—which you may do online or by phone (see page 28).

Finally, if you happen to walk into the museum by way of the tunnel from the parking garage, you will have the chance this spring to enjoy a new installation, Spencer Finch’s Color Test 2000 (Permanently), a series of nine light boxes presenting abstract mosaics of color. Associate curators of contemporary art Emily Liebert writes about it on page 30.

I look forward to seeing you here!

Sincerely,

William M. Griswold Director

In Conversation On Saturday, January 20, artist Dana Schutz and author and professor Nick Plante met in Garden Auditorium for a provocative and engaging discussion of Britten’s work in the context of the current social and political climate.

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EXHIBITIONS

Eyewitness View: Making History in Eighteenth-Century Europe Feb 25–May 20, Kelvin and Eleanor Smith Foundation Exhibition Hall The vibrant, colorful paintings in Eyewitness Views allow us to witness some of the most impressive spectacles and dramatic events of 18th-century Europe.

Co-organized by the Cleveland Museum of Art, the J. Paul Getty Museum, and the Minneapolis Institute of Art. Supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.

Presenting sponsors

Noura E. and Mohammed S. Al-Khaleej

With additional support from Tim O’Brien and Brigitte Peltier, and an anonymous donor

Media sponsor: Bloomsbury

Recent Acquisitions 2014–2017

Mar 17–Jun 6, Julia and Larry Pollock Focus Gallery (101)

Twenty-nine artworks provide a sampling of the museum’s more than 2,500 acquisitions since 2014. Spanning the centuries and the globe, the objects reflect an encyclopedic collection that communicates the story of human achievement in the arts.

Beyond Angkor: Cambodian Sculpture from Banteay Chhmar

Through Mar 25, Kelvin and Eleanor Smith Foundation Exhibition Gallery. A loan from the National Museum of Cambodia of a wall section from the temple at Banteay Chhmar, plus works from the CMA’s collection.

Organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and the Arts of the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

Made possible in part by gifts from two anonymous donors.

Dana Schutz: Extant Atom Bomb

Tour Apr 15, Transformer Station. Debut of a new body of work by Cleveland Institute of Art alum Dana Schutz. Created mostly in the past year, the paintings reflect the turbulent political atmosphere in the wake of the 2016 US election.

Made possible in part by gifts from the Scott C. Hasker Family

Brett Weston: Photographs

Through May 6, Mark Schwartz and Berlinda Katz Photography Gallery (250). Drawn from the museum’s collection, this survey of four decades of Weston’s work depicts more than 40 photographs from the Brett Weston Archive that were donated in 2017.

Made possible in part by a gift from Donald F. and Anne T. Peltier

Rodin—100 Years

Through May 13, Betty T. and David M. Schreiber Gallery (218). Joining a worldwide series of major Rodin projects united under Rodin100, the CMA marks the centennial of the artist’s death with a display of works from the museum’s collection.

Made possible by a generous gift from Anne T. Well

William Morris: Designing an Earthly Paradise

Through Nov 11, Arlene M. and Arthur S. Holden Textile Gallery (234). Vibrantly patterned woven, printed, and embroidered textiles join the museum’s collection of rare Kelmscott Press books in this exhibition exploring William Morris, the Victorian designer and poet who was a pioneer of the Arts and Crafts movement.

Presenting sponsors: Emma and Cathy Lincoln

Graphic Discontent: German Expressionism on Paper

Through May 15, James and Hanna Bartlett Prints and Drawings Gallery (101). This exhibition spans the period before and just after the First World War, when Expressionism mirrored the urgency, drama, and despair of world events, through more than 90 prints and drawings from the museum’s collection.

Top:
Rodin—100 Years

Left:
Brett Weston: Photographs
Acquisition Highlights

A focus exhibition celebrates major additions to the collection from the past four years.

EXHIBITION
Recent Acquisitions 2014-2017
March 17–June 4
Julia and Larry Pollock Focus Gallery (101)

GALLERY TALK
Wed/Apr 4, 6:00

Throughout its 101-year history, the Cleveland Museum of Art has celebrated the reputation as having a collection of masterpieces. Selecting objects from around the world that tell the story of human achievement and the arts, we continue to add to our renowned collection. The museum’s curators seek out works of art that are rare, historically significant, well preserved, finely crafted, aesthetically powerful, and emotionally gripping.

This issue of Cleveland Art highlights selected acquisitions from 2017. These objects come from all four corners of the globe and span the centuries. The examples presented in the pages that follow include two beautifully preserved Andean textiles—a head dress and a tunic—made by the Chancay people; a late Gothic sculpture of Saint John the Baptist attributed to the Netherlandish sculptor Jan Cresy, likely made to decorate the interior of the Sainte-Chapelle de Dijon; and Maria Camo, Lébaux, a monumental photograph from 2016 by Richard Mosse, who used a thermal-nutation camera to address Europe’s current refugee crisis from a totally new perspective.

Generous donors enriched many areas of the collection. Agnes Gund’s spectacular gift to the contemporary collection included three paintings—Brice Marden’s Sea Painting I, Robert Colescott’s Tea for Two (The Collectors), and Donald Sultan’s Forest Fire, January 5, 1984—as well as Adja Yunkers’s pastel Session II and Claes Oldenburg’s Standing Mitt with Ball, a beloved monumental sculpture on view in the Ames Family Arm. Donna Reed gave a group of ten Chinese ceramics, ranging from the Neolithic Majiayao culture through the Yuan dynasty (1271–1368). This significant gift complements the museum’s strong collection of Chinese ceramics.

Francois "Franz" P. Taft, a museum trustee who died last May, bequested several works from her personal collection, including the Taft Anniversary Necklace by Cleveland goldsmith John Paul Miller. Taft’s husband commissioned this fabulous necklace—a masterpiece of Miller’s “gold nugget” or “fragment” style—to mark a milestone in the couple’s long marriage. John and Agnet Solomon provided the funds for an ancient Andean vessel with a reclining figure and birds in the Cupisnique style, now on view in the Pre-Columbian galleries.

This spring, selected works that entered the museum over the past four years are showcased in Recent Acquisitions 2014-2017 in the Julia and Larry Pollock Focus Gallery. Twenty-nine objects provide a sampling of the more than 2,900 objects added to the collection during that period. In the following pages, our curators discuss a number of objects featured in the exhibition, including two old master paintings: Johan Koon’s Ascension of Christ from 1622, a vividly colored German Mannerist painting on copper; and Joseph Wright of Derby’s Portrait of Colonel Charles Heathcote from about 1771–72, which combines a meticulous, highly detailed technique used in the subject’s face and costume with expressive, almost abstruse brushwork in the landscape. Also described are a beautifully preserved 19th-century Japanese Buddhist painting, The Wisdom King of Passion (Aizen Myôô), who converts carnal lust into a desire for enlightenment, and three Nohshida dishes that exemplify the first porcelain ever made in premodern Japan.

Unconventional juxtapositions in the focus exhibition prompt visitors to discover common themes in diverse art forms. For example, the late Gothic sculpture of Saint John the Baptist, in which the saint holds a lamb—a symbol of Christ in his sacrificial role as the Redeemer—is on view near a monumental photograph from 2016 by Pieter Hugo, Portrait #16, South Africa, in which a boy holds his younger brother in a pose that recalls the Pieta.

Three Chinese ceramics given by Donna Reed include a Meiping vase made to hold a flowering plum branch and a cornish bowl created for whipping powdered tea—both from the Song Dynasty—as well as a green-glazed covered jar decorated with carved lotus petals from the Northern Dynasties period. Also on view are two Pre-Columbian gold objects: a beaker from Peru’s Lambayeque people depicting the visage of either the culture’s principal deity or the defiled founder of its ruling dynasty, and a large cornet ornament from Colombia’s Calima region.

Visitors are encouraged to seek out more than 50 additional recent acquisitions throughout the museum’s permanent collection, their labels marked with “Recent Acquisition” stickers. Forty-two landscapes and still lifes from the Brett Weston Archive donated to the museum in 2017 by collector Christian Koons are also on view in the exhibition Brett Weston: Photographs, on view in the Mark Schwartz and Betina Katz Photography Gallery through May 6. Last year the CMA also acquired its first example of performance art, Pierre Hugely’s Name Announcer from 2011 reflects the growing presence of scripted performance, live action, and interpersonal exchange in contemporary art. Visitors can experience Name Announcer in the contemporary galleries on weekends beginning Saturday, March 17.

Make Figure later 18C–early 19C: Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mbole people, Wood, pigment, copper tacks, h. 42 cm. Purchase from the J. H. Wade Fund, 2016.33

Heather Lemondes
Chief Curator

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The Pre-Columbian collection comprises works from the three ancient American macro-regions: Mesoamerica (mainly Mexico, Guatemala, and Belize), the Isthmian Area (Costa Rica, Panama, and Colombia), and the Central Andes (principal-ly Peru). Historically, the museum’s collection has tacked strongly toward Mesoamerica, the land of the Aztec Empire, the early Maya city-states, and many other cultures that developed after about 2000 BC. Equally important, however, are the cultural achievements and artistic legacy of the Central Andean region—home of the Inka and Wari Empires, which stood on the shoulders of civilizations that date back to 3000 BC. Over the past 15 years, acquisition efforts have thus focused to a large degree on building the Andean collection.

Last year brought the addition of seven objects, including three of the artistically elaborate textiles for which the region is rightfully famous. The earliest object illustrated here is a fascinating, perhaps unique vessel made by the Copanque (koo-pahn-que), the earliest ceramics-producing people of Peru’s north coast. The vessel’s small size and sculptural complexity give it the power of a miniature to draw the viewer close. The stirrup-shaped spout, a north coast hallmark that may once have had symbolic meaning, forms a framing arch. The mythical creature in relief on two sides of the spout may be inspired by an insect or even a caiman (New World crocodile). Beneath the spout’s arch, two birds perched on the vessel’s doughnut-shaped chamber peck at a supine human—a presumed reference to death. Like other Copanque ceramics, this example was fired in a low-oxygen environment that drove carbon into the surface and turned it black; after firing, the imagery was highlighted with red pigment, probably cinnabar.

Next chronologically is a beautifully carved bone object made by an artist of the highland Wari Empire (600-1000), the most complex civilization to develop in Peru before the Inka. Once lashed to the shaft of a spear-thrower, it served as the weapon’s thumb rest or grip as well as its most sculpturally elaborate element. The subject matter echoes the function. It involves a supernatural creature—its other-than-human nature signaled by a fanged mouth and avian wings and tail feathers—crunching over a small human victim, the head visible on the front of the object and the feet and legs on the back. The human’s head twists to one side to expose the throat to a knife held in the larger figure’s right hand. Thus, the scene captures the crucial moment in a sacrificial offering likely made to ensure the benevolence of divine forces. The so-called Sacrificer or Decapitator is one of the major supernatural beings depicted in Wari art.

Finally are two garments from the latter Chancay (1000-1532), whose coastal homeland the Inka conquered before they, in turn, succumbed to Spanish forces in the early 16th century. These welcome textiles inaugurate the museum’s representation of the Chancay weaving tradition, one of the Andes’s most distinguished. One, a square cloth with two deep blue corners and a field patterned in pale orange and brown, probably served as a head cloth, an important item of women’s wear. Chancay weavers are most noted for head cloths with decoration created through guaje weaving. This example represents a less common type, patterned not during weaving with guaje but rather with tie-dyeing, which typically produces diamond-shaped or rhomboid motifs like those in the field. Its beautiful colors evoke deep twilight, when the sky turns a luminous dark blue and a shimmer of orange light appears on the horizon.

A sleeved tunic, made with yarns dyed in a pleasing pink and gold palette, seems to have been made by Chancay weavers after the Inka conquest in the 1460s. Two traits indicate its status as a high-prestige garment: its labor- and resource-intensive technique—dit tapestry—and its copious use of alpaca fiber imported from the highlands. The wide, short proportions and sleeves are typical of Chancay, as is the small-scale, interlocked design that repeats in the right patterned columns. The stepped blocks along the edges, however, seem to be drawn from a poorly understood, contemporary textile style that strongly appealed to Chancay weavers and their patrons.
Douglas and James Reid gave a group of ten Chinese ceramics to the museum in 2017; three of these—a large Spielring vase and a conical bowl from the Song dynasty (960–1279), and a covered jar with lotus design (illustrated here) from the Northern Dynasties period (AD 386–581)—are included in the Recent Acquisitions focus exhibition that opens in March.

The jar still has its original cover, which is rare among surviving examples. Its missing knob most likely had the shape of a lotus bud. Beautifully carved lotus petals cover the vessel’s shoulder and lid under a translucent green glaze. In Buddhism, the lotus flower symbolizes purity and detachment from worldly affairs; its presence suggests that this vessel was meant to be used in a religious context. The well-crafted double-loop handles may have held a silk cloth or other textile that would have been folded over the lid to keep it in place. This aesthetic prefigures the celebrated green celadons in adjacent regions.

Covered Jar with Carved Lotus Petals China, Northern Dynasties period (AD 386–581). Ceramic. h. 24.6 cm. Gift of Drusas and James Reid, 2017.68

Wisdom King of Passion (Aizen Myōō) 1304. Japan, Kamakura period (1185–1333) to Nanboku-chō period (1336–1392). Hanging scroll; ink, color, gold, and cut gold on silk; painting 110 x 65.5 cm. Purchase from the J. H. Wade Fund, 2017.501

Among the year’s important Japanese art acquisitions is a painting of Aizen Myōō, one of the Five Great Wisdom Kings who protect the Five Wisdom Buddhas. In Japanese, Aizen means “passion”—literally “dyed with love”—and Myōō means “bright king.” As the Wisdom King of Passion, Aizen converts carnal desire into a more constructive quest for enlightenment, illuminating the world and dispelling ignorance. Although the myōō are a category of deity incorporated into Buddhist thought from Indian traditions, Aizen does not exist in Indian texts or iconography.

Befitting his association with passion, Aizen’s body is red. The deity is generally depicted with six arms, as in this painting. In his principal arms, he holds a vajra bell and pendle. One pair of subsidiary arms holds a bow and arrow, and the other pair a lotus bud and an ax hidden by Aizen’s closed fist. Characterized by a flaming mandorla, or body halo, he sits upon a lotus supported by a vase from which flow flaming, wish-fulfilling jewels. This medieval representation of Aizen is of excellent quality, conveying the color palette, complexity of design, fine line work, and use of cut gold characteristic of the best 14th-century Japanese Buddhist painting. Images of Aizen were especially prevalent in the 1200s and 1400s due to the deity’s association with the repulsion of attempted invasions by Mongol forces; gallery 235B currently features a wood sculpture dated to the 1200s. Our newly acquired painting will serve as a wonderful complement, especially as it depicts implements now missing from a number of the sculpture’s hands.

A lso new to the collection are three elegant Japanese porcelain dishes produced by elite ceramicists working for the Nabeshima clan in the country’s southern island of Kyushu. One of the three, made between 1668 and 1704, is entirely in underglaze blue, with a dynamic, graphically powerful design of abstracted gingko leaves and other foliate motifs. The other two dishes, created between 1668 and 1710, have both underglaze blue and overglaze color enamels ranging from bright oranges to subtle pale greens. Every other year, most of the regional rulers serving the Tokugawa military regime, lords known as daitsu, were required to reside in the military capital of Edos present-day Tokyo, where they presented gifts to the Tokugawa shogun. Taking advantage of the recent discovery of kuon in northern Kyushu, which attracted the best ceramicists in the realm, the Nabeshima clan daimyō of the Saga domain offered the shogun exquisite sets of porcelain tarewear with appealing motifs and color schemes. The maple leaves floating along the tur- buent river current in one of the museum’s recently acquired dishes relate to a motif derived from classical Japanese poetry, in which the red leaves of autumn rise along the Tatatsura River in Kyoto. A poem by courtier and poet Ariwara no Narihira (825–880) reads:

Chihagobun
Kumoyo kikazura
Tatatsura
Kara kuretsu ni
Mizu akuru to wa

Undoubtedly, even in the legendary age of the awesome gods—Tatatsura River in scarlet and the water flowing under it.

—Translated by Joshua Mostow

No small portion of the porcelain produced in Japan during the Edo period was intended for the European market, replacing difficult-to-obtain Chinese export porcelain after the fall of the Ming dynasty (1368–1644). As a result, many of the ceramicists involved in its creation catered to European taste. Nabeshima ware offers us insight into what sophisticated Japanese made for their own use, combining their admiration of Chinese porcelain shapes and motifs with elements drawn from Japan’s rich cultural sources.
The Entombment c. 1560
Giovanni de’ Vecchi (Italian, 1526-1585). Pen and brown ink, purple wash, over traces of lead point or graphite; squared in lead point or graphite; sheet: 20.2 x 14.7 cm; secondary support: 20.7 x 23.5 cm. Purchase from the J.H. Wade Fund, 2017.5.

The Austrian Expressionist Oskar Kokoschka made Birth of a Child during a period of political upheaval and intense personal anguish, just a few months after the outbreak of the First World War in Europe. The sheet is preparatory for a large decorative fresco planned for a reception hall’s interior walls at a cemetery complex in the city of Breslau in present-day Poland. Using tempera paints in brilliant, contrasting colors, Kokoschka applied them with a brush at various thicknesses and incorporated some of the drips of paint into his design.

The work’s visible brushstrokes and strongly directional patches of color create vigor and movement around a central reclining white-chap figure—a woman giving birth. The hardship of the birthing process is revealed through the motions of the three surrounding women: a woman in pink holds the birthing woman’s arms above her head, while another in green at her side grasps her shoulders, a gesture almost violent in its force. A third woman pears a basin of water between the birthing woman’s legs. Has the baby been born? Taken away? The newborn is noticeably absent, and the mother’s lifeless pallor foretells a tragic outcome. Indeed, Kokoschka intended this scene as the opening to a sequence portraying the inevitability of death at every stage of life.

Kokoschka’s tormented relationship with Viennese socialite Alma Mahler ended around the time this painting on paper was made. He was particularly grief-stricken by Mahler’s decision to end her pregnancy. Responding emotionally through his art, Kokoschka created a number of works in 1914 that, like this one, featured women as life-giving mothers, but also as torturers of men. This work is on view through May 13 in the exhibition Graphic Diagonists: German Expressionism on Paper.

The Apotheosis of Romulus: Design for a Ceiling c. 1570–71
Domenico Maria Canuti (Rukan, 1525–1604). Black chalk, pen and brown ink, brown wash, heightened with white; with perspective indications; 24 x 37.7 cm. Severance and Greta Milliken Purchase Fund, 2017.104


In 1575–76, about 50 years after Giovanni de’ Vecchi’s commission in Rome, the artist Domenico Maria Canuti was there to execute a ceiling fresco for the grand Palazzo Alberi. His pen and ink drawing Apotheosis of Romulus features a design for a quadrature, an illusionistic type of painting where images of architectural elements depicted on a wall or ceiling appear to be part of the actual architectural setting. Canuti made the drawing in order to establish the relationship between the figural group and the quadratura with geometric precision. In the center he sketched Romulus, founder of Rome, floating upward toward a bank of clouds to be welcomed by Jupiter, Venus, and other Olympian gods. Three dotted perspectival lines, rendered with chalk, radiate from the figurine group. Two of the lines meet at right angles on the figure of Venus, extending vertically downward to the tip of a 24-pointed star and a perfectly rendered circular crown, and horizontally toward an architrave on the left. A third line angled at 45 degrees establishes the corner of the room, aided by another 24-point star rendered in perfect perspective. This extraordinary drawing shows a Baroque artist using all of his training and talent to execute a design both mathematical and imaginary in its scope.
The Adoration of the Shepherds, c. 1601
Battista Franco Italian, c. 1510-1561 Etching with engraving on paper, plate size: 37.8 x 51.1 cm, Alana Kroeger Fund, 2017.107

The Adoration of the Shepherds was made after 1550, when the artist Battista Franco had returned to his native Venice after working in Rome, Florence, and Urbino. This large and carefully worked etching depicts a group of shepherds who visit the Virgin Mary and Christ child just after the birth, guided by a host of angels and a shining star. The Virgin and Child are flanked by the half-clothed visitors, portrayed in dynamic, twisting positions, whose pointing gestures and objects of art—mirror and a cow—serve to witness the miraculous birth.

To the right of the child sits Joseph, his right hand poised in a contemplative position below his chin. Joseph’s thoughtful approach to the birth is complemented in the middle ground by two groups of men who converse with one another rather than peer at the child. Franco thus juxtaposes action and reflection, emphasizing two possibilities for spiritual engagement. In the background, ancient ruins on the left and an Italian city on the right suggest that the narrative takes place both as a historical event in the distant past and as a spiritual event in the present-day lives of its viewers.

Made a few decades after Battista Franco’s etching, the brilliantly luminous engraving Wealth Permits Stupidity examines affluence as the source of all ills. The allegorical print was produced in Antwerp in the Netherlands at the end of the 16th century, when moralizing imagery was common. The interior palace scene features a king, a personification of Greed, who counts his money at a large table. Dazzled by the precious metal wares at his feet, he is unaware that a jester wearing a paper crown places a fool’s cap on his head. Across the well-appointed table, the king’s female counterpart demonstrates Vanity, one of the pits of wealth. She stirs into a mirror—in its reflection has transformed her into an elderly woman—while a monkey looks up her skirt. An elder woman with a parrot on her arm, a personification of Flattery, cools the vain lady from behind with a fan. A well-dressed female figure with a bower’s hood, representing Stupidity, brings food and drink served on opulent plate. However, the victuals are not abundant; no glasses are full, no platters piled; even the servant in the back carries a barren tray. The birdbath above is also empty, a reference to loss or barrenness. Wealth has overcome the couple’s senses. Their pointless lives will end with neither truth, nor issue. Wealth Permits Stupidity would have found a ready audience among Antwerp’s sophisticated local and international merchants and courtiers, for whom such allegory was a typical feature in visual imagery, plays, and street theater of the period.

Three recently acquired prints by internationally acclaimed media artist Walid Raad explore timeless social concerns about access to information, the assertion and perception of truth, and the nature and role of mass media. All three prints are from Raad’s series Better Be Watching the Clouds. To create the series, the artist appropriated colorful pages from a Middle Eastern botanical guidebook and added black and white photos of world leaders involved in the Lebanese Civil War (1975–90). The collaged faces form the center of blossoms, as if the influential leaders have seeped into the ground of the Middle East and sprouted in an eerie transmutation of its landscape.

Born in Lebanon, Raad grew up in East Beirut. In 1983 escalating violence led to his relocation to the United States, where he finished high school and went on to pursue photography and Middle Eastern studies. In his work, which includes documentary-style photographs, videos, and notebooks, Raad weaves together fictional stories with real events to raise questions about Lebanon’s modern history and to challenge the foundations of what people believe to be true. For example, according to Raad, Better Be Watching the Clouds is a logbook made by Fadwa Hussoun, a Lebanese intelligence officer and botanist who was responsible for assigning floral codes names to political and military leaders during the war. Thus in the surreal Plate 438, former Lebanese politician Kamal Joumblat is Pink Sorel, a “herbaceous plant” found in “waste ground, originally cultivated.” Raad leaves it to the viewer to decide whether the code names are arbitrary or carries a hidden, satirical meaning. The print’s imaginary history as an intelligence record further confuses the boundaries between real and fake, public and secret, art and artifact.

Van Waghe (Netherlands, 1545–1547), Exquisite on paper, sheet: 21.3 x 35.6 cm, image: 20.1 x 35.6 cm, Dorothy P. Allen Fund, 2017.199
The 250 works added to the photography collection in 2017 represent a plethora of periods, styles, and subjects. Techniques range from 19th-century photographs on enamel to contemporary tintypes and gelatin silver and digital prints. Artists hail from as near as Cleveland and as far as Iran and South Africa.

Generous gifts of work by three important American photographers deepened our holdings of documentary and landscape images. The family of Walter Rosenblum donated 19 of his photographs, including eloquent street scenes and illuminating portraits of residents of New York’s poor neighborhoods between 1938 and 1980 and of Haitians in 1957-59, along with an iconic image shot on the beaches of Normandy when Rosenblum served as an Army combat photographer during the Second World War. Roman Vishniac photographed Jewish life in Central and Eastern Europe in the mid-1930s. His daughter, Mara Vishniac Kohn, gave 22 haunting works that powerfully convey the privations of discrimination and record a way of life extinguished by the Nazis and the war. Vishniac’s and Rosenblum’s images hold hallowed places in the annals of documentary photography. The Christian Keesee Collection donated 53 photographs by the masterful Brett Weston. Forty-two of these images of the natural and built environment are on view through May 6 in the photography gallery.

Monta Camp, Leibniz 2015. Richard Mosse (b. 1982). Digital chromogenic print on metallic paper; overall: 121.9 x 84.1 cm. Purchased with funds donated by William and Margaret Lipscomb in honor of the 25th Anniversary of the Friends of Photography, 2017.36

Below Right: Two details from Mosse’s extensive image

In an inspiring example of arts patronage combined with social advocacy, the George Gund Foundation commissions distinguished artists to photograph areas of interest in northeast Ohio for the foundation’s annual reports. To ensure that this legacy remains within the community, the foundation each year generously donates prints from the project. In 2017 the museum received 12 portraits by Andrea Modica of Cleveland women who launched nontraditional careers with help from the organization Hard Hatted Women, along with 11 landscape views by Jeffrey Whistler exploring the evolving Cuyahoga River.

Monta Camp, Leibniz 2015. Richard Mosse (b. 1982). Digital chromogenic print on metallic paper; overall: 121.9 x 84.1 cm. Purchased with funds donated by William and Margaret Lipscomb in honor of the 25th Anniversary of the Friends of Photography, 2017.36

The largest and most technically innovative photograph acquired last year was Richard Mosse’s Monta Camp, Leibniz. Part of the Irish artist’s Heat Maps series—stunningly beautiful yet chilling images of the overcrowded, squalid camps that house Middle Eastern and North African refugees in Europe—the enormous panoramic landscape view from 2016 was purchased with funds generously donated by William and Margaret Lipscomb. The work comprises approximately one thousand individual photographs digitally stitched together to form a unified whole. Mosse used an extremely high-resolution camera that records thermal radiation rather than light; it can detect a human body from 30.4 kilometers. This technology was created for military use to track and target enemies in border surveillance and combat. Through the camera’s eye, humans become biological traces instead of individuals, a condition that echoes the treatment of the refugees. Stateless, they lack a legal identity and basic human rights, including freedom of movement. Created with a camera that dehumanizes its subjects, Monta Camp also contains numerous close-up views of domestic life in the compound that do just the opposite. Adults cook and wash clothes, children play. The mundane, fragile nature of daily life contrasts with the gravity of the content.

Monta Camp’s monumental scale and conflation of historical fact with artistic imagination and invention argue for its location within the tradition of history painting as well as photography. Viewing this detachment camp in the country revered as the cradle of democracy delivers a gut punch. Mosse brilliantly subverts a technology of covert surveillance and destruction, using it to foster awareness and empathy.
DECORATIVE ART

The remarkable Frances "Franny" Taft served as a museum trustee from 1973 until her death in 2017 at age 95. She taught at the Cleveland Institute of Art for 62 years and was a ubiquitous presence at northeast Ohio art openings with her husband, Seth, who died in 2013. Franny made a bequest to the museum of a magnificent group of works by goldsmith John Paul Miller and silversmith Frederick Miller, both based in Cleveland. These treasures represent an important patron relationship unlike almost any other in the two artists’ careers. John and Frederick worked with Franny at the Cleveland Institute of Art and enjoyed a lifelong friendship with the Tafts. As a result, their work for the couple represents a collaborative process that elevates each piece above a mere commission to a more personal expression of a cherished relationship.

The Taft Anniversary Necklace from 1991 was commissioned by Seth Taft as a gift for his wife on their golden anniversary celebrating 50 years of marriage. John Paul Miller had previously created two smaller, less ambitious works in this “gold nugget” or “fragments” style in 1971 and 1986, but the Taft necklace synthesized his understanding of weight, balance, texture, and form in a new way. A masterpiece of goldsmithing, it represents a pinnacle in Miller’s career. The DMA archives house drawings and preliminary studies for this work.

Stephen Harmon Curator of Decorative Art and Design

Also in the bequest are works such as Miller’s early Seedpod Brooch, made after his landmark discovery of the granulation technique in 1952-53. Here he contrasts hammered planes with granulated surfaces to emphasize texture and enhance the drama of discovery—a technique that would become a hallmark of Miller’s naturalistic compositions.


AMERICAN ART

The museum’s noteworthy collection of American painting recently added Alabama, a superb work by Norman Lewis. Visually arresting and generously scaled, Alabama is a powerful abstract composition with vigorous white brushwork applied in linear and curved sweeps against a black background. The brushstrokes gather in such number and intensity amid the lower central area of the canvas that the background is oblitered in places, creating an overall effect of postlinguent forms in inky darkness. In terms of style, the painting is a key contribution to Abstract Expressionism, the mid 20th-century movement devoted to communicating psychological and emotional impulses through line, shape, color, and texture, most often without overtly recognizable references to the visible world.

Harlem-based Norman Lewis was the only African American artist to associate with and exhibit alongside the founders of Abstract Expressionism. During his career he had several solo exhibitions and participated in numerous group shows, including the prestigious Venice Biennale in 1956. Yet despite his achievements, Lewis did not attain the level of fame necessary to guarantee him a place in the early histories of Abstract Expressionism; indeed, prejudicial attitudes toward his race hampered his acceptance among the dominant circles of networking and patronage. However, following a period of limited attention in the decades after his death in 1979, interest has steadily increased during the past quarter century. In recent years the artist has rightfully joined the acknowledged ranks of essential Abstract Expressionist painters.

Produced intermittently throughout the 1950s, Lewis’s most original and admired works are the approximately two dozen canvases constituting his Civil Rights series, which provide a unique fusion of Abstract Expressionist aesthetics and social commentary. Energized by the civil rights movement in the United States, and unwilling to ignore the significant transformations taking place, the artist searched for a way to align his abiding interest in abstraction with current events. Alabama distinguishes itself as the masterpiece of the series. The painting’s title refers to one of the most notoriously recalcitrant states in the struggle for African American civil rights, and Lewis’s choice to limit his palette to black and white offered a symbolic duality for a time entrenched in racial conflict. In addition, the painting’s composition has prompted viewers to draw associations from its abstract shapes, such as a nocturnal conflagration with sparks flying upward—or, more emphatically, a nighttime Ku Klux Klan gathering. Widely published and exhibited, Alabama is regarded by aficionados and scholars of Lewis’s work as his most emotionally resonant and intellectually forceful creation.

Mark Cole Curator of American Painting and Sculpture


March/April 2018 www.clevelandart.org 18
This remarkable life-size sculpture of John the Baptist immediately impresses with its spectacular three-dimensionality: its deeply undercut draperies, the saint’s sharply incised crescent-shaped curls and beard, and his camel hued robe, set the firm of the land. Undoubtedly carved by Netherlandish sculptor Jan Croc, an artist who delighted in bold and distinctive patterns, Saint John the Baptist is stylistically datable to about 1500, when Croc was working in eastern France. A native of the Burgundian Netherlands, the artist is mentioned in the guild registers for the cities of Bruges and Antwerp where he was known as an engraver and carver of architectural ornaments. Croc moved to eastern France early in his career to serve René II, Duke of Lorraine and Duke of Bar, from 1486 to 1510, working mostly in the town of Nancy.

The Baptist was a much beloved and widely venerated saint throughout the Middle Ages. According to legend, he was born here in a formal manner typical of Netherlandish art of the late 15th and early 16th centuries. Saint John wears his traditional camel hued dress mentioned in the Gospels. The beautifully sculpted fleece, with its swirling, sinuous patterns, is visible beneath the saint’s heavy, luxuriant outer mantle, which drapes downward over his right shoulder, revealing its finely textured tunic. A band of carved pears and a single vine-like incised pattern decorate the garment’s hem, suggesting a rich embroidered border and giving the mantle a vestment-like quality. The lamb, an attribute of John the Baptist, rests on the closed book held in the saint’s left hand. Here it serves as a symbol of Christ in his sacrificial role as Redeemer. John’s right hand, now missing, would have pointed to the lamb.

Croc’s style is deeply rooted in the prominent works by sculptors Claus Sluter and Claus de Werve at the Carthusian monastic complex at Champmol, near Dijon, in the late 14th and early 1400s. The sculpture of the Chartreuse de Champmol still held strong influence over regional artists even a century later, and its finished form must have been no exception. Our sculpture of John the Baptist reputedly comes from the Sainte-Chapelle in Dijon, seat of the Order of the Golden Fleece, founded by Duke Philip the Good of Burgundy in 1430. This provenance has been consistently associated with the sculpture since the late 19th century. The chapel housed clerestory sculptures mounted high on consoles within its apse, so John the Baptist would have been seen at a significant height, perhaps 20 or more feet above floor level. Located here were the family monuments and tombs of Croc’s patron, René II, himself a member of the chivalric order. René is known to have contributed embellishments to the Sainte-Chapelle at this time, and our sculpture may have been one of his commissions.

About two dozen statues, almost all preserved in the region of Lorraine, have been attributed to Croc. They are, for the most part, stylistically and technically consistent, representing the finest works produced in the region during the end of the 1400s. On the basis of compelling similarities, the GMA’s newly acquired Saint John can be identified more specifically as a pendant to a figure of Saint Catherine, also attributed to Croc and of similar dimensions, now in the Metropolitan Museum of Art. This would make both sculptures the only known works by this artist outside France.

The John the Baptist and its corresponding figure of Catherine in New York may have together once formed part of the large suite of apsidal figures at the Sainte-Chapelle in Dijon. The association of these two specific saints is likely intentioned, as they are the patron saints of the dynasty’s founders, Philip the Bold and Margaret of Flanders. Their association here would have clearly denoted and honored the founders. Saint John the Baptist carries forward the heritage of Claus Sluter and Claus de Werve from the Chartreuse de Champmol, original home of the ducal tombs and their figural mourners. It provides the museum’s medieval collection with a welcome example of the later development and evolution of Stelian sculpture.

Saint John the Baptist: c. 1500. Attributed to Jan Croc (Netherlands, active 1480–1518). Terracotta (fume): 75 x 49 x 60 cm. Purchase from the J. H. Wade Fund, 2017.542

Marjorie E. Wieseman
Paul J. and Edith Ingalls
Vignes Jr. Curator of European Paintings
and Sculpture, 1500–1800

The Resurrection of Christ by an unusual, large-scale artist of the work on copper, beautifully showcasing his summing command of fine detail and color harmonies.

Although Christ’s resurrection is a common subject in Christian art, the Gospels contain no direct account of the event. In König’s interpretation, the triumphant Christ scours up from his tomb toward heaven’s golden light, surrounded by clouds of putti. In dynamic disarray around the empty sarcophagus are the greatly outnumbered soldiers who were charged with guarding it—some still slumbering, others scattering in fright and shielding their eyes against the brilliant light. König used the darkness of the burial chamber to heighten the effect of the blaze of light. Through the massive archway at the back of the scene, dawn breaks over the city of Jerusalem as the holy women Mary Magdalen, Mary of Cleopas, and Mary Salome hasten toward the sepulchre and its mysteriously empty tomb. Merging elements of a Manirerist aesthetic—powerfully modeled figures with elongated, animalistic poses, a heightened color palette—with a dynamic, centrifugal organization more characteristic of the Baroque era, König’s Resurrection of Christ demonstrates the fluid exchange of stylized trends across Europe around 1600.

While the acquisition of König’s compelling work underscores the GMA’s intent to provide a more representative understanding of diverse European traditions, other recent acquisitions have added depth to a noted strength of the collection—namely, British painting of the 18th century. Joseph Wright spent the latter half of his long life in his native Derby, apart from brief periods in Liverpool and Bath, and a visit to Italy in 1773–75. He produced portraits, landscapes, historical scenes, paintings, and modern scientific subjects, many of which demonstrate a profound preoccupation with dramatic lighting effects. Wright’s portrait of Colonel Charles Heathcote (1734–1797) depicts the subject at full length, wearing his military uniform and standing beneath a large oak tree at the center of an expansive landscape. It is one of a handful of small-scale landscapes that Wright executed in oils on canvas and standing beneath a large oak tree at the center of an expansive landscape. While the figure of Colonel Heathcote is painted in a relatively smooth and detailed technique, the landscape is energetic and thinly executed, almost impressionistic. In the trees next to Heathcote, for example, Wright juxtaposed daubs of different colored pigments, applied with palette knife as well as brush, to...
re-create the texture of fluttering leaves and gnarled and weathered bark. Indeed, he gave the landscape as much personility and presence as the colonel himself. Portrait of Colonel Charles Heathcote, on view in the focus gallery from March 17 to June 6, will be a striking addition to the British gallery, demonstrating the lively tradition of small-scale portraiture that flourished throughout the 18th century alongside life-size Grand Manner portraits by artists such as Gainsborough, Lawrence, and Reynolds.

A decidedly original and independent voice in British art of the same period is that of William Blake, an avid disciple of art history who particularly admired the work of Michelangelo. Blake’s uniquely idiosyncratic, antiestablishment style was guided by visions in which he communicated with God, spirits, and the deceased. A small group of patrons believed in his genius and commissioned works that allowed him to give free rein to his unusual visions. Saint Matthew was painted for Thomas Butts, for whom Blake made at least 53 paintings of biblical themes between 1793 and 1803. Butts let Blake choose the subject. Characteristically, in this case, a departure from traditional depictions of the angel dictating the gospel to Saint Matthew. Instead, Blake’s angel presents the completed text—a scroll with blood-red Hebrew-style letters—to the bewilderered evangelist. A prolific engraver and watercolorist, Blake eschewed oil painting in favor of a glue tempera medium that he called “portable fresco”—its recipe, he claimed, revealed to him by Saint Joseph in a dream. This experimental medium allowed Blake to retain the linear drawing essential to his compositions (note the delicate pen-and-ink outlining visible in Saint Matthew), but it was extremely fragile. Saint Matthew was one of a small number of surviving Blake temperas, communicates the artist’s belief in timeless, supernatural inspiration.

In addition to the painting’s illustrious early ownership by Thomas Butts, during the 19th century it was in the collection of William Michael Rossett, brother of Dante Gabriel, both members of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, and after that in the collection of William Bell Scott, a Victorian poet, author, and intimate of the Pre-Raphaelites, for whom Blake was a critical model. The painting is now on view in the British gallery, where Blake’s distinctive style and visionary subject matter contrast sharply with highly finished landscapes and portraits more typical of the period.

During the early months of the First World War, German artist Heinrich Darrwinghausen painted Der Krieg (War), a haunting vision of a village in flames. Tiny black figures, some carrying and firing guns, find themselves engulfed in an apocalyptic vortex of burning, collapsing buildings, perhaps alluding to the potential obliteration of cities and countries, even of the foundational social structures of Western civilization. Among the undeniably discernible reasons there must also be civilians seeking refuge from the raging violence that threatens to overwhelm them. Darrwinghausen achieved maximum emotional impact in Der Krieg by engaging modernist compositional structures—from highly intensified color to the tightly compressed space of intersecting geometric planes, here shattered into sharp, piercing shapes, like shards of broken glass. This masterful merging of German Expressionist emotion with Cubist and Futurist frameworks represents a significant contribution to the apocalyptic war genre painted by fellow Expressionists Franz Marc, Otto Dix, Max Beckmann, and Vassily Kandinsky.

Born in Aachen in 1884, Darrwinghausen studied at the Düsseldorf Academy and was active in Cologne. During his early years as an avant-garde artist in the Rhineland, he exhibited with August Macke, Heinrich Campendonk, and Max Ernst. Der Krieg belongs to a small number of surviving works from this period and preludes the “realist” style Darrwinghausen developed as a member of the postwar New Objectivity Movement. In the 1920s, the Nazis denounced Darrwinghausen as a “degenerate” artist and removed 44 of his works from German museums. He escaped from Germany with his family in 1939 and spent the years of the Second World War living in obscurity in southern France. Most of his early avant-garde paintings were lost or destroyed during the war. Der Krieg must have held a special meaning for the artist; it remained in his personal collection until his death in 1970.
The contemporary art department also acquired Sylvia Sleigh’s Vincent Longo and Pat Adams, which depicts the eponymous married artists in a domestic setting. Sleigh, a figurative painter who was in the 1960s was central to feminist art circles in New York, often challenged the art historical tradition of male artists portraying female subjects as objects of desire by reversing the gaze in her own work. She remains a touchstone for contemporary artists who have taken up portraiture to address political and ethical concerns. An early work in Sleigh’s oeuvre, this painting from 1952 shows her affinity for close observation and attention to detail—hallmarks of the intimate portraits for which she is internationally known.

The CMA’s acquisition of Name Announcer (2011) by Pierre Huyghe marks the first performative work to enter the collection. When this work is staged, a costumed performer at the gallery entrance politely requests each visitor’s name. Once a visitor steps into the gallery, the gallerist announces their name to everyone within earshot. In its performative formality, the piece invokes royal court protocol, only to undercut official hierarchies by giving every entrant’s presence equal prominence.

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The exhibition Recent Acquisitions 2013-2017, running March 17 to June 10 in the Julia and Larry Pollock Focus Gallery. Name Announcer is performed in the contemporary galleries on weekends beginning Saturday, March 17.

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Since the early 1990s, Huyghe has worked across media, including sculpture, installation, film, performance, photography, drawing, and music, often playfully blurring the line between fiction and reality and questioning the rituals of everyday life. By posing sophisticated questions through a diverse range of artistic strategies, Huyghe has emerged as one of the most influential artists of the past few decades. Toa Te Foro (The Collector) and Vincent Longo and Pat Adams are currently on view in the contemporary galleries; Sea Painting I is part of the exhibition Recent Acquisitions 2013-2017, running March 17 to June 10 in the Julia and Larry Pollock Focus Gallery. Name Announcer is performed in the contemporary galleries on weekends beginning Saturday, March 17.
Eyewitness Views

Take a Grand Tour of 18th-century Europe through an artist’s eye

EXHIBITION

Eyewitness Views: Making History in Baroque Seventeenth-Century Europe
February 25–May 20
Kelvin and Eleanor Smith Foundation Exhibition Hall

Throughout the 18th century, one of the most popular genres of painting was the "grand tour," or view painting—a highly detailed, often large-scale view of a city or picturesque locale. Travelers making the Grand Tour of European capitals often purchased these paintings as permanent reminders of their journeys. "Eyewitness Views" takes a fresh look at one particular group of vedute that stand out by virtue of their superb artistic quality, lively atmosphere, and historical interest: view paintings that depict landmark contemporary events. Rulers, princes, or ambassadors often commissioned these magnificent paintings to permanently document their participation in such events. Working for these prominent patrons inspired leading artists such as Canaletto, Giovanni Paolo Pannini, and Francesco Guardi (see this issue’s cover) to create exceptional works of art that express the excitement and drama of occasions and encourage viewers to imagine themselves present in that time and place.

View painters used many techniques to create an atmosphere of plausible reality. Abundant fine detail was without doubt a requirement of the patron, who wanted to ensure full appreciation of his role in an event, but these details also enable modern viewers to engage with the paintings: buildings and topography are readily identifiable, and individual figures recognizable—if only by their distinctive costume. The paintings offer a wealth of information about the culture of the time, helping viewers understand the significance of these historic events. To be sure, the scenes are not always entirely accurate portrayals of a specific place or time; artists often shifted buildings and adjusted proportions for greater effect, but the overall impression is entirely believable.

When it came to staging grand civic celebrations, no expense was spared, for the magnificence of the event reflected on the city and the host. Elaborate ephemeral architectural decorations transformed city squares and interior spaces; ornate coaches and boats transported kings and ambassadors; sumptuous livery clothed the retainers; and specially composed music and spectacular fireworks entertained the crowds. One of the most extravagant civic festivals took place in the Piazza Navona in Rome in 1729, to commemorate the birth of the Dauphin, heir to the French throne. Giovanni Paolo Pannini depicted this celebration is not only a magnificent work of art but also a fascinating document of the politics and patronage that underlie many reportorial views. The French ambassador to Rome, Cardinal de Polignac, funded and staged the celebrations and commissioned Pannini to record the event in a painting. Rather than showing the celebration itself, Pannini depicted the last-minute preparations: carpenters, painters, florists, firework technicians, and others busyly transform one of Rome’s most beautiful public spaces into an open-air balcony. Eminent spectators view the preparations, and in the foreground, near the center of the operation, is Polignac himself, directing the operations. Polignac is thus portrayed as taking an active role in organizing the celebrations. Strategically, he commissioned an identical version of this painting as a gift to the king, a permanent advertisement of Polignac’s munificence in glorifying his sovereign’s royal house.

Many of the events depicted in the paintings in "Eyewitness Views" took place in Venice, an enduringly picturesque city that in the 18th century prided itself on its ability to put on a spectacle like no other. Perhaps one of the most impressive was the annual civic festival held on Ascension Day to celebrate the ritual marriage of Venice and the sea. Once a year, the highly decorated and gilded state barge, or be

The Preparations to Celebrate the Birth of the Dauphin of France in the Piazza Navona 1729. Giovanni Paolo Pannini (Italian, c. 1692–1765) Oil on canvas, 150 x 245 cm. National Gallery of Ireland, D08.08. Purchased 1971. Photo © National Gallery of Ireland


GALLERY TALKS
Tue/ Mar 27 and Apr 10, 12:00–12:30

MUSIC
Gallery Consorts Wed/ Mar 27 and May 2, 15:00
CWRU Baroque Ensembles in conjunction with Eyewitness Views

The Preparations to Celebrate the Birth of the Dauphin of France in the Piazza Navona 1729. Giovanni Paolo Pannini (Italian, c. 1692–1765) Oil on canvas, 150 x 245 cm. National Gallery of Ireland, D08.08. Purchased 1971. Photo © National Gallery of Ireland
COMING SOON

Members First

In an exclusive presale, CMA members may reserve timed tickets for the international sensation Yayoi Kusama: Infinity Mirrors

MEMBERS PRESALE
On sale to members only from April 9 to 13.
Visit clevelandart.org or call 216-421-7356.

Member Excluive Viewing Days: July 10 to 13

CIRCLES PRESALE
Director’s level and above may reserve tickets from April 2 to 6.

Yayoi Kusama with recent works in Tokyo.

2016. Courtesy of the artist. © Yayoi Kusama

Yayoi Kusama: Infinity Mirrors is organized by the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC.

Members are strongly encouraged to reserve tickets during the member presale, April 9 to 13. You may reserve tickets if your membership level is active for the run of the exhibition (July 7-September 30). If you want to reserve tickets, the last day to join or renew is April 5 (excludes mail renewals).

Your membership level determines the number of free, timed tickets available to you. A limited number of member tickets will be available each day only online or by phone beginning at 9:00 a.m. There will be no on-site ticket sales. Member tickets are nonrefundable and nontransferable.

Due to the exhibition’s worldwide popularity and strong demand, tickets will go quickly. To renew or upgrade your membership level, or to verify your login information, go to clevelandart.org or call the ticket center. If you would like to purchase additional tickets, the public sale begins Monday, April 16, at 9:00 a.m. Mark your calendars and reserve your tickets to join us for this once-in-a-lifetime art experience.

Selling out at all previous venues, Yayoi Kusama: Infinity Mirrors is an exhibition unlike any other the CMA has presented and is likely to sell out here as well. These works of art are immersive experiences for few visitors at a time, meaning a limited number of tickets will be available for each timed slot. In order for the show to reach the broadest audience possible, member tickets will be limited. Members are strongly encouraged to reserve tickets during the member presale, April 9 to 13. You may reserve tickets if your membership level is active for the run of the exhibition (July 7-September 30). If you want to reserve tickets, the last day to join or renew is April 5 (excludes mail renewals).

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GALLERIES

A Tale of Two Rivals

Fresh looks for the Tiffany and Fabergé galleries

The two small galleries flanking the south door, which display the museum’s renowned collections of works by American designer and glass artisan Louis Comfort Tiffany and his Russian counterpart, Peter Carl Fabergé, are about to receive a face-lift. State-of-the-art glass and steel cases from Germany, open on both sides, will give the galleries display frontage on the south foyer and provide more natural light. The overall effect will be inviting and intriguing, given that these two master craftsmen and entrepreneurs were notorious rivals. Now their works will face one another more directly: Fabergé heralding traditional, historicist designs, and Tiffany trumpeting the modern notes of the Art Nouveau.

Each designer was a master of his craft who captured the taste of customers. As a young artist, Tiffany quickly realized that his talents were more attuned to interior decoration and design than to painting or drawing. He gathered together fellow artists and began a successful business designing interiors and decorative accessories for a wealthy clientele. After conceiving a style of glassmaking that imitated ancient glass, he applied the technique to all manner of designs for objects, lamps, and windows. Meanwhile in Russia, Fabergé honed his design skills by studying the Hermitage Museum’s collections of precious objects owned by Catherine the Great. He would later draw inspiration from these works to create sumptuous objects for the Russian imperial family. Though contemporaries, Tiffany and Fabergé exhibited in the same world’s fair only once, in 1900 at the Exposition Universelle in Paris. Beginning this spring, their works can be seen together in the CMA’s newly renovated Tiffany and Fabergé galleries, respectively named in honor of these donors: the Ruth and Charles Mauer Family and the Cars and Howard Straus Family.

PRESALE DAYS: APRIL 9 TO 13
Friend $65
One adult member ticket
Partner $90
Ambassador $140
Two adult member tickets
Fellow $250
Contributing $500
Four adult member tickets
PRESALE DAYS: APRIL 2 TO 6
Director’s Circle $1,000
Four member tickets
President’s Circle $2,500 and above
Six adult member tickets


Kremlin Tower Clock
1913. Firm of Peter Carl Fabergé (Russian), 1906–1928. Rhodium; silver, enamel, enameled, nephrite, 29 x 14.5 cm. The India Ruby Mount Collection, 1981:477

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A Bright New Welcome

The corridor to the museum’s main entrance will be flooded with light and color by Spencer Finch’s Color Test 210 (9 Permutations)

Starting this spring, visitors will be greeted by a field of illuminated color as they enter the museum through the north passageway. Spencer Finch’s Color Test 210 (9 Permutations), a series of nine light boxes from 2015, gives form to the complexity of color in mesmerizing ways. The boxes’ luminous surfaces, based on computerized drawings by Finch, are each composed of 210 different colors and grouped by the chromatic families of warm, cool, and gray. These compositions are printed on Fujifina, a translucent colored material that emits an arresting glow when illuminated from behind by LED lights. The work is inspired by the color chart paintings of modern artists Ellsworth Kelly and Gerhard Richter, and they recall the tradition of Romanticist painting in which artists such as J. M. W. Turner and Thomas Cole rendered the qualities of light on their canvases. These and related artists are represented in the CMA’s collections, so visitors will find Color Test 210 reverberating throughout the museum. Working across a wide range of media, Finch has spent nearly three decades exploring the perception of light and color, often in relation to natural phenomena and historic sites. The artist’s work, which combines scientific precision with visual poetry, is motivated by his “impossible desire to see oneself seeing.”

Emily Liebert
Associate Curator of Contemporary Art

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Associate Curator of Contemporary Art
Two Dancers
Rhythmic ecstasy conveyed through a chiseled woodblock

EXHIBITION
Graphic Discontent: German Expressionism in Print

Through May 13
James and Hanna Bartlett Prints and Drawings Gallery (101)

GALLERY TALKS
Tue/ Mar 6, 12:00–12:50, and Wed/Apr 25, 6:00–7:00

Tanzerininen (Dancers), a woodcut from 1917 by Emil Nolde, captures two robed female figures in the midst of an ecstatic dance. Shaping their bodies into dramatic but graceful curves, Nolde conveyed movement and rhythm as well as physical and emotional abandon. The woodcut technique was crucial to the German Expressionists, who responded to the wood matrix and its propensity for roughhewn, simplified designs. To make Tanzerininen, Nolde gouged the block and left evidence of his chisel and knife cuts in the rough edges of the forms. He created texture on the dancer’s flowing robes by pressing the block to the paper without ink. Nolde returned to the subject of modern dance throughout his career, finding a kinship between its freedom and expressivity and his artistic goals. He and his wife, Ada, befriended Mary Wigman, a pioneer of modern dance who emphasized improvisation and contrasting yet free movements, often accompanied by only a drumbeat. The stripped-bare, primal elements of Expressionist dance resonate in the form and technique of Tanzerininen.

Emily J. Peters
Curator of Prints and Drawings

Tanzerininen (Dancers), 1917, Emil Nolde (German, 1867–1956). Woodcut. 25.8 x 31.2 cm. Delta E. Holden Fund, 1965.158 © Nolde-Stiftung Seebüll, Germany

STAFF
Ugochukwu-Smooth C. Nzewi
Meet the new curator of African art

Last August, the museum welcomed Ugochukwu-Smooth C. Nzewi as curator of African art. Smooth Nzewi, as he prefers to be called, comes most recently from Dartmouth College’s Hood Museum of Art, where he also held the position of curator of African art. He has taught at the Institute of African Studies, University of Bayreuth, Germany; Dartmouth College, and Emory University. A prolific writer, he has contributed essays and chapters to a range of publications. He was a fellow at the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art and a practicing artist and independent curator based in Nigeria. Last fall, Circles program manager Terri Mazzeo Gertz met up with Nzewi for an interview.

Do you have a favorite piece in the CMA collection? It is a tough call, as I am drawn to all the works in the African collection. But if I am to single out any particular one, it is between the Bamana Chiwara female antelope headress (included in ArtLens) and a Chokwe female mask. The Chiwara headress is breathtaking despite its small size. Its quiet elegance teeters and fills me with wonder. The Chokwe mask is a true embodiment of idealized female beauty. It is not new now, but it will be in an exhibition that I am working on. The two works attest to the technical dexterity of their makers in conveying important social ideas of the Bamana and the Chokwe peoples.

Have you found a favorite restaurant in Cleveland? I have visited a few on the West and East Sides. At Toast on West 65th Street, the food was fantastic on the two occasions that I was there. I had an enjoyable evening with friends at Felice on Larchmere, too. I plan to visit others and to indulge myself in what Cleveland has to offer.

Terri Mazzeo Gertz
Program Manager, CMA Circles
Where is your favorite place to travel? In general, I love big cities because of the energy and the crowds that allow one to be anonymous and visible at the same time. I have been going to Bayreuth in northern Bavaria, Germany, every summer since 2015, and I have gradually taken to this small, quaint, and delightful town. It is really pretty with its 19th-century architecture, cobblestone paths, and waterway. Every summer it hosts the world-renowned Bayreuth Festival; it is quite a catchy affair that draws people from all over the world to Bayreuth. The town also holds an annual literary festival. The University of Bayreuth is the epicenter of African studies in Europe, so that is perhaps why I am drawn to the town, in addition to its scenic beauty.

Tell us about your current projects. I am planning a rotation for the African gallery, an opportunity to introduce some never-before-seen works from the collection. The objects are quite something, so I am really excited about how they will make a splash when on view. I am also working on two exhibitions. To give a sneak peek, one of them will be in the focus galleries and the other in one of the larger exhibition spaces. While one will draw attention to contemporary African art and its historical antecedent in a measured way, the other will address an important period in postcolonial Africa. Both exhibitions, I hope, will be groundbreaking.

What do you must look forward to in your position? I am really looking forward to being a part of the community and to contributing my own bit to the actualization of the museum’s new strategic plan. It is a great time to be at the CMA and to be part of exciting initiatives.
Wu Man with Huayin Shadow Puppet Band

Wu Man is an internationally renowned virtuoso of the pipa, a lute-like Chinese instrument with a history of more than 2,000 years. She joins the brilliant Huayin Shadow Puppet Band for an evening of old-time traditional music with shadow puppetry. The band sings and plays about rural life in remote China, drawing the audience into places and sounds rarely heard in the West. “Watching the musicians let fly on lutes, fiddles and gongs, as the singers roared through lively ballads recounting folk tales and myths, you were swept up by their energy and charisma.”

Oberlin Contemporary Music Ensemble

Sun/Mar 4, 2:00. Continuing our collaborative partnership with our neighbors down the road, the CMA welcomes the Oberlin Contemporary Music Ensemble for another compelling program under the baton of Tim Weiss, who has brought the group to a level of artistry and virtuosity in performance that rivals the finest new music groups. Program: Herrick Hellstern, Hi-Osfera (2006), North American premiere; Xue Ju, untitled work (2017); and Kalia Saarimaki, Graad Thaetre (1941), featuring Peter Hermesch, violin. $10, CMA members free.

Chamber Music in the Galleries

The series of monthly chamber music concerts continues, featuring young artists from the Cleveland Institute of Music and the joint program with Case Western Reserve University’s early and baroque music programs. Outstanding conservatory musicians present mixed repertoire ranging from the standard to unknown gems from the museum’s collections for a unique and intimate experience. Free; no ticket required.

Wed/Mar 7 and May 2, 6:00. CWRU Baroque Ensembles in conjunction with the exhibition Eyewitness Views

Wed/Apr 4, 6:00. CMA New Music Ensemble

MIX

MIX is for adults 18 and over. $10, $15 at the door. CMA members free.

MIX: Expression (Kabarett)

Fri/Mar 2, 6:00–11:00. German Expressionists such as the artists in Graphic Discourse frequented Berlin’s cabarets, where they were inspired by the lively atmosphere and performances that paired fun at legitimate theater. WeBlang! Cleveland’s legitimate theater, leads a night of dancing, kabaret, and cocktails in the spirit of Expressionist Berlin.

MIX: Philosophy

Fri/Apr 5, 6:00–10:00. One hundred years since August Rodin’s death, his iconic sculpture The Thinker is still a symbol of philosophy, freedom, and knowledge. In honor of #Rodin100, we’re throwing an intellectual rave party. Bring an open mind to discuss abstract ideas between trips to the dance floor.
Shadow Plays

The works on view in the exhibition Graphic Dissenters: German Expressionism on Paper demonstrate how German artists during the early 20th century set out to render subjective emotional and spiritual states. German film directors brought this same “expressionism” to the movie screen during the 1910s.

German Expressionist filmmakers embraced distortion and abstraction to externalize internal thoughts and feelings. Scarred by the devastation of the First World War and influenced by experimental German theater, these moviemakers employed elliptical camera angles, dramatic lighting and shadow, and stylized decor, makeup, and acting to tell fantastic stories of dreams and nightmares, killers, and monsters. One of the earliest and most influential of German Expressionist films, The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari, took its twisted tale of murder and madness on blantly artificial sets. Expressionist movies were usually shot in film studios and not on location.

The 1920s constituted the first Golden Age of German cinema. Some of the country’s greatest directors—Fritz Lang, F. W. Murnau, and Paul Leni—were Expressionists, and when they immigrated to the United States, they brought the style to Hollywood, where it had a profound impact on horror movies and film noir. International directors as diverse as Sergei Eisenstein, Alfred Hitchcock, and Orson Welles donned the mantle of Expressionism during their stellar careers.

All are from Germany, silent with English intertitles and music track, and color-tinted b&w. All shown in Morley Lecture Hall. 9:30, CPA members $7.

The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari Fri/ Mar 2, 7:00. Directed by Robert Wiene. With Werner Krauss and Conrad Veidt. The granddaddy of German Expressionist films un- folds on artificial, abstract sets as a carnival hypnotist commands a sleepwalker to commit a series of grisly murders. Restored version. Introduced by CWFU’s Rob Spadoni. (1920, 75 min.)

Waxworks Fri/ Mar 16, 7:00. Directed by Paul Leni. With William Dieterle, Emil Jannings, Werner Krauss, and Conrad Veidt. A poet is hired to write the back-story of these notorious personalities in a wax museum’s “chamber of horrors.” Restored version. (1924, 83 min.)

The Golem Sun/Mar 18, 1:30. Directed by Carl Boese and Paul Wegener. With Wegener. The prototype for the Frankenstein monster is found in this film of an ancient Jewish legend. Set in 16th-century Prague, the film tells of a rabbi who creates a giant, animated warrior out of clay to protect his congregation. (1920, 86 min.)

Nosferatu Tue/Apr 17, 1:45. Fri/ Apr 20, 7:00. Directed by F. W. Murnau. With Max Schreck. This unauthorized adaptation of Dracula is one of the earliest and creepiest vampire movies. While house hunting, the ghoulish Count Orlok trans his fiancée, talons, and beauty eyes on an unsuspecting real estate agent and his beautiful young wife. Restored version. Friday screening introduced by CSI’s Kim Neuenrod. (1922, 84 min.)

Destiny Fri/Apr 27, 7:00. Directed by Fritz Lang. In this elaborate, fantastic triptych set in stocked Paris, 17th-century Venice, and mythical China, Death grants a young woman three chances to thwart fate and save the life of her fiancé. This is the first great film from the director of Metropolis and M. Restored version. (1921, 98 min.)

Other Classics and First-Run Films

Extraordinary Ordinary People

Sun/Mar 4, 1:30. Directed by Alan Gowner. With Bill Monroe, B. B. King, et al. This new documentar- ily surveys some of the folk and traditional artists—musicians, dancers, and craftspeople—from a wide variety of backgrounds—who have received National Heritage Fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts. Cleveland premiere. (USA, 2011, 84 min.)

JOSEPHINE BAKER RETURNS!

Princess Tam Tam Tue/Mar 6, 1:45. Fri/Mar 9, 7:00. Directed by Edmond T. Gréville. With Josephine Baker. In this reworking of Pygmalion, a French novelist tries to pass off a Tunisian shep- herdess (Baker) as an African princess to Parisian high society. Includes song and dance. (France, 1935, subtitles, 77 min.)


Beauys Tue/Mar 20, 1:45. Fri/Mar 23, 7:00. Directed by Andreas Yeol. Joseph Beuys’s (1921–1986) contributions to sculpture, performance, installation, and graphic art made him one of the most influential artists of the 20th century. His work and ideas are explored in this new documentar- ily chronicling with archival footage and photos. Cleveland premiere. (Germany, 2017, subtitles, 107 min.)

Miss Kiet’s Children

Sun/Mar 25, 1:30. Tue/Mar 27, 1:45. Direct- ed by Peter Latscher and Petra Latsher-Crisch. In this much- applauded new documentary, a dedicated Dutch elementary school teacher helps migrant and refugee children (many from Syria) adapt to a new country and a new language. Cleveland premiere. (Netherlands, 2016, subtitles, 115 min.)

EXHIBITION ON SCREEN

Cézanne: Portraits of a Life Sun/ Apr 22, 1:30. Thu/Apr 24, 1:45. Di- rected by Phil Grabsky. This new documentary takes an up-close look at a major exhibition of Paul Cézanne’s portrait work that has already shown at Paris’s Musée d’Orsay and London’s National Portrait Gallery (4’ s to Washing- ton’s National Gallery of Art this spring). Cleveland premiere. (UK, 2016, 85 min.) Special admission $14, CPA members $10.

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Holt County, U.S.A.

Sun/Apr 29, 1:30. Directed by Barbara Kopple. This gripping Oscar- winning documentary captures a 1973 coal miners’ strike in rural Kentucky that lasted more than a year and eventually turned violent. (USA, 1977, 103 min.) Screening co-sponsored by the United Labor Agency and North Shore Federation of Labor. Special admission $11, CPA members and card-carrying union mem- bers $8.

CMA at the Film Fest

Once again, the museum is a community partner for an acclaimed new film showing at this year’s Cleveland International Film Festival, April 4 to 15 at Tower City Cinemas and at vari- ous locations around town. For the name of the movie and its location, dates, showtimes, and advance tickets, visit www.clevelandfilm.org.

Admission $15, CFFP members $12, students and seniors (day of show). Use code CMA and receive $2 off the ticket price of any regular CFFP screening. Ticket sales not available at the CMA ticket center.

Check out from top right

CMA at the Film Fest

See extended descriptions, enjoy audio and video, get tickets, and odd events to your calendar at www.clevelandart.org
Talks and Workshops
Talks are free; meet docent at the desk unless noted. Guided Tours 1:00 daily. See clevelandart.org for topics.

Special Exhibition Talks (EyeWitness Views & True/1100, Sat & Sun 2:00, Mar 5-May 6. Exhibition ticket required.
Art in the Afternoon First Wed of every month, 1:15. For participants with memory loss and one caregiver. Preregistration required; call 216-421-5982.
American Sign Language Tours Sat/Mar 24, 11:00-1200 and 2:00-3:00. During Ohio Deaf History Month, the museum offers highlight tours in American Sign Language, in partnership with the Cleveland Hearing and Speech Center. Free. Preregistration required. Email Casey Ring at cring@chsc.org. Space limited.

Lectures
Case Western Reserve Uni-
versity Lectures
Archaeology, Museums, and War Wed/ Feb 28, 5:30. Gartner Auditorium. Brian Roberts discusses how recent wars in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Syria, and the related cultural heritage destruction and preservation programs, have led to discussions about museums and repatriation negotiations in the context of increasing nationalism. Free; registration required. Limit 15.

Yoko Kosuma: Infinity Mirrors and FRONT Wed/ Apr 18, 6:00. Gartner Auditorium. The Women’s Council hosts a preview of the blockbuster exhibition Yoko Kosuma, celebrating the legendary Japanese artist’s 65-year career, and FRONT International: An American City, the inaugural citywide contemporary art event. Free; no ticket required.

Harvey Buchanan Lecture
Housing the Body—Dressing the House: Studying and Displaying Byzantine Textiles Wed/ May 2, 5:30. Recital Hall. Gudrun Bulthuis, museum curator and director at Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, discusses how the Byzantines related, conceptually and through their bodies, to textiles; he focuses on soft furnishings, with particular attention to ideas that draw on the material properties of fabric. Free. Ticket required.


Curator Chats 30 min. in the exhibition, 6:00.
Graphic Design Tue/Mar 6, Emily J. Peters Eyewitness Views Tue/Mar 27 and Apr 10, Betty Wiseman William Morris Tue/Mar 20 and Apr 24, Corky Korkor

Curator Talks 60 min. in the exhibition, 6:00.
Dana Schulttz Thu/Mar 8, Trans- formation Station, Retro Thinning Recent Acquisitions Wed/Apr 1, Heather Lamondez Brett Western Photographs Wed/ Apr 18, Barbara Tamberrin Graphic Design Wed/Apr 25, Emily J. Peters

Close-Looking Session Dana Schulttz Thu/Mar 22, 6:00-7:00, Transformer Station. Free; registration required. Limit 15.

Distance Learning Subsidies may be available for live, interactive videoconferences for your school. For information on topics, visit cma.org/learn or contact Diane Cizek (216-707-2468 or dczieko@clevelandart.org).

Professional Development
Cleveland Art to You: The Conrie Townsend Ford Teaching Innovation Lab offers professional development sessions. Contact Haygal Expley (216-707-6618 or hexplcy@clevelandart.org). To register for workshops, call 216-707-6618 or visit clevelandart.org/workshops.

Transportation Subsidies available for qualifying schools. Visit cma.org/learn or contact Diane Cizek (216-707-2468 or dczieko@ clevelandart.org).

National Poetry Month Events

Elkaphros, the Greek word for “description,” is poetry inspired by visual art. When writing ekphrastic poetry, the artist responds to an artwork by considering what it depicts literally and what it expresses metaphorically, allowing the work to be reimagined through words. In honor of National Poetry Month, join us for a series of workshops and events that celebrate art, poetry, and prose. Presented in partnership with Lake Erie Ink, Literary Cleveland, and Twelve Literary Arts.

Elkaphrastic Poets Workshop Wed/Apr 11 and 18, 6:00. For parents or caregivers and their pre-adolescent child (10 months and younger) children. Limit 10 pairs. $5; register through the ticket center. Tours depart from the atrium desk.

Join in Art Cart Enjoy a rare opportunity to touch specially selected genuine works of art. Group sessions can be arranged for a fee. Call 216-707-6646.

Sun/Mar 11, 3:00-4:00, 30th Anniversary of the Cleveland Museum of Art Sun/Apr 8, 3:00-4:00, Repeat, Format, Pattern, Pattern Art and Fiction Book Club Two Wed/Mar 14 & 21, 13:00, 2:30-2:20, Classroom E. Enjoy a tour of the Islamic and Ancient Near East galleries during the first session, then partake in a lively discussion of the novel My Name is Red by Orhan Pamuk. MFA from the University of Virginia. Award-winning Turkish author Orhan Pamuk.

Mediation in the Galleries Second Sat/Mar 10, 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Free. Learn to mediate and practice mediation in a museum setting. Space is limited.

Stroller Tours Stroller Tours First and Third Wed of every month, 10:30-11:30. For parents and caregivers and their pre-adolescent child (10 months and younger) children. Limit 10 pairs. $5; register through the ticket center. Tours depart from the atrium desk.

Art Stories Every Thu, 11:15-11:45, and then 12:15-12:45. Let art be your inspiration and join Lake Erie Ink on a poetic journey through the museum. Receive guidance on finding inspiration in an artwork and creating poems in the ekphrastic tradition. Creative poems will be placed by the artist in the Ekphrasis. Each workshop is open to all ages. $10; reservations required. 

Finding the Poem in the Picture: A Youth Writing Workshop Sat/Apr 14, 12:00-1:00, 11:00-12:00, 12:00-1:00, 11:00-12:00. Explore the Ekphrasis. Let art be your inspiration and join Lake Erie Ink on a poetic journey through the museum. Receive guidance on finding inspiration in an artwork and creating poems in the ekphrastic tradition. Creative poems will be placed by the artist in the Ekphrasis. Each workshop is open to all ages. $10; reservations required.
Play Day at CMA
Teen Takeover Sun/Apr 8, 11:00-4:00. Join us for a special Play Day designed and facilitated by high school students from the CMA’s Museum Ambassadors and Teen CO-OP programs.

Eyeswitness Views Sun/May 6, 11:00-4:00. Celebrate the special exhibition Eyeswitness Views. Plus, enjoy free tickets to the exhibition! Bring your family or come on your own; expect activities for all ages. Check online for details.

Open Studio for Families
Every Sun, 1:00-4:00. Join us for drop-in art making for all ages in our Make Space. Everyone is encouraged to imagine, experiment, and create. Each week features a different art idea. No Open Studio on April 1 or May 6.

Art Together Family Workshops
Art Together is about families making, sharing, and having fun together in the galleries and in the studio.

Landscape Painting Workshop Sun/Apr 22, 11:00-1:30; repeated Sun/May 20, 1:00-3:30. Let the paintings in Eyewitness Views inspire your own landscape painting. After a visit to the exhibition, learn about basic color mixing, composition, and acrylic painting techniques. Feel free to bring a photo of a favorite landscape or work from the exhibition. Or imagine your imagination is welcome! Each day $20, CMA members $15.

Save the Date! The next workshop is Sun/Jan 24.

My Very First Art Class
For young children and their favorite grown-up. New topics each class.

Adult/Child pair $80, CMA family members $72. March sessions: adult/child pair $60, CMA family members $54. Limit nine pairs. Register now.

- Three Fri/Mar 2-16, 10:00-12:45 (ages 11-21) or 11:15-12:00 (ages 21+)
- Four Fri/Apr 6-24, 10:00-10:45 (ages 11-21) or 11:15-12:00 (ages 21+)
- Four Fri/May 4-25, 10:00-10:45 (ages 11-21) or 11:15-12:00 (ages 21+)

Also: Art for Parents and Child (ages 3) Saturday mornings only. Limit 12 pairs.

Mini-Masters: Color (ages 4-5) Saturday mornings only.

Summer Break (ages 5-6)
Celebrate! (ages 7-8)
Clay for Kids (ages 9-12) Weekdays only. Limit 12.

Made in America (ages 6-10)
Art in the Park (ages 10-12)
Printmaking for Teens (ages 12-17) Weekday mornings only.
Teen Drawing Workshop (ages 13-17) Saturday afternoons only.


Experiments with Clay Sun/Jun 12/Jun 19, 10:30-11:30, classroom F. Instruc- tor: Christine Klimuk. $60, CMA members $55.

Advanced Chinese Brush Painting Sun/Jun 16/Jun 23, 10:30-12:30, classroom F. Instruc- tor: Susan Gray. $80, CMA members $70.

Instituted Art: Bronze and Silversmithing Sun/Jun 20/Jun 27, 10:30-12:30, classroom H. Instruc- tor: Jorie Zier. $150, CMA members $120.

Chinese Brush Painting: Four Gentlemen Sun/Jun 27, 10:30-12:30, classroom F. Instruc- tor: John Riez. $150, CMA members $120.

Chinese Brush Painting: Four Gentlemen Sun/Jun 27, 10:30-12:30, classroom B. Instruc- tor: Susan Gray. $150, CMA members $120.


You Ask, We Answer
A recent visitor to the museum’s Asian galleries asked, “What do the hand ges- tures mean in Buddhist art? Do they all just indicate ‘OK’?”

Sunny R. Nance, curator of Indian and Southeast Asian art, responds:

A symbolic hand gesture in Buddhist art—or any art associated with a religious tradition from India—is called mudra in the Sanskrit language. Buddhist images in the museum’s galleries display a variety of mudras, and each communicates a specific meaning. One of the most prev- alent mudras looks a lot like the hand signal we use in the West to mean “OK,” but in a Buddhist context it indicates the viewer that the figure is teaching or engaging in discourse about Buddhist doctrine. The circle formed by the thumb and forefinger references the “wheel of the law” (dharma-chakra). The “law” here re- fers to Buddhist doctrine. When the Buddha reached enlightenment around the early 500s BC in India, he “set the wheel of the law in motion,” and whenever anyone teaches others about the doctrine, they also “turn the wheel.” This concept is symbolized by the dharma-chakra-nu-dra, the Sanskrit name for the gesture that looks like our “OK.”

Another popular mudra conveys a meaning closer to “OK.” Formed by an open raised hand with the palm fac- ing out, thus indicating the absence of a weapon, it liter- ally translates to “no fear” (abhaya). When a Buddha or other Buddhist figure holds this mudra, it means that if the viewer follows the Buddha’s teach- ings, they need not fear death or suffering. Basically, it means that everything is OK.

If you have a question about the museum, its objects, histo- ry, or exhibitions, or if you just want to see what other visitors are asking, visit cma.org/ask. You ask, we answer!

Matthew Gongler
Head, Access Services, Ingalls Library

Matthew Gongler
Head, Access Services, Ingalls Library

Matthew Gongler
Head, Access Services, Ingalls Library
**Summer Camps**

**Circle Sampler Camp**

**Laurel School Camps**
Heid at Laurel School Lyman Campus, with afternoon field trips to the museum. $425 per week. Register by calling Laurel School at 216-464-1441 or www.laurelschool.org.

**Painting Camp with the Cleveland Museum of Art**
Mon-Fri, Jun 18-22, 9 00–4 00, students entering grades 1–5 learn painting techniques for five different paint media: watercolor, tempera, acrylic, egg tempera, and encaustic.

**Painting Camp with the Cleveland Museum of Art**
Mon-Fri, Jul 9-13 or 16-20. Students entering grades 4–7. See description above.

The museum recognizes the annual commitment of donors to the Collectors Circle level and above, featured throughout the year on our Donor Recognition digital sign located in the ArtLens Gallery corridor. We proudly acknowledge the annual support of the following donors:

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Sherman
Laure and Alvin A. Siegel
Dr. and Mrs. Carroll C. Simpson
Lauren and Steve Spilman
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Stevens
Susan and John Turben Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. John Walton
Deborah Wright-Dorsey

**Support Great Art**

Here are a couple ways you can transform retirement assets into a charitable contribution to the museum while also getting a tax break.

If you’re over 70%, contribute directly from your IRA. Any IRA distribution that you direct to the CMA will not be included in your taxable income, and thus will not be subject to federal or state income tax.

Name the CMA as a beneficiary of your remaining retirement funds. This strategy allows you to retain control of your funds and thus ensure sufficient income during your retirement. A legacy gift of retirement funds (excluding a Roth IRA) to the CMA will not be taxed upon your death.

For more information, contact Diane M. Strachan, CFP®, Director of Philanthropy, at 216-707-2585 or dstachan@cleardaleant, org.

**Health Fair**

Wed/Thur, 11:30–2:30, Arnes Family Atrium. The FMC community health fair offers visitors a chance to meet over 30 local and national health and wellness vendors. Taste healthy foods, get free health screenings, tour the galleries, and more. American Red Cross blood drive, 11 00–5 00, classrooms 8 & 9.

Co-sponsored by the Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland Museum of Natural History, and Arthur J. Gables, Inc., sponsored by Medical Mutual and Delta Dental. All are welcome.

**Thanks**

The Cleveland Museum of Art is reinventing the way visitors use digital interactives to engage with artworks throughout the galleries. The ArtLens scan feature is a digital initiative designed to help you use your smartphone to get the most from your visit—before, during, and after.

Studies show that visitors spend an average of just 15 seconds looking at a work of art before glancing briefly at the accompanying label and moving on. The scan feature on the ArtLens App uses image-identification software to encourage visitors to engage with art more deeply by providing access to multimedia content. If the scan symbol appears next to a work of art, you can use your device to see related videos with curators, nearby artworks, and other interpretive content. The ArtLens App also indicates on the artwork page if that work of art is scannable.

Scanning is simple. If an artwork is marked as scannable, open the ArtLens App, click the scan button in the top right corner of the screen, and then select the gallery. From there, aim your device from up to 50 feet away so the camera captures the entire artwork. Significant symbols or details will be highlighted on your screen. Where the app has recognized the artwork, you can lower your phone and peruse additional related content to learn more. Favorite your scanned artwork by pressing the “heart” icon; this saves all artwork information to the “YOU” section of the ArtLens App so you can access videos later from anywhere. The addition of more scannable objects every month gives visitors the opportunity to make new discoveries while learning more about the collection.

The ArtLens App is available for free download on any iOS or Android device.
New in the Galleries

GALLERY 217

Rome’s Pantheon—one of the great monuments of antiquity—was created as a temple around the year AD 125. It is a circular structure, capped by a huge hemispherical dome with a central opening to allow light into the interior. The Pantheon became a Christian church in 609, which helped ensure its continued preservation.

Giovanni Paolo Panini manipulated the perspective to include more of the interior than is actually possible to see from any single place. At the far side, the portal opens to the colossal columns of the porch and a glimpse of the piazza beyond. Panini populated the interior with a lively mix of tourists, churchgoers, artists, and citizens from all social strata to express the daily bustle of this popular public space.

Additional paintings by Panini and his contemporaries can be seen in the special exhibition Eyewitness Views: Making History in Eighteenth-Century Europe, on view in the CMA’s Kelvin and Eleanor Smith Foundation Exhibition Hall from February 25 through May 20.

Interior of the Pantheon, Rome 1747. Giovanni Paolo Panini (Italian, 1691–1765). Oil on canvas; 127 x 97.8 cm. Purchase from the J. H. Wade Fund, 1974.39