

ARTwords

FALL 2014 Volume 20 | Number 1



DAVID OWSLEY
MUSEUM OF ART

BALL
STATE
UNIVERSITY

David Owsley Museum of Art

Serving East Central Indiana since 1936

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ARTwords

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COVER:

Wedding Pillow

2004

Linda Arndt
Porcelain, glaze
Gift of Alan and Cindy Patrick



From the Director

Welcome to the David Owsley Museum of Art (DOMA) at Ball State University, one of Indiana's key cultural institutions. As the new director, I am honored to carry on the work of my predecessor Peter Blume. When the museum first opened in the Fine Arts Building in 1935, it showcased the art of Europe and the United States. Today, the greatly expanded museum also features an array of art from Africa, the Americas, Asia, and the Pacific Islands. The museum currently houses more than 10,500 works of art from all corners of the world and from prehistory to the present day.

Beyond their powers to delight us, these works are also the objects of extended research and study, which sets a university art museum apart from other types of museums and galleries. Where are they from? When and why were they made? What do they mean, and to whom? These are just a few of the fundamental questions asked of a research-intensive university collection. By promoting scholarship, combined with active looking and learning, the museum encourages students and visitors to encounter new, unfamiliar things and to understand art and culture in a worldwide context.

Our fall programs both complement and highlight art in the museum. A special exhibition will focus on the historic Ball State Art Gallery's annual juried *Drawing and Small Sculpture Show*, which brought works by major contemporary artists to Muncie and into the collection. A public lecture will enlighten us about the museum's Renaissance marble sculpture of Christ by Giovanni Angelo Montorsoli. Throughout the semester, signature programs such as Art High at Noon and Docent's Choice Tours will continue to illuminate selected works, while new programs such as Final Fridays will promote fun evening events. Director of Education Tania Said Schuler and docent Barbara Alvarez Bohanon will introduce preschool children and their families to the collection through the timeless medium of storytelling, and the museum will participate in various university and public events, from Quad Bash to Community Day. I urge you to join us for these and other activities during this exciting new season.

Finally, I want to emphasize what a great privilege it is to lead the David Owsley Museum of Art and how happy I am to be here. I look forward to a bright future in which the museum serves as Muncie's gateway to the world of art.

Come and see us at DOMA this fall!

Robert G. La France
Director

On View
September 14, 2014 - January 4, 2015

Great Things from Small Packages: The Drawing and Small Sculpture Shows

In 1955, Alice Nichols, director of the Ball State Art Gallery, began a project that ran for more than three decades and brought a wealth of contemporary art to the local community. Works of art acquired during the long run of this annual juried show will be on display at the David Owsley Museum of Art in *Great Things from Small Packages: The Drawing and Small Sculpture Shows*.

National juried group exhibitions have a long history; the first was held at the Salon in Paris in the 1700s. In the United States, the most well known, national group exhibition is the Whitney Museum of American Art Biennial, which began in 1932. Most major art museums had group exhibitions by the early 1900s, and by the 1960s nearly every university with an art gallery had established a juried or invitational group show.

For Nichols, the exhibition served multiple purposes. "One of her concerns was exposing students to cutting edge contemporary art," explains Associate Director Carl Schafer. "She was also soliciting supporters from the community to make donations that could be used to make purchase awards for the best works in the exhibition. It was a way to build community support for the gallery and, at the same time, build the collection."

Each year a juror, usually a museum director considered an expert in contemporary art, made selections for the show. The current exhibition will represent the entire run of the *Drawing and Small Sculpture Shows*, featuring more than 60 works purchased over three decades.

The Drawing and Small Sculpture Shows was a significant part of the museum's history, allowing the university to host some of the best contemporary art in the country and add more than 170 works to the collection. "It was the way we were known for a long time," Schafer says. "Even now, decades after it's ended, people ask if the exhibition is still going on."



TOP:
Family Tree
1957
Richard Kishel
Silver
Museum purchase

BOTTOM:
Pull Tab #2
1980
Joseph B. Bertrand
Inkwash on wove paper
Museum purchase

Public Programs

Free TOURS

Meet in Sculpture Court

The Museum of Art offers drop-in tours that are free and open to the public during the fall semester.*

Docent's Choice TOURS

Saturdays | 2:30 pm

September 20 – December 6*

See Calendar for dates (no tour 11/29)

No reservations are necessary for these casual, enlightening and informative tours of our collection.

Art at High Noon TOURS

Various Tuesdays | Noon

September 30 – November 25

See Calendar for dates.

*Please call 765.285.5242 or check our website for topics and further details on Free Tours.

Fridays | 3:30 pm

The last hour of the last weekday is reserved for quiet activities.

Meditation in the Museum

In partnership with Ball State University Working Well

Writing in the Museum

Request a handout to spark your creativity.

Sketching in the Museum

Supplies provided. Please stop at the front desk for pencils, sketch boards, paper and instructions.

Students are encouraged to use the Brown Study Room for research and small group meetings too.

Note: Occasional evening events will limit access.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

fall

SEPTEMBER

10 Wednesday | Noon

Alliance & Art League Luncheon & Program: Meet the New Director

Director Robert La France will discuss his plans for the museum, his background, and special interests when he presents *What Is a University Museum for?* Muncie Art Students' League members are invited for the special program. Alumni Center \$25 Alliance and Art League members**

14 Sunday | 1:30 – 4:30 pm

Community Day

Enjoy time with friends and family at the David Owsley Museum of Art. Live music, storytelling by Deborah Asante, demonstrations including Shodo Japanese calligraphy by Garrett Uyueno, art-making activities with the BSU Art Education Club, gallery activities with docents, refreshments, and more.

17 Wednesday | 10:00 am

The Story of Art... especially for kids

See far right for description

20 Saturday | 2:30 pm

Docent's Choice Tour See far left for description

26 Friday | 5 – 8:00 pm

Final Friday: Explore the David Owsley Museum of Art after hours, experience speedy and creative Pecha Kucha presentations, see a 3-D printing demonstration of a sculpture in the collection, and more. Visit website for additional information.

27 Saturday | 2:30 pm

Docent's Choice Tour See far left for description

30 Tuesday | Noon

Art High at Noon: Join a docent to view and discuss early and ancient art in the Harper Family Gallery.

OCTOBER

4 Saturday | 2:30 pm

Docent's Choice Tour See far left for description

8 Wednesday | Noon

Alliance Luncheon & Program: Great Things from Small Packages: The Drawing and Small Sculpture Shows

Associate Director Carl Schafer will discuss the annual *Drawing and Small Sculpture Shows* which ran for over 30 years, giving us national prominence, and defining the Ball State Art Gallery to our community and student audiences. Meet at the Alumni Center

First-time guests free; \$18 for Alliance members**

11 Saturday | 2:30 pm

Docent's Choice Tour See far left for description

13-17 Monday – Friday

Day Camp (Scholarships available)

The museum will offer art and writing day camps. See the Indiana Academy for Sciences, Mathematics, and Humanities website for more information about youth programs at bsu.edu/academy/youth/.

14 Tuesday | Noon

Art High at Noon: Join a docent to view and discuss early European art in the West Gallery.

15 Wednesday | 10:00 am

The Story of Art... especially for kids

See far right for description

15 Wednesday | 5:00 pm

Gods and Heroes: Michelangelo, Montorsoli, and a Renaissance Treasure: The Redeemer as Zeus

Chicago fine art appraiser Richard-Raymond Alasko will lecture on the work of Italian sculptor and friar Giovanni Angelo Montorsoli (ca. 1506-1563). Fine Arts Building, Recital Hall, AR 217

20-21 Monday – Tuesday

BSU Fall Break • Museum Open

24 Friday | 5 – 8:00 pm

(Almost) Final Friday: Explore the Owsley Museum of Art after hours, experience speedy and creative Pecha Kucha presentations, see an art demonstration, and more. Visit website for additional information.

25 Saturday | 2:30 pm

Docent's Choice Tour See far left for description

28 Tuesday | Noon

Art High at Noon: Join a docent to view and discuss European art in the Richard and Dorothy Burkhardt Gallery.



October
1970
Mark Tobey
Lithograph
Reverse and Repeat

CALENDAR of EVENTS

fall

NOVEMBER

1 Saturday | 2:30 pm

Docent's Choice Tour See far left for description

2 Sunday | 2:30 pm

First Person: Drawing and Small Sculpture Shows

Associate Director Carl Schafer leads a tour of the special exhibition noting the unique behind-the-scenes stories of the *Drawing and Small Sculpture Show* days. Meet in Sculpture Court

8 Saturday | 2:30 pm

Docent's Choice Tour See far left for description

11 Tuesday | Noon

Art High at Noon: Join a docent to view and discuss European and American art in the Ball Brothers Foundation Gallery.

12 Wednesday | 1:30 pm

Alliance Special Tour:

Curator's Tour of the Georgia O'Keeffe Exhibition at the Indianapolis Museum of Art

Visit the special exhibition with curator Harriet Warkel. The stark beauty, unusual architecture, and unique light of the American Southwest have inspired artists for generations. *Georgia O'Keeffe and the Southwestern Still Life* tells the story of the Southwest as seen through the eyes of the artists who lived there. Focusing on representations of an object or groups of objects, the exhibition will feature more than 50 works that provide fascinating examples of art's capacity to capture the essence of a particular place.

\$20 Alliance members payable by October 8 (Attn: Tania Said). Guests welcome for \$24**

15 Saturday | 2:30 pm

Docent's Choice Tour See far left for description

19 Wednesday | 10:00 am

The Story of Art... especially for kids

See far right for description

22 Saturday | 2:30 pm

Docent's Choice Tour See far left for description

25 Tuesday | Noon

Art High at Noon: Special Exhibitions

Join a docent to view and discuss the special exhibitions. Meet in Sculpture Court

27-28 Thursday – Friday

Museum closed for Thanksgiving Break

29 Saturday | 2:30 pm

No Docent's Choice Tour

DECEMBER

5 Friday | 5 – 7:00 pm

Friday with Friends: Join the Friends of the David Owsley Museum of Art as members and the public enjoy the galleries and current exhibitions.

6 Saturday | 2:30 pm

Docent's Choice Tour See far left for description

10 Wednesday | Noon

Alliance Luncheon & Program:

The Infinite Museum

Tim Berg, assistant professor of Honors Humanities, and his students have been exploring the experience of museum visitors by creating a range of activities, interventions, and reimaginings of the collection in the David Owsley Museum of Art. Students will create a book, a website, and a film project that will enable visitors to remake their museum experience and craft new, creative, and surprising ways to understand art.

Fine Arts Building, Recital Hall, AR 217

First-time guests free; \$18 for Alliance members**

17 Wednesday | 10:00 am

The Story of Art... especially for kids

See far right for description

24 Wednesday

Museum closes at 3 pm

25-28 Thursday-Sunday

Museum closed



All programs are free unless otherwise noted.

Drop-in tours, such as Docent's Choice Tours (Saturdays), are limited to 15 people. Tour sign-up may be required to accommodate visitors. We thank you for your understanding.

Please call 765.285.5242 for additional information.

** The cost to join the David Owsley Museum of Art Alliance starts at \$25 for Friends members (Museum of Art member group); \$50 for non-Friends members.

If you wish to attend an Alliance meeting, contact Sarah Jenkins at 765.716.0861. All are welcome.

Programs, correct going to press, are subject to change without notice.

Especially for KIDS...

THE STORY of Art

Third Wednesdays | 10 am

See Calendar for dates.*

Preschoolers and their adult companions are invited to hear a story and explore related works of art with Barbara Alvarez Bohanon in this free program at the David Owsley Museum of Art.

Visit a different part of the world and a new gallery when you join us.

Siblings welcome.

Meet in Sculpture Court

*Please call 765.285.3371 to register. Reservations are not required, however parking information and directions will be emailed to all registrants.

LEFT: *Lacunae*

1970

Terry P. Speer

Colored pencil on white wove paper

Museum purchase

Drawing and Small Sculpture Show

RIGHT: *The Rope Table*

1977

John McNaughton

Mahogany, plywood

Purchase: Friends of the Museum

Contemporary Craft



Opens September 14, 2014

New Gallery Celebrates Contemporary Craft

The David Owsley Museum of Art is opening a renovated gallery dedicated to contemporary craft and object study this fall. The gallery will offer teaching space for professors and students as well as public viewing of the museum's contemporary craft collection.

Associate Director Carl Schafer says the new gallery honors the museum's history of encouraging and collecting studio arts in wood, metals, ceramics, and glass.

"At Ball State University, both the museum and the Art Department have always been known for craft media," Schafer says. "Many of the artists in this installation are associated with the university in one way or another – as professors or as visiting artists. It allows our guests, especially students, to feel they are a part of the long history of the studio craft movement here at Ball State."

The gallery will open on Community Day, Sunday, September 14, 2014.



ABOVE:
The Tower
1975
Ned Griner
Brass, found objects, pine
Gift of
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Griner



ABOVE LEFT:
Double Hare Handled Basket
1990
Ken Ferguson
Stoneware



BELOW LEFT:
Red Flame Necklace
2011
Mieke Groot
Borosilicate glass, enamel pain, gold foil, silver
Purchase: The Restricted Gift of the
Muncie Art Students' League

On View
September 14, 2014 - January 4, 2015
**Reverse and Repeat:
Master Prints from
the DOMA Collection**

Because of their fragility and sensitivity to light, many of the David Owsley Museum of Art's more than 4,000 works on paper are seldom displayed in its galleries. The latest exhibition in the Brown Study Room, *Reverse and Repeat*, provides an overview of the printmaker's art and an opportunity to view carefully selected prints from the collection.

The works on display present a survey of the history of printmaking from the fifteenth century to the present, and have been carefully selected to represent the three fundamental families of prints: relief, intaglio, and planographic or surface printing. The exhibition explores the principles, techniques, and processes of printmaking, and illustrates a variety of techniques, including woodcut, engraving, etching, aquatint, drypoint, and lithography.

Reverse and Repeat includes works by both famous and less well-known artists, including Albrecht Dürer, Paul Gauguin, Hokusai, Edward Hopper, Mauricio Lasansky, Giovanni Battista Piranesi, Rembrandt, and Diego Rivera.



Head of a Young Woman (Mädchenkopf)
1913
Erich Heckel
Woodcut
Gift of Jerry M. Wright



Christ the Redeemer
ca. 1550
Giovanni Angelo Montorsoli
Marble
David T. Owsley Collection

October 15, 2014

Richard-Raymond Alasko presents The Redeemer as Zeus



Chicago fine art appraiser and art historian Richard-Raymond Alasko will present research on the work of Italian sculptor and friar Giovanni Angelo Montorsoli (ca. 1506–1563) in a lecture entitled *Gods and Heroes: Michaelangelo, Montorsoli, and a Renaissance Treasure: The Redeemer as Zeus*, at 5 pm, October 15 in the Recital Hall, located in the Fine Arts Building on the Ball State University campus. The title refers to Montorsoli's bust *Christ the Redeemer*, part of the museum collection. The lecture is free and open to the public.

Director Robert La France says, "Richard-Raymond Alasko will not only examine the case for the attribution of the marble bust to Montorsoli based on his research in Italy, but also explore the fascinating slippage between Italian Renaissance Christian and classical ideas in the age of Michelangelo. His lecture will be one of many, I hope, to focus attention on the museum's rich collection of sculpture."

Though Montorsoli is relatively unknown today, he was a productive and celebrated artist in the sixteenth century. His fountains, sculptures, and restorations of ancient sculpture can be found across Italy from Genoa to Messina, as well as Rome and Florence.

September 14, 2014 Come Explore a World of Art on Community Day

The David Owsley Museum of Art invites everyone to come explore art from around the world during Community Day on Sunday, September 14 from 1:30 to 4:30 pm. Director of Education Tania Said says there are multiple reasons to get excited about the celebration.

"Last year was our first Community Day, scheduled to coincide with our grand opening, and it was a great success. This year, we're opening the new Contemporary Craft Gallery," she says. "We're also welcoming a new museum director (Robert La France). So we have two more wonderful reasons to visit the museum."

All of the museum galleries and exhibitions will be open during the festivities, which will include music, hands-on activities, refreshments, and performances by Deborah Asante featuring West African stories and Shodo Japanese calligraphy artist Garret Uyeno, and others. Community Day coincides with Ball State Family Weekend and is free and open to the public.



Deborah Asante
Storyteller



Garret Uyeno
Calligraphy artist



FALL 2014
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Museum Hours
 Monday – Friday
 9:00 am – 4:30 pm
 Saturday & Sunday
 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm
 765.285.5242
 Admission Free

bsu.edu/artmuseum

Parking in the McKinley Avenue garage between Riverside and University Avenues

A newsletter for the Friends of the



Muncie, IN 47306

In this Issue

In this issue, take a look back at one of the longest running exhibitions in the museum’s history – the annual *Drawing and Small Sculpture Shows* – when you visit the *Great Things from Small Packages* exhibition. We unveil another new gallery featuring the best of the contemporary craft. And everyone’s invited to join the festivities – music, refreshments, art projects, and special performances – at Community Day. PLUS... Notes from the new director, our Calendar of Events, and much more.

New to the Collection

Hornbill Helmet Mask

New, and soon to be exhibited in the galleries, is a hornbill helmet mask donated by David Owsley in honor of his cousins, Frank and Rosemary Ball.

It was made in the Burkina Faso region of western Africa by the Nuna people and was worn for ceremonial dances or processions. Under the wings are small holes where feathers, skin, or fabric would have been draped to hide the head of the person wearing the mask.

In some African cultures, the hornbill is considered a noble bird that represents strength, knowledge, wisdom, fertility, and success in the hunt.



Hornbill Helmet Mask

20th century

Nuna people

Wood

Gift of David T. Owsley

in honor of Frank and Rosemary Ball
 via the Alconda-Owsley Foundation

