

ABC Book

The Hallie Ford Museum of Art recently published *ABC: An Alphabet Book from the Hallie Ford Museum of Art*. Conceived and edited by education curator Elizabeth Garrison, the hardcover book features 26 works of art from our permanent collection to illustrate each letter of the alphabet. The book retails for \$7.95 and is an ideal gift for art lovers, young and young at heart.

LED Lighting

Thanks to a major gift from a private donor, the Hallie Ford Museum of Art recently installed LED lighting throughout its building. Spearheaded by exhibition designer/chief preparator David Andersen, the new LED lighting will save Willamette thousands of dollars in light bulbs and energy costs each year and will move HFMA to the forefront of sustainable lighting nationwide.

Collections Update

Since the last issue of *Brushstrokes*, the Hallie Ford Museum of Art has acquired a number of significant works through purchase and donation. Recent purchases include another print by the late Jacob Lawrence; two mixed media works by Willamette University art professor James

B. Thompson; a painting and print by Washington artist Joseph Goldberg; several photographs by Portland photographer Holly Andres; and a painting by the Portland painter Tom Prochaska.

Recent donations include two Michael Spafford prints from the Department of Art History at Willamette; two superb examples of New Guinea sculpture and a Francis Celentano painting from Julie Weston and Gerry Morrison; 13 paintings by various mid-20th century Oregon artists from Beverly Strong; and a number of examples of historic and contemporary regional art from Bill Rhoades.

In addition, we received a superb collection of 18 Turkish flat weaves from Eugene collector Keith Achepohl — including kilims, saddle bags, prayer kilims, and storage bags from western, central, and eastern Turkey — in honor of our 15th anniversary, and a major collection of Chinese art from the Arthur M. Sackler Foundation in New York. The latter had been on long-term loan to the Hallie Ford Museum of Art and was given because of our excellent stewardship of the collection during the past six years.

If You Like What We Are Doing, Become a Member

Membership income helps support collections, exhibitions, education and outreach, so if you like what we are doing, become a Hallie Ford Museum of Art member. As a member, you will enjoy the many benefits we have to offer, including unlimited free admission; invitations to preview receptions; discounts on art books and related merchandise; annual subscriptions to *Brushstrokes* and Willamette University's magazine, *The Scene*; invitations to special lectures, films, concerts and tours; and more.

If you want to upgrade your current membership to the \$100 level or above, you will be automatically enrolled in the North American Reciprocal Museums (NARM) Program, which will give you free admission and discounts to more than 600 museums in the U.S., Canada and Mexico. And, if you are already a member, consider giving a gift membership to a friend or relative. Memberships make wonderful gifts for birthdays, graduations or other special occasions. For further information, call Andrea Foust at 503-370-6867.

Visit Our Bookstore

Visit our bookstore for a wide variety of art books and related merchandise. Remember, books make wonderful gifts for birthdays, graduations and other special occasions, and as a family or dual-level member, you receive a 10 percent discount.

Jacob Lawrence: Aesop's Fables



Jacob Lawrence, *The Council of Mice*, 1969

Simon & Schuster in the late 1960s, Lawrence jumped at the opportunity. A figurative artist his entire life, he was particularly intrigued by the ancient Greek storyteller's narrative and by the challenge of casting animals, birds and insects as his main characters. Each drawing is accompanied by the fable and the moral lesson the story illustrates.

From August 3–October 27, 2013, the Hallie Ford Museum of Art will present *Jacob Lawrence: Aesop's Fables*, an exhibition of 23 original drawings by the legendary American painter and printmaker (1917–2000) who was widely regarded as one of the most important African American artists of the 20th century for his portrayal of African American life, culture and history. Organized by Director John Olbrantz, the exhibition is drawn exclusively from the Paul G. Allen Family Collection and will be presented in the Study Gallery and Print Study Center.

Jacob Lawrence was always attracted to *Aesop's Fables*, a collection of morality tales of the late 7th and early 6th century BCE ascribed to the Greek storyteller Aesop. When given a chance to illustrate the fables for

The Crow's Shadow Institute of the Arts Biennial

The Crow's Shadow Institute of the Arts Biennial will feature a selection of contemporary prints created at the Crow's Shadow Institute of the Arts on the Umatilla Reservation in northeastern Oregon during the past two years. Organized by Willamette University professor Rebecca Dobkins and Crow's Shadow Master Printer Frank Janzen, the exhibition will open Nov. 9, 2013 and continue through Feb. 2, 2014, in the Study Gallery and Print Study Center. Included in the exhibition will be prints by Rick Bartow (Wiyot), Corwin Clairmont (Salish and Kootenai), Whitney Minthorn (Umatilla), and Frank LaPena (Wintu), among others.

David Roberts: Travels in the Holy Land



David Roberts, *Jerusalem, from the Mount of Olives*, 1842

Organized by Director John Olbrantz and drawn from the extensive collection of Ken and Linda Sheppard, *David Roberts: Travels in the Holy Land* is intended to set the stage for *Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth: Ancient Near Eastern Art from American Collections*, offering visitors a rare glimpse of the Middle East at the beginning of the 19th century. At the same time, the exhibition is meant to serve as a prelude to a major exhibition of David Roberts's prints, drawings and watercolors, organized by Olbrantz and collector Ken Sheppard, and scheduled for a future date.

David Roberts (1796–1864) was a Scottish painter who traveled to the Near East in the late 1830s and produced a series of bound, hand-colored lithographs of Egypt and the Holy Land in the 1840s from sketches made on his travels. Lauded for their artistic merit as well as their scholarly contributions, these folios provided Europeans, and eventually Americans, with their first views of the exotic Orient, changing forever their vision of Egypt and the Middle East. A small exhibition of Roberts' prints opens on Aug. 10 and continues through Dec. 22, 2013, in the Maribeth Collins Lobby.



Hallie Ford
Museum of Art

WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY

900 State Street
Salem, OR 97301

GENERAL INFORMATION

Brushstrokes is a biannual publication of the Hallie Ford Museum of Art at Willamette University in Salem, Oregon.

LOCATION

Hallie Ford Museum of Art, Willamette University
Street address: 700 State Street, Salem, OR 97301
Mailing address: 900 State Street, Salem, OR 97301
503-370-6855 • Email: museum-art@willamette.edu
Website: willamette.edu/arts/hfma

HOURS

Tuesday-Saturday: 10 a.m.–5 p.m.; Sunday: 1–5 p.m.
Mondays: Closed

ADMISSION

General: \$6; Seniors (55+): \$4; Students (18+ with ID): \$3.
Adult groups (8+ by reservation): \$4/person.
Free: Children and students (0–17); School groups (by reservation); Willamette University faculty, staff and students; Hallie Ford Museum of Art members; AAM members; Tuesday is a free day.

ACCESSIBILITY

The Hallie Ford Museum of Art is wheelchair accessible on both floors via an elevator at the front of the building. A wheelchair is available for visitor use.

A loading zone is available in front of the building to drop off and pick up visitors.

For any special access needs, such as interpreters, please call.

The Hallie Ford Museum of Art at Willamette University is a member of the American Alliance of Museums.

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Salem, OR
Permit No.152

Brushstrokes June–Dec., 2013
Vol. 15, No. 2

From the Director



In October of this year, the Hallie Ford Museum of Art will celebrate its 15th anniversary with a major exhibition titled *Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth: Ancient Near Eastern Art from American Collections*. The exhibition will feature 64 objects on loan from some of the most distinguished public and private collections throughout the United States. The genesis of the exhibition began in 2002 when the late Jim Romano, curator of Egyptian, Classical, and Ancient Near Eastern Art at the Brooklyn Museum, and I co-organized an exhibition of Egyptian art titled *In the Fullness of Time: Masterpieces of Egyptian Art from American Collections*. Jim was a brilliant Egyptologist and my best friend, and we both agreed that working on the project together was one of the highlights of our professional lives.

As we were working on the exhibition together, we talked about organizing a sequel on the art of the ancient Near East. As with the Egyptian exhibition, the ancient Near Eastern exhibition would focus on objects from American collections. The objects would be of high quality but smaller in scale. The exhibition would be scholarly in nature and would be organized to introduce visitors to some of the key ideas and themes in ancient Near Eastern art. Finally, the exhibition would be designed to introduce audiences in the western United States to important yet rarely seen examples of ancient Near Eastern art. Tragically, Jim was killed in an automobile accident the following summer and, at least for a time, the second exhibition we envisioned with such excitement and enthusiasm was set aside.

For several years after Jim's death I thought about the exhibition often and finally decided to revive the project in his honor and memory. Fortunately, I had an opportunity to meet Trudy Kawami when I gave the eulogy at Jim's memorial service at the Brooklyn Museum in 2003. Trudy is director of research at the Arthur M. Sackler Foundation in New York and had organized an exhibition of ancient bronzes from the Asian grasslands that we presented in 2006. I invited Trudy to lecture and discovered that she and Jim were good friends and had worked together on a couple of different projects. As we talked, I discovered that she has a PhD degree from Columbia University in Ancient Near Eastern Art and Archaeology, and when I asked her if she would consider working with me on the exhibition and book, she enthusiastically agreed.

During the past six years, *Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth: Ancient Near Eastern Art from American Collections* has evolved from an abstract concept into a remarkable exhibition, and I hope you visit the galleries often this fall to marvel at these priceless objects that date from the dawn of civilization. I believe the exhibition and accompanying book will make an important and lasting contribution to scholarship in the field, will be a fitting tribute to my friend Jim, and will serve as a marvelous way to celebrate our 15th anniversary. I look forward to seeing you at the Hallie Ford Museum of Art this fall as you travel back in time to the birthplace of Western civilization.

Thank you, as always, for your commitment and support!

JOHN OLBRANTZ
The Maribeth Collins Director

Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth: Ancient Near Eastern Art from American Collections



Male figure, Iraq, Mid-Late Early Dynastic Period, 2700-2500 BCE



Recumbent dog, Iraq, Old Babylonian Period, 19th century BCE

From August 31-December 22, 2013, the Hallie Ford Museum of Art will present *Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth: Ancient Near Eastern Art from American Collections*. Co-organized by Trudy Kawami, director of research at the Arthur M. Sackler Foundation, and John Olbrantz, director of the Hallie Ford Museum of Art, the exhibition features 64 objects on loan from public and private collections throughout the United States and is accompanied by a full-color book. The title of the exhibition comes from a verse in the Sumerian flood story where Enlil remakes the world using that phrase.

Didactic in nature, *Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth: Ancient Near Eastern Art from American Collections* encompasses the geographic regions of Mesopotamia, Syria and the Levant, Anatolia and Iran, and explores several broad themes found in the art of the ancient Near East: gods and goddesses, men and women, and animals — both real and supernatural. Objects have been selected because they are of high quality but smaller in scale and because they reveal a wealth of information about the people and cultures that produced them: their mythology, religious beliefs, concepts of kingship, social structure, and daily life.

In addition to the objects on display, the exhibition is accompanied by text panels on the themes of the exhibition; annotated labels; quotes from Mesopotamian and Old Testament literature; a map of the ancient Near East; photo murals of key archaeological sites, including Ur, Lachish, Persepolis, and Hattusa; a chronology; a lecture and film series (see Calendar of Events); and a full color book with scholarly essays by Olbrantz and Kawami on the American discovery of the ancient Near East in the 19th and 20th centuries and the art, cultures and themes of the exhibition, respectively.

Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth: Ancient Near Eastern Art from American Collections has been supported by an endowment gift from the Hallie Ford Exhibition Fund and an "Art Works" grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as by general operating support grants from the City of Salem's TOT funds and the Oregon Arts Commission. Additional support for the lecture and film series was provided by the Center for Ancient Studies and the Department of Art History at Willamette University. For further information, please call 503-370-6855 or visit willamette.edu/go/ancient.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July

- 19–20 Visit our booth at the Salem Art Fair and Festival
Bush's Pasture Park
10 a.m.–7 p.m.
- 21 Visit our booth at the Salem Art Fair and Festival
Bush's Pasture Park
10 a.m.–5 p.m.

Constance Fowler: *Tradition and Transition* closes
Study Gallery and Print Study Center

August

- 3 *Jacob Lawrence: Aesop's Fables* opens
Study Gallery and Print Study Center

- 4 *Holly Andres: The Homecoming* closes
Melvin Henderson-Rubio Gallery

- 10 *David Roberts: Travels in the Holy Land* opens
Maribeth Collins Lobby

- 22–25 **Opening Days**
Free admission

- 31 *Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth: Ancient Near Eastern Art from American Collections* opens
Melvin Henderson-Rubio Gallery

September

- 3–Dec. 17 **Tuesday Gallery Talks**
Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth: Ancient Near Eastern Art from American Collections Docents
12:30 p.m., Melvin Henderson-Rubio Gallery

- 6 **Lecture**
Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth: Ancient Near Eastern Art from American Collections
Trudy Kawami, Director of Research, Arthur M. Sackler Foundation, New York
5 p.m., Paulus Lecture Hall, Willamette University College of Law

Receptions
Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth: Ancient Near Eastern Art from American Collections

- 6–8 p.m., Maribeth Collins Lobby and Melvin Henderson-Rubio Gallery

Jacob Lawrence: Aesop's Fables
6–8 p.m., Maribeth Collins Lobby, Study Gallery, and Print Study Center

- David Roberts: Travels in the Holy Land*
6–8 p.m., Maribeth Collins Lobby

- 7, 21 **Saturday Gallery Talks**
Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth: Ancient Near Eastern Art from American Collections
Docents
2 p.m., Melvin Henderson-Rubio Gallery

- 12 **Lecture**
Return to Babylon: Travelers, Archaeologists, and Monuments in Mesopotamia
Brian Fagan, Professor Emeritus of Anthropology, University of California, Santa Barbara
7:30 p.m., Hudson Concert Hall, Mary Stuart Rogers Music Center

- 17 **Evening for Educators**
Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth: Ancient Near Eastern Art from American Collections
Elizabeth Garrison, The Cameron Paulin Curator of Education
4:30–6:30 p.m., Melvin Henderson-Rubio Gallery

- 20–22 **Reunion Weekend**
Free admission

- 26 **Lecture**
Gifts for the Gods: Sumerian Art from the Temple
Jean Evans, Research Associate, Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago
7:30 p.m., Paulus Lecture Hall, Willamette University College of Law

- 28 **Storytelling**
Rhetorics of Kingship: From Shulgi to Sennacherib
Jeanne Clark, Associate Professor of Rhetoric, Willamette University
2 p.m., Melvin Henderson-Rubio Gallery

October

- 1 **Film**
Death on the Nile
(Color, 98 minutes)
7:30 p.m., Roger Hull Lecture Hall

- 3 **Fifteenth Anniversary Celebration**
Free admission

- 5, 19 **Saturday Gallery Talks**
Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth: Ancient Near Eastern Art from American Collections
Docents
2 p.m., Melvin Henderson-Rubio Gallery

- 10 **Lecture**
King of the Four Quarters of the World: The Art and Architecture of Assyrian Kingship
Marian Feldman, Associate Professor of Art History and Near Eastern Studies, The Johns Hopkins University
7:30 p.m., Paulus Lecture Hall, Willamette University College of Law

- 11–13 **Family Weekend**
Free admission

- 12 **Family Activity Day**
Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth: Ancient Near Eastern Art from American Collections
Elizabeth Garrison, Sonia Allen, Helen Nutt Wiens and April Miller
Noon–4 p.m., Maribeth Collins Lobby

- 15 **Film**
Murder in Mesopotamia
(Color, 100 minutes)
7:30 p.m., Roger Hull Lecture Hall

- 24 **Lecture**
Syria and the Levant: Life in the Lands of the Hebrew Bible
Ronald Wallenfels, Adjunct Associate Professor of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, New York University
7:30 p.m., Paulus Lecture Hall, Willamette University College of Law

- 26 **Storytelling**
Creation and Destruction: Conceiving and Considering Cities
Willamette students, under the direction of Professor Jeanne Clark
2 p.m., Melvin Henderson-Rubio Gallery

- 27 *Jacob Lawrence: Aesop's Fables* closes
Study Gallery and Print Study Center

- 29 **Film**
Appointment with Death
(Color, 80 minutes)
7:30 p.m., Roger Hull Lecture Hall

November

- 2, 16 **Saturday Gallery Talks**
Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth: Ancient Near Eastern Art from American Collections
Docents
2 p.m., Melvin Henderson-Rubio Gallery

- 7 **Lecture**
Lions, Bulls, Snakes, and Scorpions: Animals in Ancient Iranian Art and Thought
Holly Pittman, Bok Family Professor of Humanities, University of Pennsylvania
7:30 p.m., Paulus Lecture Hall, Willamette University College of Law

- 9 *Crow's Shadow Institute of the Arts Biennial* opens
Study Gallery and Print Study Center

Storytelling
Common Sense from an Uncommon Time: Performing Sumerian Proverbs and Fables
Willamette students, under the direction of Professor Jeanne Clark
2 p.m., Melvin Henderson-Rubio Gallery

- 12 **Film**
Murder on the Orient Express
(Color, 89 minutes)
7:30 p.m., Roger Hull Lecture Hall

- 28–29 **Thanksgiving Holiday**
Closed

December

- 7, 21 **Saturday Gallery Talks**
Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth: Ancient Near Eastern Art from American Collections
Docents
2 p.m., Melvin Henderson-Rubio Gallery

- 22 *Breath of Heaven, Breath of Earth: Ancient Near Eastern Art from American Collections* closes
Melvin Henderson-Rubio Gallery

David Roberts: Travels in the Holy Land closes
Maribeth Collins Lobby

- 23–Jan. 1 **Winter Break**
Closed