Interpretations eNEWSLETTER ART@ISU

JULY - AUG. 2012

Announcements  2
Sneak Peek at Fall  3
Exhibitions  4-7
Programs  7
Museum Moments  8
Education  9-10
UM Information  11

Detail of the Fountain of the Four Seasons by Christian Petersen. Located at the Memorial Union.
Watch your mail in mid-August for University Museums Annual Membership drive!

This is your opportunity to support the museums and, ensure ongoing exhibitions and creative educational programming.

Whether you are renewing or joining for the first time, consider quick and easy online giving through the ISU Foundation’s secure website!

GIVE NOW ONLINE

Position Opening - Assistant Curator of Collections and Education

University Museums at Iowa State University is accepting applications for the Assistant Curator of Collections and Education who serves as primary collections and exhibitions curator for the Brunnier Art Museum with occasional curatorial responsibilities at the Farm House Museum, the Christian Petersen Art Museum, Anderson Sculpture Garden and Art on Campus Program. Additionally, the Assistant Curator of Collections and Education will coordinate, convey, implement and present high quality educational programs and develop curriculum specific class projects that utilize the permanent collection and changing exhibitions. The Assistant Curator of Collections and Education will provide positive public relations through exhibitions, visitor interaction, tours, and programming for University Museums at all times; and will assist with coverage and security during museum open hours at all of the University Museums facilities. The successful candidate will have effective computer skills including word processing, museum data bases, imaging software, and basic knowledge of design principles. Excellent written and verbal communications skills to effectively communicate with a wide range of audiences is also essential for success in this position.

Appointment Conditions: Continuous, Full-time Proposed Start Date: 09/04/2012
Required Qualifications: Bachelor’s degree plus 3 years of experience.
Preferred Qualifications: Master’s degree. Professional experience in a museum curatorial and/or education department. Experience in grant and proposal writing, and budget management.

Application Instructions: All applications must be submitted online. Hardcopy or mailed applications will not be accepted. To apply for this position, please click on “Apply for this Vacancy” at www.iastatejobs.com/applicants/Central?quickFind=82163 and complete the Employment Application.

To ensure consideration, submit application by August 01, 2012.

Congratulations to our own Angela Shippy who was married June 27, 2012 to Will Stone on central campus where they met near Christian Petersen’s Marriage Ring sculpture. The couple will remain in Ames.

New contact information: Angela Stone astone@iastate.edu 515.294.3342
SNEAK PEEK AT FALL SEMESTER

Exhibitions

Christian Petersen Art Museum
Post-Pop Redux
Cabinet of Curiosities

Brunnner Art Museum
Relationships Renewed
Salon to Modern Gallery
Contemporary Studio Glass
Novelty was the Norm: Iowa Quester Glass Collection

Farm House Museum
Is there a Santa Claus?

Lectures

Thursday, September 6 at 7:00 p.m. in 0101 Design
Cultural Activism in a Time of Crisis
Dr. Susan Noyes Platt, art historian and art critic, will talk about her latest publication, Art and Politics Now, and art that addresses social and political concerns.

Thursday, September 27 at 6:00 p.m. in 2019 Morrill Hall
Concepts, Context, and Duality
Join artist Andy Magee as he discusses his exhibition of found-material sculptural art. Magee uses a variety of found objects that viewers have a personal connection with and generates a completely new meaning by interlacing them with contemporary issues including politics, religion, money, and sex.

Events

Tuesday, September 11 at 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. in Morrill Hall, ground floor
The Land-Grant Act and the People’s College - Exhibition Open House
On the 150th anniversary of the State of Iowa’s acceptance of the Morrill Act, join exhibition curator Allison Sheridan for a tour of the newly installed exhibition The Land-Grant Act and the People’s College.

Thursday, September 13 from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. at the Brunnier Art Museum
Relationships Renewed Reception
Enjoy light refreshments, conversation, and a brief program at 5:00 with remarks from Des Moines Art Center Director Jeff Fleming, College of Design Dean Luis Rico-Gutierrez, and faculty exhibition coordinator Ingrid Lilligren.

Thursday, September 27 from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Christian Petersen Art Museum
Post-Pop Redux Exhibition Reception
Join University Museums as we celebrate artist Andy Magee and the current exhibition Post-Pop Redux: Material Based Art by Andy Magee.
HOT / COOL
Contemporary Studio Glass from the Permanent Collection

Studio glass sculpture emerged in the early 1960s with the experimentation in hot glass by artistic pioneers Harvey K. Littleton (American, b. 1922) and Dominic Labino (American, 1910-1987). In 1962 Labino and Littleton lead the Toledo Museum of Art glassblowing workshops. Through these workshops, Littleton was introduced to Labino's creative solution of mixing the raw batches of glass using fiberglass marbles which he formulated to melt at lower temperatures. This revolutionary technique allowed for more fluidity and flexibility in the creation of glass sculpture. From there, Littleton went on to develop the prestigious glass program and curriculum at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Labino continued to influence the art of contemporary studio glass sculpture through experimentations with unique formulas, chemical mixtures, and techniques.

In the 1970s, Dale Chihuly went on to popularize the studio glass sculpture movement. After studying with Harvey Littleton at Madison, Chihuly established his own glass program at the Rhode Island School of Design. In 1971, he co-founded the Pilchuck Glass School in Stanwood, Washington. The Pilchuck Glass School and apprenticeship program opened the doors for many glass artists as Paul Marioni, William Morris, Toots Zynsky, Sonja Blomdahl, Joey Kirkpatrick and Flora Mace to succeed in the world of 20th and 21st century contemporary studio glass sculpture.

The sculptures in this exhibition will present the creative processes of glass sculpting and also explore the individual artistic expressions of today’s most accomplished artists, who express themselves in the media of glass.

Continuing Exhibitions
French Art Nouveau: From the Permanent Collection
The Age of Brilliance: Cut Glass from the Permanent Collection
Priscilla Sage: Contemporary Sculpture
A Fragile Thread of Glass
N.C. Wyeth: America in the Making
Iowa College Pottery
Salon to Modern Gallery: Works of Art from the Permanent Collections

CHRISTIAN PETERSEN ART MUSEUM
EXHIBITIONS
May 14 through August 3, 2012

Remembering the Sculpture of Christian Petersen
In the Christian Petersen Art Museum, Campbell Gallery, 1017 Morrill Hall

ELIZABETH AND BYRON ANDERSON SCULPTURE GARDEN
Now through August 2012

Realités: The Lyric Sculpture of William King
This exhibition is organized by University Museums and made possible by the gracious loan of works of art from the artist, William King. The Anderson Sculpture Garden is located around Morrill Hall on Iowa State University central campus. Hours are 24/7 and paid parking is available in the Memorial Union Ramp or the Armory Parking Lot.

The exhibition is sponsored by Richard Bartosh, George and Susan Christensen, Chuck and Joanne Fredericksen, Beverly and Warren Madden, Rebecca Klemm, Ann and Al Jennings, JaneAnn and Michael Stout and the University Museums Membership Program.
EXHIBITIONS  Opening Aug. 20-21

BRUNNIER ART MUSEUM
EXHIBITIONS
August 21 - December 16, 2012

Relationships Renewed
Relationships: Integrated Studio Arts Faculty at the Brunnier explores dynamic connections in the work of art faculty and colleagues across campus. Educational programs presented will provide stimulating insights into the relationships among visual art and disciplines in the sciences and humanities.

Relationships Renewed is the final exhibition in this exhibition cycle. Faculty who have participated over the past five Relationships exhibitions will combine to show new works of art reflecting the fruits of their collaboration with their on-campus partner and one work from at least a decade ago to showcase their development. Educational programming for this exhibition will engage panels of faculty in conversations describing how their work has evolved and how their thinking has been impacted through dialogue with their on-campus partners.

CHRISTIAN PETERSEN ART MUSEUM
EXHIBITIONS
August 20 - December 14, 2012

Post-Pop Redux
Material Based Art by Andy Magee
Campbell Gallery, 1017 Morrill Hall

Post-Pop Redux exhibits a collection of found-material sculptural art by artist Andy Magee that combines individual viewer’s perceptions of everyday objects and familiar iconography. Magee uses a variety of found objects that viewers have a personal connection with and generates a completely new meaning by interlacing them with contemporary issues including politics, religion, money, and sex.

As we reach the height of the 2012 Presidential election, this exhibition highlights the political and social commentary in Magee’s art. Magee’s multi-layered interpretive works of art evoke humor, challenge perception, and highlight cultural dualities. His assemblage art invites viewers to engage in discussion of topics that often are considered taboo. No two people interpret art in the exact same way, and Magee’s art allows viewers to find themselves while also creating an understanding of those around them.

Andy Magee (American, b. 1972) is a native of Arkansas who has lived in St. Louis, Missouri for the past fifteen years. Magee earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts from Arkansas State University and his Master of Fine Arts from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. Magee’s portrait of President Obama titled Change (above) was featured in Time Magazine’s 2008 Person of the Year issue. He has received numerous awards, including the Grand Award for the 50th Annual Delta Exhibition, a prestigious seven state regional exhibition held in Little Rock, Arkansas. Magee has three works of art in the collection of Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, and numerous works of art in private collections across the United States.

This exhibition is presented by University Museums with support from the College of Design, an Ames Community Development Grant, and the University Museums Membership.
The Land-grant Act and the People’s College: Iowa State University

Morrill Hall, ground floor hallway
This comprehensive historic timeline is installed on the walls of the ground floor corridor in Morrill Hall. The purpose of this installation is to provide an exciting and informative reference point to the history of Iowa State, featuring the institution’s prominent role as the first land-grant college to fully accept the provisions of the Morrill Act of July 2, 1862. The completed installation, on July 2, 2012, marked the 150th anniversary of President Lincoln signing the act.

The timeline is divided into various time periods focusing on the important and interesting events that played a part in the creation and development of the University from inception to modern day. Each section focuses on a wide variety of events and the people that were innovators over the last 150 years in developing Iowa’s only land-grant college into the world class university it has become.

Morrill Hall’s central location and historic significance has made it a compelling and logical choice for the timeline installation. Since reopening after its dramatic restoration in 2007, the University’s second oldest structure has played host to an average of over 10,000 visitors annually and has become a starting point for many guided and self-guided tours. Guided visitors are often told of Morrill Hall’s history as chapel, library and museum, but many self-guided visitors come and go without the opportunity to fully immerse themselves in the history of the building and University. The goal of this current project is to both enhance the experience of the visitors to Iowa State’s campus and to better educate those visitors of the unique and illustrious role the college and community has played in advancing education and fulfilling the dreams of Senator Justin Smith Morrill and President Abraham Lincoln as enshrined in the Morrill Act.

This exhibition is designed by Allison Sheridan, University Museums and funded by Ann and Al Jennings, Carole and Jack Horowitz, Mary Watkins, Dorothy Schweider, and the Ames Community Grant Foundation – Ames Convention and Visitors Bureau.
JULY
Sunday, July 22 from 1:00-4:00 p.m.
Game Day at the Brunnier
Release your inner child on Sundays throughout the summer by playing board games at the museum. Board games will range in age and be available in addition to puzzles and card decks. Game Days will continue throughout the summer on Sundays without programs.

Wednesday, July 25 at 12:00 p.m. on the ISU Campus
ArtWalk – Anderson Sculpture Garden
Join Dorothy Witter, Interpretation Specialist, for a tour of the art in the Anderson Sculpture Garden. This semester’s ArtWalks focus on the Thousand Words Project, which asks members of the Iowa State Community to re-interpret works of art in the Art on Campus Collection. Meet Dorothy outside the south entrance to Morrill Hall.

Sunday, July 29 from 1:00-4:00 p.m.
Game Day at the Brunnier
Release your inner child on Sundays throughout the summer by playing board games at the museum. Board games will range in age and be available in addition to puzzles and card decks. Game Days will continue throughout the summer on Sundays without programs.

AUGUST
Wednesday, August 29 at 12:00 p.m. on the ISU Campus
ArtWalk – Dean’s Gallery in Agriculture and Life Sciences, Curtiss Hall
Join docent Barb Bruene, for a tour of the newly installed Dean’s Gallery in Curtiss Hall. Enjoy the new acquisitions and familiar Christian Petersen artwork that speak to this college’s mission. Meet Nancy outside the west entrance to Curtiss.

Education programs are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. If you would like to sponsor an education program, or a series of programs, please contact Nancy Girard at nancyg@iastate.edu or 515.294.3342. A full listing of programs can be found on the University Museums website under “Calendar.” On rare occasions, a program must be cancelled, so we suggest that before making a special trip to the Museums you visit our website www.museums.iastate.edu or call 515-294-3342 for program information.
MUSEUM MOMENTS

a. Back row L-R: Allison Sheridan, collections manager; Lynette Pohlman, director; and Jim Jung (Quester and donor to the collection). Front row L-R: Natalie Wadle, intern; Dorothy Witter, interpretation specialist; and Anna Toft, intern.

b. Quester and donor, Jim Jung, works with Dorothy Witter to catalog his promised gift of over 40 objects to the Quester Glass Collection.

c. Sue Slight (left) with Carol Tinkey (right) work at organizing the Iowa Quester Glass Collection in the Brunnier Art Museum.

d. Jackie Smith (left) and Fran Mauldin (right) re-pack over 900 objects in the Quester Glass Collection.

e. Jennifer Drinkwater’s installation Working Over Wood at the Smithsonian National Folklife Festival, held late June and early July in Washington, D.C.
Where’s Rodin?
Taking Art Out of the Museum and in to the Classroom

From July 2010 through February 2012, two sculptures from the Art on Campus Collection at Iowa State University nomadically wandered the campus from department to department in order to help create meaningful learning experiences for students in all academic disciplines. The goals of this exhibition were to raise awareness of the purpose of the Art on Campus Collection and Anderson Sculpture Garden, and their use as educational assets in ISU classes to promote visual literacy and learning. Faculty and staff from exhibiting units were introduced to the artists and the sculptures, gaining knowledge and appreciation of the sculptures and giving them the tools and background needed to apply to their curriculum.

In early 2010, Saint John the Baptist Preaching by Auguste Rodin (French, 1840-1917) was gifted to University Museums by the Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Foundation. The acquisition of this sculpture was instrumental in further understanding the art of Christian Petersen, Iowa State’s sculptor-in-residence from 1934 to 1955. Trained as a sculptor in Boston, Providence and New York, Christian Petersen (Danish-American, 1885-1961) was a generation younger than Rodin, and a continent away from Rodin’s France. Still, Petersen’s knowledge of one of the world’s most influential sculptors was certainly in his sphere of artistic influence. It is documented that Petersen referenced Rodin’s sculpture of St. John in campus lectures during the 1930s and 40s, acknowledging Rodin’s fine skill at sculpting the human form and capturing movement.

University Museums made the decision to tour the sculptures Saint John the Baptist Preaching by Auguste Rodin and The Country Doctor by Christian Petersen around campus and exhibit them at various academic sites, departments and colleges in order to engage students, faculty, and staff at the exhibition sites and integrate Art on Campus in curriculum across campus. University Museums continually examines Christian Petersen and his American Regionalist sculpture, and this exhibition visually informed the campus community of Rodin’s art and his influence on Petersen.

Over the course of 20 months, more than 10,000 students engaged in curriculum specific learning interactions with the exhibition. This included students in Chemistry, Physics, Kinesiology, Business, and Design to name a few.

As part of the Department of World Languages and Cultures, Julio Rodriguez, former director of the Language Studies Resource Center, stressed the value the exhibition would have on his department.

The Department of World Languages and Cultures offers various courses in modern or 19th century literature and civilization, all of which address the French avant-garde and the impressionist aesthetic that Auguste Rodin manifested in his works. Each of his sculptures gives the viewer the impression that it is a finished object of art but yet still “in progress,” as if emerging from the material from which it was cast. It is representational, but also abstract in its roughness. Students of literature and civilization should learn the way in which the work of art references other works. As the sculpture of St. John the Baptist Preaching alludes to the scriptures, it also mirrors
the mission of our Language Studies Resource Center: to support the teaching and learning of communication through world languages, interculturally and internationally. Christian Petersen, as a Scandinavian artist with strong Iowa ties and as an artist-in-residence at Iowa State University learned his craft from the European masters but developed his own style of public sculpture, with perhaps an intent to model the sorts of characters one encounters on a campus such as ours. The gentle care of The Country Doctor contrasts with the prophetic mode of John the Baptist; together, the sculptures suggest the very conjoining of science and art, of technology and philology, which our Language Study Resource Center has come to represent.

Under the leadership of Bruce Harmon, Distinguished Professor in Physics and Astronomy, students in Physics 302 explored the intersections between art and physics through the Where’s Rodin exhibition. The following quote is an excerpt from Harmon’s introduction to his students.

We don’t usually mention ‘Art’ in physics classes, and I suspect there is little ‘Physics’ discussed in art classes. Nonetheless the interconnection of these two disciplines has been an intriguing subject for some time. Starting from the Greeks, the two disciplines seem to thrive at parallel times in history when creativity has flourished. The road from physics to art is better documented. For example, ideas in optics, perspective, time as a dimension, and even complexity have sparked visions and techniques applied to various artistic media. Sometimes beauty or ‘art’ can influence a physics idea. Another facet common to especially insightful artists and scientists is the initial rejection of their early work. When young, Rodin and other ‘modern’ artists suffered criticism from established ‘experts’. Young scientists, particularly theorists, often meet similar opposition.

The exhibition began in the office of the Provost and ended at the University Library, a fitting place to emphasize the interdisciplinary goals of the exhibition. The Library has more than 37,000 visitors per week and Where’s Rodin provided them with an additional opportunity to expand their mission as a hub of intellectual activity on campus. In addition to exhibiting the sculptures, the Library prepared a “LibGuide” pointing to print and electronic resources on Rodin and Petersen as well as making available near the exhibit a selection of relevant books on each of the sculptors.

Within a museum, the best asset is the collection and providing access to the collection will make museums relevant on campus. As museum professionals, we may not have all of the tools needed to successfully integrate our collection in to curriculum across all academic disciplines. However, taking the objects out of the museums and in to the classroom has proven to engage more faculty in the museums who can then provide the content needed to specifically engage their students in meaningful learning.

For more information about the Where’s Rodin exhibition or about developing curriculum specific learning activities, please contact Nancy Girard, educator of visual literacy and learning, at nancyg@iastate.edu or 515-294-3342.

Call for Museum Docents
Are you interested in getting more involved with University Museums? We’re searching for docents to lead tours of our Art on Campus Collections. Docents meet once a month for training meetings. To find out more, contact Dorothy Witter at dwitter@iastate.edu or call 515-294-4442.
The Iowa State University Museums exhibit art from around the world dating from ancient times to the present, historic Iowa State material culture, and modern and contemporary sculpture. In addition to its permanent collection, the University Museums offer changing exhibitions, accompanied by related educational programs and publications.

UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS
Anderson Sculpture Garden - Art on Campus Collection - Brunner Art Museum - Christian Petersen Art Museum - Farm House Museum

290 Scheman Building
Ames, Iowa 50011-1110
515.294.3342
www.museums.iastate.edu

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
University Museums

SUMMER 2012 Special Hours and Closings

Beginning May 14, 2012 through August 3, 2012 the Farm House Museum will only be open on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from Noon to 4pm each week. Regular public hours resume August 20th.

Visits outside these hours by appointment only. For appointments please call 515.294.4442 at least 48 hours in advance.

August Installations
The Christian Petersen Art Museum and Farm House Museum will be closed August 4-19 for installations.

The Brunnier Art Museum will be closed August 6-20 for installation.

University Museums Staff

Lynette Pohlman
director and chief curator
lpohlman@iastate.edu

Nancy Girard
educator of visual literacy and learning
nancyg@iastate.edu

Susan Olson
development secretary
sdolson@iastate.edu

Allison Sheridan
collections manager and communication coordinator
aclone@iastate.edu

Angela (Shippy) Stone
administrative specialist
astone@iastate.edu

Dorothy Witter
interpretation specialist
dwitter@iastate.edu

HOURS

University Museums
290 Scheman Building
Iowa State University
Ames, Iowa 50011-1110
515.294.3342 fax 515.294.3342
www.museums.iastate.edu

Anderson Sculpture Garden & Art on Campus
Open 24/7 (or building hours)

Brunnier Art Museum
Tues. - Fri. 11 am - 4 pm
Saturday - Sunday 1 pm - 4 pm
Closed Mondays and University holidays

Christian Petersen Art Museum
Monday - Friday 11 am - 4 pm
Closed weekends and University holidays and semester breaks

Farm House Museum
Tue. - Wed. Noon - 4 pm*
Closed weekends and University holidays and semester breaks
*Visits outside these hours by appointment only.