



• Press Release

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MEMORIAL ART GALLERY OPENS MAJOR REINSTALLATION OF AMERICAN COLLECTION



ROCHESTER, NY — “Seeing America,” a major reinstallation of the Memorial Art Gallery's noted American collection, is now open to the public.

Spanning four centuries and occupying 7,000 square feet on MAG's first floor, the new installation brings together some of the finest works in the collection as it constitutes what chief curator Marjorie Searl calls “a journey in space and time.”

The 114 works range from the Colonial era, exemplified by John Singleton Copley's unfinished portrait (ca. 1762) of Boston silversmith Nathaniel Hurd, to politically charged mixed-media pieces by contemporary artists Jaune Quick-to-See Smith, Christian Boltanski and Binh Danh. In between are works by such masters as Thomas Cole, Winslow Homer, Augustus Saint-Gaudens, Thomas Eakins, John Sloan, George Bellows, Helen Frankenthaler, Jackson Pollock, Jacob Lawrence and Dale Chihuly. (A complete checklist is attached.) Of particular interest, Georgia O'Keeffe's *Jawbone and Fungus* (1937) is displayed for the first time in a plexiglas case that allows visitors to see the brightly colored, unfinished abstract painting on the reverse—a painting that dates to the 1920s and that the artist abandoned for reasons unknown.

Three galleries are grouped chronologically—“Art of a Young Nation” (Colonial era–1900); “Controversy and Change” (1900–1950); and “Art and Ideas” (1950–the present). A fourth, “Focus on Rochester,” brings together such works with local connections as *Colonel Nathaniel Rochester*, Maxfield Parrish's *Interlude (The Lute Players)*, Fritz Trautman's *Galaxy* and Wendell Castle's *Last Judgment*.

An adjacent 2,000-square-foot gallery, renovated in 2002, houses American decorative and folk arts.

A century of commitment

‘Seeing America’ documents the Gallery's longstanding commitment to building an outstanding collection of American art. As early as 1913, the year of its founding, MAG was championing and

ABOVE: Visitors to “Seeing America” are greeted by Thomas Ridgeway Gould's dramatic 1876 sculpture *The West Wind*.

more...

acquiring such major works as John Twachtman's masterful *White Bridge*. Nearly a century later, the American collection continues to grow and diversify, as illustrated by three newly acquired works—an 1800 tall case clock by Simon Willard, a 1937 modernist painting by Irene Rice Pereira, and photo-documentary print by Binh Danh from the 2006 exhibition *Extreme Materials*.

A large part of the collection has been on storage in recent months, while the Gallery utilized two of the galleries in "Seeing America" for *My America: Art from The Jewish Museum Collection, 1900–1955*. This major traveling exhibition was on view in fall 2006, concurrently with *Georgia O'Keeffe: Color and Conservation*. The unprecedented need for exhibition space offered a perfect opportunity to plan for an enhanced presentation of one of MAG's pre-eminent collections.

Catalog

Many of the works in "Seeing America" are highlighted in a catalog published by the Gallery in July 2006. *Seeing America: Painting and Sculpture from the Collection of the Memorial Art Gallery of the University of Rochester* examines 82 objects and their connections to American history, culture, literature and politics. The 336-page, coffee-table size book is available in hardcover (\$65) or softcover (\$40) and is available in the Gallery Store (585-473-7720, ext. 3057).

An online version is also available at <http://mag.rochester.edu/seeingAmerica/>.

Hours and admission

The Memorial Art Gallery is open Wednesday-Sunday 11 am to 5 pm and Thursday until 9 pm; closed Mondays and Tuesdays. General admission is \$7; college students with ID and senior citizens, \$5; children 6-18, \$3; always free to MAG members, UR students and children 5 and under. Reduced general admission from 5 to 9 pm Thursdays is \$2.

Reduced Thursday evening admission made possible by the Democrat and Chronicle/Gannett Foundation, with additional support from ExxonMobil Chemical Company, Thomson West and Monroe County.

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WORKS ON VIEW: “SEEING AMERICA” INSTALLATION

**THE ART OF
A YOUNG NATION**

John Burt
Porringer
ca. 1730
Silver
Gift of Andrew D. Wolfe

John Burt
Tankard
Silver
Anonymous donor

Nathaniel Hurd
Two Spoons
ca. 1760
Silver
Maurice R. and Maxine B.
Forman Fund

John Singleton Copley
*Unfinished Portrait of
Nathaniel Hurd*
ca. 1765
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

Simon Willard
Tall Case Clock
ca. 1800
Mahogany, glass, brass
and painted face
Bequest of Jean Craig

Unknown, American
Windsor Armchair
Maple, pine and oak
Gift of Mr. and Mrs.
James Conmey

Gilbert Stuart
Russell Sturgis
ca. 1806
Oil on canvas
Purchased through the
R. T. Miller, Jr. Fund

Gilbert Stuart
Elizabeth Perkins Sturgis
ca. 1806
Oil on canvas
Purchased through the
R. T. Miller, Jr. Fund

Benjamin West
Study for “Christ Rejected”
1811
Oil on paper laid down on panel
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

William Sidney Mount
Antoinette Pierson
1830
Oil on canvas
Bequest of Antoinette Pierson
Granger

George Harvey
Pittsford on the Erie Canal
1837
Oil on panel
Gift of the Margaret M.
McDonald Memorial Fund

DeWitt Clinton Boutelle
The Indian Hunter
1846
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

Thomas Cole
Genesee Scenery
1846–1847
Oil on panel
Gift of Howard and
Florence Merritt

Lilly Martin Spencer
Peeling Onions
ca. 1852
Oil on canvas
Gift of the Women's Council in
celebration of the 75th anniversary
of the Memorial Art Gallery

Rubens Peale
*Still Life Number 26:
Silver Basket of Fruit*
1857–58
Oil on tin
Gift of Helen C. Ellwanger

Asher Brown Durand
Genesee Oaks
1860
Oil on canvas
Gift of the Women's Council
in honor of Harris K. Prior

John Frederick Kensett
A Showery Day, Lake George
ca. 1860
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

- Martin Johnson Heade
Newbury Hayfield at Sunset
1862
Oil on canvas
Gift of Jacqueline Stemmler
Adams in memory of Mr. and Mrs.
Frederick M. Stemmler
- David Gilmour Blythe
Trial Scene
ca. 1862–63
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- James Henry Beard
The Night Before the Battle
1865
Oil on canvas
Gift of Dr. Ronald M. Lawrence
- Albert Bierstadt
The Sierras Near Lake Tahoe, California
1865
Oil on panel
Clara and Edwin Strassenburgh Fund
and Marion Stratton
Gould Fund
- Mortimer Smith
Home Late
1866
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- Thomas Ridgeway Gould
The West Wind
1876
Marble
Gift of the Isaac Gordon
Estate through the Lincoln
Rochester Trust Company
- Eastman Johnson
Back from the Orchard
ca. 1876
Oil on board
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- Randolph Rogers
Indian Group—The Last Shot
1880
Bronze
Extended loan from the Metropolitan
Museum of Art, New York; Bequest
of Henry H. Cook, 1905
- Leonard Wells Volk
*Life Mask and Hands
of Abraham Lincoln*
1886
Bronze
Gift of Thomas and Marion Hawks,
by exchange
- John Haberle
Torn in Transit
1888–89
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- Frederick W. MacMonnies
Nathan Hale
1890
Bronze
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- John Frederick Peto
Articles Hung on a Door
after 1890
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- George Inness
Early Moonrise in Florida
1893
Oil on canvas
George Eastman Collection of the
University of Rochester
- Winslow Homer
*The Artist's Studio
in an Afternoon Fog*
1894
Oil on canvas
R. T. Miller Fund
- Frederic Remington
The Broncho Buster
1895
Bronze
Gift of a friend of the Gallery
- Augustus Saint-Gaudens
Shaw Memorial, Soldier Heads
ca. 1897
Bronze on wood base
Gift of Richard Brush and Maurice
and Maxine Forman Fund in honor
of the 20th year of Grant Holcomb's
directorship
(returning soon)
- George Grey Barnard
Abraham Lincoln
ca. 1918
Marble
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- Hale Woodruff
*Frederick Douglass and Abraham
Lincoln Discussing Emancipation*
1942–1943
Tempera on masonite
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- CONTROVERSY AND
CHANGE 1900–1950**
- John Henry Twachtman
The White Bridge
ca. 1900
Oil on canvas
Gift of Emily Sibley Watson
- Everett Shinn
Sullivan Street
1900–05
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- Thomas Eakins
William H. Macdowell
ca. 1904
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- John Sloan
Election Night
1907
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- Jerome Myers
Sunday Morning
1907
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- Thomas W. Dewing
Portrait in a Brown Dress
ca. 1908
Oil on wood panel
Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander
Millar Lindsay III, in memory
of Jesse Williams and Grace
Curtice Lindsay and their daughter,
Carolyn Lindsay White

- John Sloan
Chinese Restaurant
1909
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
(returning soon)
- Kathleen McEnery Cunningham
Woman in an Ermine Collar
1909
Oil on canvas
Gift of Joan Cunningham
Williams, Peter Cunningham, and
Michael McEnery Cunningham
- Mary Abastenia St. Leger Eberle
Windy Doorstep
1910
Bronze
Maurice R. and Maxine
B. Forman Fund
- Jonas Lie
Morning on the River
ca. 1911–12
Oil on canvas
Gift of Ruth Sibley Gade
in memory of James G. Averell
- Gaston Lachaise
The Mountain
after 1912
Limestone
Gift of Dr. Michael L. Watson
- Maurice Prendergast
Woodland Bathes
1913–15
Oil on canvas mounted on board
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- George Bellows
Evening Group
1914
Oil on composition board
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- William Glackens
Beach at Blue Point
ca. 1915
Oil on canvas
Elizabeth R. Grauwiller Bequest
- Lyonel Feininger
Zirchow VI
1916
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- George Bellows
Autumn Brook
1922
Oil on panel
Bequest of Muriel Englander Klep-
per and Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- Harold Weston
Three Trees, Winter
1922
Oil on canvas
Gift of Emily Sibley Watson
- Georgia O'Keeffe
Untitled (Abstraction)
ca. 1923
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- Warren Wheelock
Le Coq d'or: Chanticleer
Greeting the Sun...
ca. 1923
Bronze on a marble base
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- George Luks
Boy with Dice
ca. 1923–24
Oil on canvas
Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas
H. Hawks, in honor of Harris
K. Prior
- Robert Henri
Tom Cafferty
1924
Oil on canvas
Gift of Mrs. Granger A. Hollister
- John Steuart Curry
Negro Head
1927
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- Mahonri Young
Right to the Jaw
ca. 1926
Bronze
Gift of Thomas and Marion Hawks,
by exchange
- Thomas Hart Benton
Boomtown
1928
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
(returning soon)
- Stuart Davis
Composition
1931
Oil on canvas
Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas
G. Spencer
temporary installation replacing
Boomtown (above)
- John B. Flannagan
The Fawn
1928
Granite
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- Georgia O'Keeffe
Jawbone and Fungus
1931
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- Stuart Davis
Landscape with Garage Lights
1931–32
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- Irene Rice Pereira
The Pendulum
1937
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- Edwin Dickinson
Snow on Quai
1938
Oil on canvas
Gift of Nancy Turner in
memory of Richard Turner
- Arthur Dove
Cars in a Sleet Storm
1938
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- Reginald Marsh
People's Follies No. 3
1938
Tempera on composition board
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
- John Steuart Curry
Oak Tree
1939
Oil on canvas mounted on board
Gift of Myrtle Pleune

Ralston Crawford
Whitestone Bridge
1939–40
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

Marsden Hartley
Waterfall, Morse Pond
ca. 1940
Oil on board
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

William Gropper
The Opposition
1942
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

Douglas Warner Gorsline
Bar Scene
1942
Oil on canvas
Art Patrons' Purchase Award, 1942
Rochester-Finger
Lakes Exhibition

Robert Gwathmey
Non-Fiction
1943
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

George Grosz
The Wanderer
1943
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund
(returning soon)

Milton Avery
Haircut by the Sea
1943
Oil on canvas
Gift of Roy R. Neuberger

Norman Rockwell
Soldier on Leave
1944
Oil on canvas
Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Robert
M. Boynton

Jacob Lawrence
Summer Street Scene in Harlem
1948
Tempera on gesso panel
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

Ilya Bolotowsky
Untitled (Relational Painting)
1950
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

**ART AND IDEAS
1950 to present**

Jackson Pollock
Red
1950
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

Joseph Cornell
The Admiral's Game
Ca. 1950
Mixed media
Maurice R. and Maxine B.
Forman Fund

Ad Reinhardt
Abstract Painting: Red
1952
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

David Smith
Big Diamond
1952
Steel and paint
The Charles Rand Penney Collection
of the Memorial Art Gallery

Isamu Noguchi
Calligraphics
1957
Iron, wood and rope
R. T. Miller Bequest

Hans Hofmann
Ruby Gold
1959
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

Alfred Leslie
Untitled
1960–61
Oil on canvas mounted on board
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

Walter Murch
Resting Rock
1961
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

Josef Albers
Homage to the Square: Soft Resonance
1962
Oil on composition board
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

John Koch
Interlude
1963
Oil on canvas
Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas
H. Hawks

Esteban Vicente
Batavia
1963
Oil on canvas
Gift of The Longview Foundation

Wendell Castle
Two-Seat Bench
1966
Stack laminated oak
Maurice R. and
Maxine B. Forman Fund

Fairfield Porter
The Beginning of the Fields
1973
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

Louise Nevelson
Dawn's Landscape XL
1975
Wood and paint
Anonymous gift

Philip Guston
Reverse
1978–79
Oil on canvas
Anonymous loan

Helen Frankenthaler
Seer
1980
Acrylic on canvas
Gift of the Women's Council
on the occasion of the council's 40th
anniversary

Christian Boltanski
Monument
1986
Photographs, light bulbs,
electrical cord
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

Neil Welliver
Dead Pine
1994
Oil on canvas
Gift of the Gallery Council, the
Averell Council and the Marion
Stratton Gould Fund

Paul Resika
Boats, Blue Square
1996–98
Oil on canvas
Gift of the Gallery Council

Dale Chihuly
*Pale Iris Seaform Set
with Honeysuckle Lip Wraps*
1997
Glass
Maurice R. and Maxine B.
Forman Fund

Jaune Quick-to-See Smith
Famous Names
1998
Oil, acrylic, collaged photographs
and mixed media on canvas
Gift of Thomas and Marion Hawks,
by exchange

Wendell Castle
Lord Dragonfly Chair
2001
Cherry and polychromed jetulong
Gift of Marion Hawks in honor
of Grant Holcomb, the Mary W.
and Donald R. Clark Director,
and the Bachman Fund

Anne Currier
First of June
2002
Ceramic
Given in memory of Barbara
Dague Powers by the Memorial
Art Gallery Docent Class of 2004
and her friends and family; the
Mabel Fenner Lyon Fund for
Ceramic Art and Maurice and
Maxine Forman Fund

Binh Danh
*Found Portraits Collection:
from the Cambodian Killing
Fields at Tuol Sleng*
2003
Chlorophyll prints on leaves
with resin
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

FOCUS ON ROCHESTER

Unknown, American
Colonel Nathaniel Rochester
before 1831
Oil on canvas
Gift of Thomas J. Watson

Charles Willson Jr.
*View of the Pitkin House
and East Avenue*
1859
Oil on canvas
Gift of Maurice R. Forman

Emily L. (Elizabeth) Smith
Skating on the Genesee
1862
Oil on canvas
Courtesy of the Rochester Histori-
cal Society, Rochester, New York

William Merritt Chase
Along the Canal
ca. 1884
Oil on wood panel
Gift of a friend of the Gallery

Robert Reid
Portrait of a Young Woman
1889
Oil on canvas
Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Michael L.
Watson

Willard L. Metcalf
The Golden Carnival
1910
Oil on canvas
Gift of Emily Sibley Watson

George Leonard Herdle
The Canal Boat
ca. 1910
Oil on canvas
Gift of Gertrude Herdle Moore and
Isabel C. Herdle

W. Elmer Schofield
Lower Falls
1915
Oil on canvas
Bequest of Mrs. Ernest R. Willard

Maxfield Parrish
Interlude (The Lute Players)
1922
Oil on linen canvas
Lent by the Eastman School of Mu-
sic of the University of Rochester

Fritz Trautman
Galaxy
1942
Oil on canvas
Marion Stratton Gould Fund

Wendell Castle
Last Judgment
2003
Mahogany, patinated brass
Clara and Edwin Strassenburgh Fund