JUDITH SCHAECHTER
CRAFT AS AN EXTREME SPORT

SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL SPOTLIGHT
ON 19TH-CENTURY WOMEN ARTISTS
SAVE THE DATE
AN ARTISTS’ AFFAIR
Saturday, May 30

to ignite creativity, stimulate learning, and enrich the lives of Rochester's schoolchildren.

IMAGE COURTESY OF JOHN SCHLIA
Over the last six months of my presidency, it has been such a pleasure for me to learn how profoundly the Memorial Art Gallery enriches our community, not only at the University of Rochester, but also in the city and the region. Even before I became president, one of my first stops in Rochester was at the MAG to see the marvelous Isaac Julien *Lessons of the Hour*—and to become a member!

Since then, I have toured the collections and overspent at the M&T Bank Clothesline Festival and the Fine Craft Show. I have also attended a number of events at MAG, including a memorable dinner with my family and friends on the eve of my inauguration in October. And I scheduled my first senior staff retreat in the Bausch & Lomb Parlor in August. As I have discovered, MAG is a rich and inspiring cultural institution, and it’s a great place to host a party or a meeting, too (and the food is delicious)! The entire MAG team works tirelessly to ensure that a visit to MAG—whether it is to take in the outstanding collection and be inspired by centuries of art, or to participate in a meeting or event—is always “picture perfect.”

One of my favorite new developments is the simply breathtaking installation of several works by Sam Gilliam in the entrance gallery. MAG is fortunate to be able to display these vibrant works of an artist who has been working for decades, but is now finally receiving the recognition he deserves. MAG is also fortunate that our director, Jonathan Binstock, has known and studied Mr. Gilliam for many years, so that we can be on the vanguard of celebrating Gilliam’s work, along with such prestigious institutions as Kunstmuseum Basel and the Dia Art Foundation.

I am looking forward to many more visits to MAG in the coming years, and to supporting this great community treasure in every way I can, as president, as a champion of Rochester, and as an art-lover!

Sarah C. Mangelsdorf
President, University of Rochester
Wednesday, February 5
4:30–7:00 PM | $15
**ESPECIALLY FOR EDUCATORS:**
*A New Focus on Diversity in MAG’s Permanent Collection*
Learn about MAG’s continued efforts to diversify the permanent collection to better reflect and serve Rochester with a tour of new acquisitions by MAG’s Director Jonathan Binstock, followed by a visit to see the new resources in the Teacher Resource Center.
*For art and classroom teachers. Please register at 585.276.8971 or cander35@mag.rochester.edu.*

Sunday, February 9
12:00–5:00 PM | Suggested $5 donation per group
**Black History Month Celebration**

Saturday, February 15
5:00 - 7:00 PM | **MEMBERS ONLY PATRON LEVEL AND ABOVE**
*The Path to Paradise: Judith Schaechter's Stained Glass Art Patron Members' Opening Party*

7:00 - 10:00 PM | **MEMBERS ONLY FAMILY AND INDIVIDUAL**
*The Path to Paradise: Judith Schaechter's Stained Glass Art Members' Opening Party*

Sunday, February 16
1:00 PM | Included with museum admission
**ARTIST LECTURE:**
*JUDITH SCHAECHTER’S STAINED-GLASS ART*
Join Judith Schaechter for an illustrated lecture exploring her career and her magical, ethereal, and other-worldly images.

3:00 PM | Included with museum admission
**FIVEBYFIVE PREMIERE PERFORMANCE OF GLASS WORKS**
Commissioned by fivebyfive for *The Path to Paradise: Judith Schaechter’s Stained-Glass Art*. The Glass Works project, a fivebyfive premiere concert is supported by New Music USA, the Eastman/ArtistShare New Artist Program, and the Decentralization Regrant Program of NYS.
Wednesday, February 26
4:30–7:00 PM | $15
ESPECIALLY FOR EDUCATORS:
Stained Glass and the Modern Art of Judith Schaechter
After visiting The Path to Paradise: Judith Schaechter’s Stained Glass Art, with MAG’s Curator in Charge/Curator of American Art Jessica Marten, artist Chelsea Anderson—a former employee of Rochester’s own historic Pike Stained Glass Studios—will share how stained glass windows are created, and lead a hands-on activity related to this traditional craft that can be used in your classroom.
For art and classroom teachers. Please register at 585.276.8971 or cander35@mag.rochester.edu.

Thursday, February 27
BIODANCE: BRIDGE TO PARADISE
7:00 PM | Free | M&T Bank Ballroom
Judith Schaechter’s work comes alive through a performance by BIODANCE and projected media by W. Michelle Harris.

Sunday, March 1
BIODANCE: BRIDGE TO PARADISE
2:00 PM | Free | M&T Bank Ballroom
Judith Schaechter’s work comes alive through a performance by BIODANCE and projected media by W. Michelle Harris.

Thursday, March 5
LECTURE: BREAKING BEAUTY: JUDITH SCHAECHTER AT MAG
7:00 PM | Included with museum admission
Join MAG curator Jessica Marten to learn more about the artist’s masterful practice, pioneering spirit, and distinctly American, feminist interventions into the history of contemporary art, craft, and the medium of stained glass.

Sunday, March 15
2:00 PM | Included with museum admission
Ja’Tovia Gary & Dessane Lopez Cassell in Conversation
Artist Ja’Tovia Gary and Hyperallergic’s Editor of Reviews, Dessane Lopez Cassell, discuss Gary’s work and her installation Giverny I (NÉGRESSE IMPÉRIALE).

Wednesday, March 18
4:30–7:00 PM | $15
ESPECIALLY FOR EDUCATORS: Drawing Towards Insight
In this workshop led by teaching artist and educator Joe Mangano, participants will leave with tools that enhance an understanding of themselves and facilitate communication in their personal and professional relationships.
For art and classroom teachers. Please register at 585.276.8971 or cander35@mag.rochester.edu.

FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON EVENTS, CLOSURES, AND CLASS CANCELLATIONS AT MAG, CHECK OUR WEBSITE MAG.ROCHESTER.EDU/CALENDAR.
THURSDAYS
5:00–9:00 PM
Half-Price Admission

• Docent Tours - 6:00 PM | Included with museum admission (no tour 2/20 & 3/19)

• February 6 and 13: De’VIA: The Manifesto Comes of Age Tours - 6:00 PM | Included with museum admission | These tours will be accessible to both Deaf and hearing audiences.

• February 20: Third Thursdays Organ Concert - 7:30 PM | Included with museum admission | Public Musick performs 17th century Italian and German chamber music for cornetto, violin, cello, and organ.

• March 19: Third Thursdays Organ Concert - 7:30 PM | Included with museum admission | Enjoy a performance by Kenneth Slowik, baroque cello, and William Porter, baroque organ.

• MAG DeTOURSM - 6:00 PM/$12 | Includes museum admission
  Purchase tickets online: mag.rochester.edu/events/detours
  February 20: Death, Decay, and Discovery in the Ancient World DeTOURSM
  March 5: Stare at Art with Ward DeTOURSM SPECIAL DATE
  March 19: Badass Babes: Women of MAG DeTOURSM

• Food & drink available for purchase from Brown Hound Downtown

FRIDAYS
1:00 PM
Docent-led tours
Included with museum admission

$5 Friday! 5:00–9:00 PM
February 28: Join us for screening of Suffragette in the Auditorium. Discounts in THE STORE @ MAG ($5 off a purchase of $35 or more*)
Art Social Activity: Transparent Stories: (Faux) Stained Glass Paper Painting inspired by Judith Schaechter, located in the Vanden Brul Pavilion | 6:15 PM, $20 per person
March 20: Join us for an enchanting evening of all things H.P. Don’t be a muggle and dress to impress! Discounts in THE STORE @ MAG ($5 off a purchase of $35 or more*)
(*not to be combined with other discounts)

SATURDAYS
KIDS CREATE DATES | 1:00-3:00 PM /$15 PER CHILD
Classes may be held in the Vanden Brul Pavilion or Creative Workshop. Please check in at the admission desk upon arrival for location.

SUNDAYS
Docent-led tours
1:00 PM | Included with museum admission

February 23: The Other Dutch Connection
Special tour led by docent Ellen Camfield

March 15: The Changing Landscape
Special tour led by docent Ellen Camfield

EVERY SUNDAY: 1:00 PM & 3:00 PM
Going For Baroque organ concerts | Included with museum admission

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CHITRA GANESH:
*Sultana’s Dream*

WRITTEN BY NANCY NORWOOD  
MAG CURATOR OF EUROPEAN ART

Chitra Ganesh, a multimedia artist based in Brooklyn, New York, was born and raised in a Hindu Indian immigrant family. This portfolio was inspired by the feminist utopian story *Sultana’s Dream*, a major writing of the Bengali educator and political activist Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain. Ganesh’s prints—27 black linocuts on tan paper—both illustrate elements of the early 20th-century text and use its imagery and themes to explore urgent topics of the political present.

Hossain’s 1905 short story begins in reverie: “One evening I was lounging in an easy chair in my bedroom and thinking lazily of the condition of Indian womanhood.” The narrator is soon led on a dreamlike stroll through Ladyland, a utopian matriarchy where women have harnessed the power of the sun to live prosperously and efficiently. Education and compassion for refugees are paramount, and men remain indoors. Ganesh’s imagery literally interprets certain moments from this pioneering work of feminist science fiction; it also describes and builds upon Ladyland’s architecture and environment.

Far from merely illustrating Hossain’s text, however, the portfolio, in the artist’s words, “connects with problems shaping 21st-century life: apocalyptic environmental disaster, the disturbing persistence of gender-based inequality, the power of the wealthy few against the economic struggles of the majority, and ongoing geopolitical conflicts that cause widespread death and suffering.” Like much of Ganesh’s work, *Sultana’s Dream* engages these subjects through the lens of history, literature, and mythology not only to examine the relationship between imagined and lived worlds but also to consider how utopian fantasies might be realized.

*On view from February 28 through June 14*

The Path to Paradise: Judith Schaechter's Stained-Glass Art is the first survey and major scholarly assessment of this groundbreaking artist's 37-year career. Her contributions and transgressions are distinctly American, feminist interventions into the history of contemporary art, craft, and the medium of stained glass.

Judith Schaechter (b. 1961) has stretched the medium of stained glass into an incisive art form for the twenty-first century. With deep respect for history, a provocative rebelliousness, and a feminist sensibility, Schaechter has aptly been called a “post-punk stained-glass sorceress.” Her meticulous and awe-inspiring stained-glass panels are intentional seductions, alternative visions of beauty, and radical statements of female experience.

Schaechter is well versed in the historic techniques of stained glass; however, her panels—hung from the wall in custom-made light boxes—are contemporary art forms that stand alone. With artistic influences as wide-ranging as pulp fiction covers, neuroscience, Northern Renaissance masters, MAD magazine, ancient mythology, and medieval manuscripts, Schaechter’s work calls for a process that is equally diverse, incorporating online image sourcing, intensive doodling, Photoshop acrobatics, and her innovative, masterful manipulation of glass. She thinks of her practice “as an extreme sport. I’m not messing around. I deliberately make it as hard as possible. . . .”
Organized by MAG, the exhibition will be on view in Rochester from February 16 to May 24, 2020, after which it will travel to Toledo Museum of Art and Des Moines Art Center. Over 40 of the artist’s stained-glass panels will be on view, along with a selection of related drawings, sketchbooks, and process materials. The exhibition is accompanied by an in-gallery documentary film, a catalog published by RIT Press and MAG, and programming that will take place throughout the run of the show, including a lecture by Schaechter at MAG on February 16.

ABOUT THE ARTIST
Judith Schaechter’s work is represented in over a dozen museums including the Carnegie Museum of Art, Corning Museum of Glass, Memorial Art Gallery, Mint Museum, Museum of Arts and Design, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Renwick Gallery, and Toledo Museum of Art. Her awards include two NEA Visual Artists’ Fellowships, a Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Award, a Joan Mitchell Foundation Painters and Sculptors Grant, a Guggenheim Fellowship, a USA Artists Fellowship, and an American Craft Council College of Fellows Award.

On view February 16 through May 24.

Lead support is provided by the Henry Luce Foundation, with additional funding from the Gallery Council of the Memorial Art Gallery, the Rubens Family Foundation, Pamela Miller Ness and Paul Marc Ness, Corning Incorporated Foundation, the Art Alliance for Contemporary Glass. The exhibition is also supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.
SUFFRAGIST CENTENNIAL SPOTLIGHT

WRITTEN BY LAUREN TAGLIAFERRO
MAG CURATORIAL ASSISTANT

All good things must come to an end, and after nearly two years at MAG, the David Hockney painting in the Cameros Gallery is finally going home to Art Bridges. In its place is a tribute to nineteenth-century women artists and the Suffrage movement. How would art history look if women artists were given the same veneration and acclaim as their male colleagues? This installation is in honor of the centennial celebration of the 19th amendment, which in 1920 gave women the right to vote.

Lilly Martin Spencer’s *Peeling Onions* is back in the gallery, along with other still lifes by women artists, and a landscape by Grandma Moses. Nineteenth-century women were encouraged from a young age to be artistic, but not to become artists. However, many women did succeed as artists, and were prolifically talented. Some women artists of means even studied under famous painters, but few rose to the fame and fortune of their male counterparts.

Women’s needlecraft was considered to be mere hobby, meant as a wholesome preoccupation until marriage. MAG’s installation of impressive embroidery from the permanent collection reflects the incredible ability of these unknown women, and a contemporary glass sculpture by Elizabeth Lyons illustrates the masterful skill of a contemporary, local artist.

Also on view are Suffrage and anti-Suffrage postcards that illustrate the struggle of women who fought for voting rights, as well as the propaganda of those who worked against them.

THE CREATIVE WORKSHOP IS ROCHESTER’S ART SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES.

SPRING 2020 ART CLASSES

REGISTRATION BEGINS MARCH 2 (MEMBERS 2/24)
CLASSES START APRIL 13

ENJOY A $10 DISCOUNT DURING THE CREATIVE WORKSHOP OPEN HOUSE, SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1:00–4:00 PM!

SEE OUR NEW ART CLASSES TAUGHT IN AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL)
For more information
For more information about programming, events, tours, and all things MAG, visit our website at mag.rochester.edu, or follow us on social media: @MAG_Rochester (Twitter), magrochester (Instagram, Facebook)

Accessibility
Wheelchairs are available in the Vanden Brul Pavilion coatroom. The auditorium is equipped with an assistive listening system made possible by the Mark and Bobbie Hargrave Hard of Hearing Fund of the Rochester Area Community Foundation, the MAG community access endowment fund, and an anonymous donor. To schedule a sign language interpreter or touch tour for the blind, or to request a braille or text calendar, contact cander35@mag.rochester.edu (585.276.8971). People who are deaf or hard of hearing may call via relay service. We also offer a special cell phone tour for the visually impaired.

Thank you to our Sponsors
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*Half-price Thursday admission after 5 pm is made possible in part by Monroe County.