



Museum Herald

A PUBLICATION OF THE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM

2011 EDITION

New Art Museum Director Named

La Salle University welcomes Klare Scarborough, Ph.D., as the new Director and Chief Curator of the Art Museum. Scarborough brings to La Salle an academic specialization in the history of art, with a focus on modern and contemporary art, as well as a professional background in development and museum management.

"An accomplished scholar, administrator, and fundraiser, Klare will prove to be invaluable as the University looks to raise the visibility of the Art Museum's collection throughout the community," said Joseph R. Marbach, Ph.D., Provost at La Salle University. "Her expertise fits perfectly with the Art Museum's wide-ranging collection."

Scarborough will provide the overall strategy for the Art Museum's exhibition and education programs and care and conservation of the permanent collection, as well as oversee fundraising and acquisitions for the collection.

"The La Salle Art Museum has such a wealth of history and culture for visitors to experience," Scarborough said. "One of the things that most impresses me about the collection is how each piece was consciously chosen over the years specifically to be part of a teaching museum—not just for art history students, but for all disciplines."

Scarborough earned her doctorate in history of art from Bryn Mawr College. She has a master's degree from Rutgers University and a bachelor's degree from the Newcomb College at Tulane University. Scarborough also studied in Italy for a year at the University of Florence. In addition to her prior work experience at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, she has taught college-level courses in history of art, visual communication, and African art at local colleges.

—Amy Gardner Cranston, M.A. '09

Spotlight on Recent Art Acquisitions

We would like to thank the individuals who have made donations of museum-quality artwork this past year. We appreciate your support as we work to improve and expand our collection.



Kota Reliquary Figure, Gabon, Africa, late 19th-early 20th century. Gift of Yvonne Shafer Chamberlain.

Greetings!

As the new Director and Chief Curator of the La Salle University Art Museum, it is my pleasure to inaugurate the first issue of the *Art Museum Herald*, our summer newsletter. The newsletter provides a report on the Art Museum's activities



Art Museum Director Klare Scarborough and Art Museum Founder Brother Daniel Burke, F.S.C., at a welcome reception.

in 2010–2011 and a preview of the exciting new exhibitions and educational programs scheduled for the coming academic year. It also offers a glimpse into our ongoing conservation efforts to ensure that the artworks in our collection will be conserved for future generations to study and enjoy.

In my first three months at La Salle, I have learned a great deal about the Art Museum, the University community, and the larger Germantown and North Philadelphia communities in which we are situated. I have met many dedicated alumni supporters, as well as artists, collectors, dealers, and appraisers—all of whom have a great appreciation for the Art Museum and its world-class collections. I still have not met all of you, so please take the opportunity to introduce yourself on your next visit to the Art Museum.

Signage

Have you noticed the Art Museum's new signage? Designed to coordinate with the Art Museum's award-winning Web site, the new signage marks a bold entrance path for visitors—from the flashy new banner outside of Olney Hall, to the bright placard on the stairwell landing, to the large iconic sign at the lower-level entrance to the Art Museum. This collaborative project involved the Office of University Communications, the Signage Committee, and Facilities Management. Special thanks to Matthew Chverchko, Brother Joseph Willard, F.S.C., Chris Sorensen, Tuyen Nguyen, Mike Niemiec, Joe Laudadio, and Paul Wojcik.

News on Exhibitions

This past year, we featured exhibitions by Sidney Goodman, Benton Spruance, and Moe Brooker in our Special Exhibitions Gallery. We also participated in the Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts (PIFA) with an exhibition, *Paris Prints c. 1890–1939*, comprised of works from our permanent collection. Our summer exhibition is a collaborative piece by Jeremy Waltman and Matt Miley. (For a video trailer, see <http://www.vimeo.com/23514379>.)

This coming year, we will begin the fall semester with our fourth annual exhibition of artworks by faculty who are professional artists. Following this, we will present an exhibition of paintings by Sarah Hunter, whose whimsical compositions place animals, often modeled by toy figurines, in settings that suggest flat, collage-like planes and the dioramas the artist encountered working at the Academy of Natural Sciences.

Our winter exhibition of work by Jane Irish draws upon the artist's eight years of research in the Connelly Library special collection *Imaginative Representations of the Vietnam War*. In her large scroll-like paintings, wash drawings, and ceramic vessels, Irish utilizes documentary photographs and poetry by veterans from the library's collection as well as landscape studies that she created during two

CURRENT AND UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS FOR 2011–2012:

- Jeremy Waltman and Matt Miley: *When She Strikes*, June 21–Aug. 11, 2011
- Fourth Annual Art Faculty exhibition, Aug. 29–Sept. 9, 2011
- Sarah Hunter, Sept. 22–Dec. 2, 2011
- Jane Irish, Dec. 15, 2011–March 2, 2012
- Andy Warhol Portraits, March 15–June 1, 2012

trips to Vietnam, 18th-century Vietnamese poetry, and depictions of Rococo interiors referencing the French colonization of Vietnam.

Then in spring 2012, we will exhibit a selection of Polaroids and black and white 8-by-10s that we acquired in 2008 as part of the Andy Warhol Photographic Legacy Program. The Polaroids in particular display Warhol's obsession with celebrity and provide a historical "snapshot" of New York high society in the 1970s and 1980s, featuring movie stars, art collectors, fashion designers, athletes, and socialites. The Polaroids also provide insights into the artist's working methods and his portraiture business during this period.

Conservation Updates

Following the recommendations of an Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)-funded conservation survey of paintings, drawings, and watercolors conducted in 2009, we are actively seeking support to conserve the Art Museum's collections, with the highest priority given to artworks currently on display that are in greatest need of stabilization.

In 2010, with project support from IMLS, we began treatment of a large painting in the Renaissance Gallery, *Landscape with Pilgrims at a Grotto* (1620), by Flemish painter Joos de Momper, which was in need of immediate stabilization. Independent conservator Steven



Erisoty is currently consolidating areas where paint is actively flaking; removing in-painted, old varnishes and grime; and applying new conservation-quality varnishes. The treatment will enhance the appearance of the painting but, more importantly, will stop the deterioration. The Museum is contributing 50 percent of the project's cost, mostly from Art Angels donations. See our conservation page on the Art Museum's Web site at www.lasalle.edu/museum.

In 2010, we were also awarded a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to support a conservation survey of 145 Indian miniatures in the Art Museum's permanent collection. The conservator found that 63 percent of the works surveyed were in need of urgent treatment to prevent further degradation.

Early in 2011, the Art Museum received an American Heritage Preservation Grant (a special initiative between IMLS and Bank of America) to fund the cost of archival matting and glazing for 12 drawings dating from the Renaissance to the 20th century. There are, however, additional conservation needs associated with the project.

Thus, the Art Museum is investigating a range of funding opportunities to support the conservation needs identified in the IMLS- and NEH-funded surveys. We are committed to the conservation and care of artworks in the collection for future generations to study and enjoy.

Joos de Momper (1564–1635), Flemish, *Landscape with Pilgrims at a Grotto*, oil on canvas, 55 inches by 66 inches.

Education and Community Outreach Programs

This past year, the Education and Community Outreach programs served 2,200 youth and adults. We engaged classes from 21 individual pre-K–12 schools (in addition to summer youth programs) through a combination of free year-round, in-gallery outreach and multiple-visit programs. We reconnected with previous partners, including the Cultural Arts Center at Philadelphia Developmental Disabilities Corporation (PDDC) and Central High School, and we also added new partners, such as Young Scholars Frederick Douglass Charter School.

In March, we hosted the annual Archdiocese of Philadelphia High School Art Exhibition in our Community Art Gallery, featuring work by more than 150 students from 18 Catholic high schools. The opening was attended by more than 120 people, including parents, students, teachers, school administrators, and La Salle University leaders. We are currently showcasing more than 50 pieces of artwork by La Salle University digital arts and multimedia design students through the end of the summer.

We look forward to another fantastic year in 2011–2012. In addition to our regular roster of education and community outreach programs, we are excited about a new partnership with Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania to offer two Saturday programs in the Art Museum. Each gallery lesson will be based on a theme that is relevant for the girls and will be accompanied by art-making activities.

This fall, we are pleased to present the annual PDDC Cultural Collaborations exhibition in our Community Art Gallery. Looking into spring 2012, we have already scheduled the next annual Archdiocesan High School Art Exhibition, with the opening reception and awards ceremony taking place on March 17, 2012.

We look forward to continuing our Education and Community Outreach programs in the coming year and to expanding the services we offer with our network of community partnerships. We will also continue to seek funding support for our pre-K–12 educational programs to subsidize the transportation costs of Art Museum visits for qualified schools with low-income students.

Community Outreach and Cultural Partnerships

We are proud to be an active member of Historic Germantown (HG) and look forward to working with HG's new Executive Director, Barbara Hogue. We are also pleased to be part of the North Philadelphia Art and Cultural Alliance, and to participate in collaborative ventures such as the Philadelphia International Festival of the Arts celebration this past spring. We have recently entered a relationship with WHYY through their MemberCard program. Finally, we are excited about our partnership with the Violette de Mazia Foundation and look forward to hosting their Informed Perception classes in the Art Museum galleries.

Spotlight on Interns

This year the Art Museum had its first museum education intern. Clara Menton, '11, received internship credits as she worked with the Curator of Education to learn more about the field of museum education and to develop age-appropriate school and family programs. Some of Menton's many tasks included teaching pre-K–12 classes in the galleries, developing a family self-guided tour called "Discovering Mary in Art," and developing a word search of artists in our collection. Upon graduation, Menton embarked on a prestigious summer internship in the Philadelphia Museum of Art's Division of Education. We are very proud of her and wish her the best of luck!



Museum education intern Clara Menton, '11.

Spotlight on Schools



The fourth-grade class at the Young Scholars Frederick Douglass Charter School.

The fourth-grade class from Young Scholars Frederick Douglass Charter School visited the Art Museum twice this year—once in the fall and once in the spring. During each visit, they had lunch in the Union and explored the campus. They enjoyed La Salle University so much that, after returning to their classroom, they learned the Explorers fight song, designed their own cheers, and made their own La Salle T-shirts for their Pennsylvania System of School Assessment Prep Rally! We look forward to continuing our partnership with the Young Scholars Frederick Douglass Charter School.



ART MUSEUM

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Art Angels and the Brother Daniel Burke Endowment Fund

We would like to thank contributors to the Art Angels Fund for their generous support this past year. Your gifts are placed in an unrestricted account, which means that we can direct the funds to projects with the greatest needs, such as conservation, exhibitions, and educational programs. We would also like to thank contributors to the Brother Daniel Burke Endowment Fund, which generates income to support vital educational needs of the Art Museum. Please contact the Art Museum Director for information about donating to either of these funds, or send your check directly to the La Salle University Art Museum, 1900 West Olney Avenue, Box 809, Philadelphia, PA 19141, with "ART MUSEUM" and the fund name on the memo line.

Art Museum Hours

Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday by appointment.
Closed on Fridays from June through August.

Please call ahead during summer and University holidays to confirm hours.

Art Museum Contact Information

Art Museum Phone: 215.951.1221
E-Mail: artmuseum@lasalle.edu
Web site: www.lasalle.edu/museum

Electronic Communications

Please help us conserve resources. Sign up for our e-mail updates at artmuseum@lasalle.edu. Also, let us know if you would like to receive future newsletters by e-mail only.

Admission and Group Tours

Admission is free. Group tours are given by appointment. Please call the Art Museum to make special arrangements for large groups of visitors.

Art Museum Staff

Klare Scarborough, Director and Chief Curator; Carmen Vendelin, Curator of Art; Miranda Clark-Binder, Curator of Education; Michele Mesisca, Museum Assistant

Volunteers

Robert Croker, Nora Pincus Schwarz

Committee for the Arts

William E. Kelly Jr. (Chair), Brother James L. Butler, F.S.C., Daniel K. Fitzpatrick, Brother Brian Henderson, F.S.C., Laura Kind McKenna, James J. Smart; *Ex Officio*: Brother Michael J. McGinniss, F.S.C., William Sautter, Dennis Boylan, Alice L. Hoersch, Joseph Marbach, Klare Scarborough

Advisory Council

Dennis Boylan (Chair), Paul Brazina, Camille DiLullo, Amelia Longo, John D. Rilling, Nora Pincus Schwarz, Robert M. Vogel, Thomas P. Witt



Art Museum staff (from left) Carmen Vendelin, Klare Scarborough, Michele Mesisca, and Miranda Clark-Binder.