



Museum Herald

A PUBLICATION OF THE LA SALLE UNIVERSITY ART MUSEUM

2013 EDITION

Looking Outward

La Salle University Art Museum's galleries feature masterpieces of Western art from the Renaissance to the present. In building the core collection of Western art, museum founder Brother Daniel Burke, F.S.C., also had the foresight to create special collections of non-Western and ancient art through generous gifts of artwork from local collectors, including Margaret Webster Plass, Benjamin D. Bernstein, Alan and Leeza Silverstein, Alvin O. Bellak, and Daniel and Helen Gaudin. Over the years, these special collections have played an important role in educating La Salle students, pre-K–12 schoolchildren, and general public audiences about the art, religions, politics, and economic systems of Africa, India, Japan, the ancient Mediterranean, and the pre-Columbian Americas.

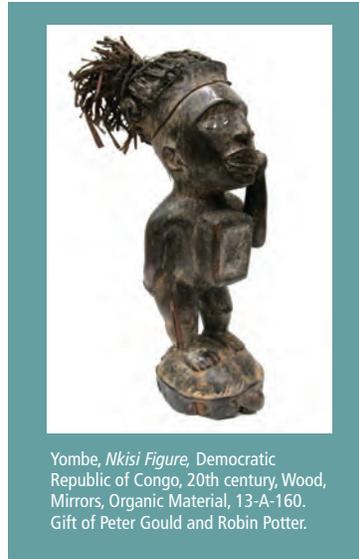
Today, under the leadership of Art Museum Director and Chief Curator Klare Scarborough, Ph.D., the core collection of Western art continues to expand, but there is also a strategic impetus to grow the special collections in an effort to promote public understanding of art within an interconnected global framework. As La Salle University launches a new international initiative and establishes a Center for International Education, it is now more important than ever to provide our students with the educational resources and tools to foster an appreciation of artistic and cultural diversity and a reciprocal respect among people of different religious faiths and heritages. For La Salle's international students in Philadelphia who are far from their homelands, and for La Salle's American students who undertake

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.



Tang Dynasty, *Farmhouse*, China, c. 617 to 906 CE, Unglazed Terracotta, 12-O-366. Gift of Ann and Robert Walzer in Honor of Brian Dursum.



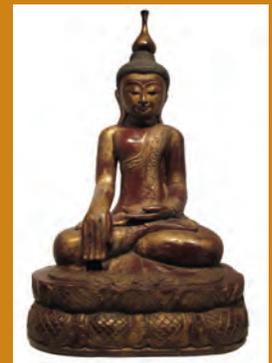
Yombe, *Nkisi Figure*, Democratic Republic of Congo, 20th century, Wood, Mirrors, Organic Material, 13-A-160. Gift of Peter Gould and Robin Potter.

study abroad and travel/study courses, the Art Museum's special collections offer opportunities for gaining new knowledge, self-affirmation, and intercultural understanding.

Through our special collections, as well as our temporary rotating exhibitions, the Art Museum also strives to serve our wider public audiences within an urban area that is becoming increasingly multicultural. With new American citizens emigrating from diverse international locations,

the Art Museum's Education and Community Outreach Program aims to address the needs of our evolving communities. Last year, the Art Museum had more than 7,000 visitors and received grants from city and state agencies, as well as private foundations, in support of our public educational programs. In the 300-year-old Catholic Lasallian tradition of improving social justice by providing educational opportunities to the poor, the Art Museum is firmly committed to serving as a resource to underserved populations in its own neighborhood as well as within the broader Philadelphia community.

Currently on display in the Art Museum's main hallway display cases is a selection of 75 artworks from Africa, Asia, the ancient Mediterranean, and the pre-Columbian Americas. We hope that you will find the opportunity to visit the Art Museum soon to learn more about our special collections, to expand your intellectual horizons, and to explore the beautiful and fascinating world in which we live.



Mandalay Buddha, Burma, late 19th century, 13-O-367. Gift of Cornelia Tsakiridou in memory of Eugenia (Tzeny) Gavriilidou.

News on Exhibitions

This past year, we presented exhibitions showcasing La Salle faculty artists, Williamsport artist Howard Tran, European Symbolist prints, and late Philadelphia artist Charles Searles. Exhibition catalogues for both the *Strategic Ambiguity: The Obscure, Nebulous, and Vague in Symbolist Prints* and *Charles Searles: The Mask of Abstraction* exhibitions are available on Lulu.com and Amazon.com. The Symbolist catalogue includes essays written by the Curator of Art and La Salle faculty and catalogue entries by La Salle graduates Rachel McCay, '10, and Emily Levy, '12. The Charles Searles catalogue includes essays written by students from La Salle University, Chestnut Hill College, and Temple University.

In the coming year, our fall solo exhibition will present drawings, paintings, prints, and sculpture by New York artist Jeff. To complement the exhibition themes, we have invited Princeton professor John Pinto to speak on Piranesi's *Carceri* series of imaginary prisons and historic site researcher Annie Anderson to talk about the history of solitary confinement at Eastern State Penitentiary.

CURRENT AND UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS FOR 2013–2014:

- *Jeff: Coffins and Cages*, Sept. 19–Dec. 6, 2013
- *Printmakers of the Baroque: 17th-Century Explorations of Space and Light*, Dec. 16, 2013–Feb. 28, 2014
- *American Scenes: WPA-Era Prints of the 1930s and 1940s*, March 12–May 30, 2014

The winter exhibition of 17th-century Baroque prints will be co-curated by associate professor and Fine Arts Department Chair Susan Dixon. The exhibition will complement a course on 17th-century art history that Dixon will teach in the spring during the run of the exhibition.

The spring 2014 exhibition will feature American prints of the 1930s and 1940s, including work by Works Progress Administration artists loaned from the Free Library of Philadelphia. The artworks will cover a wide range of subject matter, including depictions of urban and rural landscapes, leisure activities, labor, and industrialization. The imagery reveals the effects of the Dust Bowl and the Great Depression, the promise of progress, and the resilience of the American spirit.

Conservation Updates

Continuing the work supported by a 2011–2012 award, six additional paintings are being conserved with funds generously provided by the Stockman Family Foundation. The six paintings identified as needing treatment in a 2009 Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS)-supported conservation survey are: Paduan School, *Man of Sorrows*, 15th century; Richard Cosway, R.A., *Lady Elizabeth Foster*, 18th century; Edith Emerson, *Recessional*, 1914; Julius Bloch, *Man in a Blue Shirt*, 1945; and Alma W. Thomas, *Still Life*, 1956, and *Female Nude Standing*, c. 1950s. Because the wood-panel *Man of Sorrows* would be vulnerable to damage in transport, the paintings conservator will treat the work where it hangs in the gallery in early October. The gallery will be open to the public, and visitors will be able to view the work in progress. This circumstance presents a unique opportunity to educate our audiences about paintings conser-



Alma Thomas (American, 1891–1978), *Female Nude Standing*, c. 1950s, Oil on Canvas, 94-P-413. Gift of Joseph N. Gennett. Conserved with support from the Stockman Family Foundation.

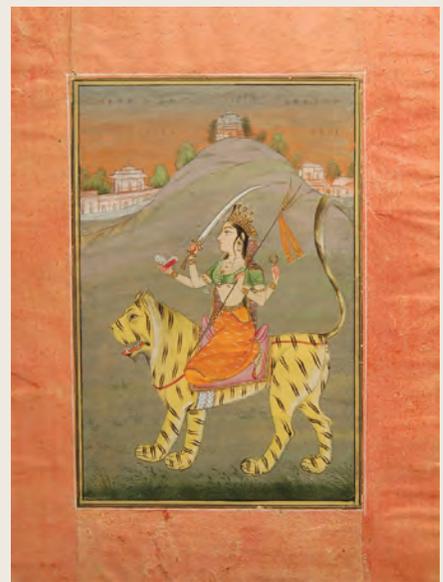
vation. On Oct. 1, Curator of Art Carmen Vendelin will give a presentation detailing the history of conservation activities at the Art Museum in conjunction with the conservation work in the gallery. In 2010, the Art Museum hired a private conservator to survey the Art Museum's collection of Indian miniatures with grant funds provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Indian miniaturists employ a variety of water-based pigments. Because some damage to the media cannot be seen with the naked eye, it was essential to hire a specialist to look at the works under magnification. This year, 26 Indian miniatures are being treated with generous support from the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation. La Salle's collection of 163 Indian miniatures date from the 15th to the 20th centuries. The works being conserved are from the northwestern Indian Rajasthan state and other nearby northern states.

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Rajasthan, Bikaner School, *The Great Goddess Seated on a Tiger*, c. 1780, Opaque Watercolor, Gold, Silver, on Paper, 93-O-185 (19). Gift of Dr. Alvin O. Bellak. Conserved with support from the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation.

Education and Community Outreach Programs

This past year, the Education and Community Outreach programs served about 2,800 schoolchildren. The programs engaged classes from area schools and summer youth programs through a combination of free, year-round, in-gallery, outreach, and multiple-visit programs.

The Charles Searles exhibition was especially popular among schoolchildren and brought exciting new opportunities for educational programming. Visiting school groups participated in guided lessons on topics such as patterns, movement, and rhythm in art. Lessons primarily focused on the many patterns found in Searles' artwork and the influence of music on his paintings and sculptures. Art-making activities explored these topics with a particular emphasis on patterns.

In April, we hosted the annual Archdiocese of Philadelphia High School Art Exhibition in our Community Art Gallery, featuring work by more than 200 students from 18 Catholic high schools. La Salle University President Brother Michael J. McGinniss, F.S.C., presented welcoming remarks at the awards ceremony, attended by more than 200 people, including parents, students, teachers, school administrators, and La Salle University leaders. We have already scheduled the next annual Archdiocesan High School Art Exhibition, with the opening reception and awards ceremony taking place on April 5, 2014.

We look forward to another fantastic year ahead, as we continue to grow our Education and Community Outreach programs and expand the services we offer with our network of community partnerships. We are particularly excited about the opportunity to pilot a new lesson this coming year as part of the History Hunters Youth Reporter Program, administered by Stenton under the auspices of the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Spotlight on Partnerships

On May 29, 2013, the Art Museum held a special educational event in the Dan Rodden Theatre featuring acclaimed storyteller Charlotte Blake Alston, which was attended by more than 275 students and their teachers from partner schools who visit repeatedly each year: Ziegler Elementary School, Young Scholars Frederick Douglass School, Logan Elementary School, Lingelbach Elementary School, and Holy Cross Catholic School. Supporters for this event included the Philadelphia Cultural Fund, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, the Samuel S. Fels Fund, and the Dolfinger-McMahon Foundation.



Charlotte Blake Alston performed at La Salle University on May 29, 2013.

Spotlight on Interns

The Art Museum engaged two La Salle University undergraduate interns in spring 2013. Irene Martinez, '14, worked as a curatorial intern and earned course credits through the Fine Arts Department, and Taylor Strickland, '14, worked as a museum education intern and earned course credits through the Education Department. We wish both of these students well in their future careers in the arts.



Museum Education Intern
Taylor Strickland, '14



Museum Education Intern
Irene Martinez, '14

Spotlight on Schools



The bulletin board at Young Scholars Frederick Douglas Charter School.

A bulletin board at Young Scholars Frederick Douglas Charter School proudly displays patterned artwork made by fourth grade students, created during their visit to the Charles Searles exhibition at the La Salle University Art Museum.



ART MUSEUM

1900 West Olney Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
19141-1199 USA

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 Advancement Office, Box 809, 1900 West Olney Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19141, with Art Angels or Brother Daniel Endowment Fund in the memo line. Another option is to make an online donation at explorersconnect.lasalle.edu/artmuseum.

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 months 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 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; Rebecca Oviedo, Museum Assistant

Volunteers

Robert Croker, Emily Levy, Rachel McCay, 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., Patricia D. Wellenbach; *Ex Officio*: Brother Michael J. McGinniss, F.S.C., William Sautter, Alice L. Hoersch, Joseph Marbach, Klare Scarborough

Advisory Council

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



Charles Searles (American, 1937-2004), *Hopscotch*, 2004, Bronze, 13-SC-72. Donated by Kathleen Spicer from the Searles/Spicer Estate.