Many Styles, Many Media

6 | Carlos Mérida

Why Do Camels Have Two Humps?

11 | Art Works

SUMMER | 2016

ART NOW
SAN ANTONIO MUSEUM of ART
Anatomy of...

[A Rodin Sculpture]

Who is this?
It’s John the Baptist, but it is hard to tell because he’s depicted without his customary emblems, such as a camel-skin robe, a cross, or a lamb or scroll with the words “Behold the Lamb of God.” The only reference to St John’s preaching on the coming of Christ is the gesturing arm, pointing to His arrival.

Why is it so realistic?
Rodin preferred a style that captured every detail of his model, warts and all. The man who posed for this sculpture was an Italian peasant named Pignatelli, who stumbled into Rodin’s studio looking for work. Rodin saw in this rough, hairy fellow the physical strength and character of a man of nature, a visionary, a believer, such as St. John the Baptist.

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What does the texture say about Rodin’s technique?
Rodin was basically a modeler—he worked obsessively in clay, wax, or plaster until he perfected his vision for a sculpture. In the bronze’s texture you can see Rodin’s hands at work modeling the clay, working the rough surface, gouging out the deep curls, eyes, and mouth. You can even find his fingerprints!

Who could hold this pose for long?
Rodin cared more for expression than for exact anatomical representation. The position of the two legs makes it impossible for the model to hold that pose for very long—just stand by the sculpture and try it!

Why is this a complete figure?
If you look around the gallery, you’ll see a striking number of body parts—hands, torsos, heads. Rodin explored partial depictions of the body, and he championed the idea that a body fragment could represent powerful human expressions. Rodin may have conceived St. John as part of a larger monument. It is one of his most popular full-size sculptures.

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2016–2017
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From the Director
Dear Members,

I was delighted to learn that our upcoming exhibition Highest Heaven was included in The New York Times’ “Spring Round Up” of the most intriguing exhibitions happening across the country. Highest Heaven tells a wonderful story of the way that art was used in colonial South America to educate converts—both willing and unwilling—to the Catholic faith. The exhibition also complements our strong permanent collection of Latin American art, one of the jewels of our Museum.

This summer the Museum will break ground on some important construction projects to safeguard our collections and improve the experience for our visitors. When it is all finished in 2017, you’ll enjoy a refurbished auditorium, refreshed restrooms, and an elegant gallery dedicated to European art.

Most importantly, the physical plant that controls the delicate balance of humidity and temperature throughout our beautiful old building will move to a new facility across Jones Avenue, giving us first-rate climate control for our art collections. We could not have achieved this project without major support from the 2012 city bond approved by San Antonio voters. We are grateful to our friends from across the state for many donations, large and small, that made this work possible. Thank you.

We will have some intermittent disruptions as we accomplish this important work, but all permanent galleries except for the European galleries will remain open. Our contemporary galleries were just reinstalled and enhanced by strategic loans from collectors around San Antonio and the state. We have also dedicated a section of our American galleries to works by Texas artists. Come and see our treasures.

Katie
Katherine C. Luber, PhD
The Kelso Director

ON THE COVER:
Attributed to Cristóbal Lozano (Peruvian, 1705–1776)
Rosa de Salazar y Gabiño, Countess of Monteblanco
and Montemar, 1764–1771
Oil on canvas, h. 37 13/16 in. (94.5 cm); w. 29 3/4 in. (75.6 cm), Roberta and Richard Huber Collection
Photograph by Graydon Wood, Philadelphia Museum of Art
Highest Heaven explores the artworks of the Altiplano, or high plains of South America, in the 18th century. Through the work of both well-regarded masters and lesser-known artists, the exhibition highlights the role of art in establishing new city centers in the Spanish and Portuguese Empires and propagating the Christian faith among indigenous peoples. Highest Heaven is drawn exclusively from the collection of Roberta and Richard Huber, who first discovered the art and antiquities of the Spanish and Portuguese Empires when Richard Huber moved to Buenos Aires for work in 1962. The couple’s love for the period grew as they traveled and lived in other areas of South America.
The exhibition features more than 100 works, including religious paintings, carved and gilded wooden sculptures, intimate ivories, and silverwork—all originally housed in ecclesiastical and private collections. Most were created for functional purposes, as religious or civic symbols, and were displayed in a manner that enhanced religious understanding, brought social order, and spurred conversion among colonial populations. Together they reveal a distinct visual language created by the cultural and creative exchanges that occurred between Spain and Portugal and their South American colonies.

“In contrast to other areas of Spanish colonial scholarship, such as New Spain (present-day Southwestern United States, Mexico, and Central America), much less is known about the artists and workshop practices in colonial South America,” said Director Katie Luber. “Collectors are often the first to blaze the trail of discovery, and then the scholarship follows. A show like Highest Heaven opens up avenues of investigation. That’s part of what is so exciting about this exhibition. We look forward to engaging our community with this work, which we think will have particular meaning in San Antonio.”

Highest Heaven: Spanish and Portuguese Colonial Art from the Collection of Roberta and Richard Huber is organized by the San Antonio Museum of Art and curated by Marion Oettinger Jr., Curator of Latin American Art, and William Keyse Rudolph, Mellon Chief Curator and Marie and Hugh Half Curator of American Art. The exhibition will travel to the Crocker Art Museum in Sacramento and to the Worcester Art Museum. The Museum is producing an exhibition catalogue, which will be available in the Museum Shop.

This exhibition is generously supported by the Elizabeth Huth Coates Charitable Foundation of 1982.
“STYLISTICALLY, HE WORE MANY HATS,” said Curator of Latin American Art Marion Oettinger Jr. of Carlos Mérida (1891–1984), “He created a long, important legacy of pioneering art.” Born in Guatemala, the artist paid homage to his own pre-Columbian roots through figurative illustrations of the ancient Maya world and the indigenous populations of his youth, then went on to become one of Mexico’s first successful abstract artists.

Mérida lived and worked in Mexico for much of his life. One of his earliest projects in Mexico City was working as an assistant to Diego Rivera on his great mural at the National Preparatory School. In 1910, he visited Paris and became intrigued by avant-garde artists, such as Amadeo Modigliani and Pablo Picasso. Mérida returned to Europe in the late 1920s, and fell under the influence of surrealism, constructivism, and geometric abstraction. By the 1940s, he had distanced himself from the Mexican social realism that was dominant for much of the 20th century.

Over the years, the Museum has acquired excellent examples of Mérida’s works, showing his diversity of themes and media and his progression as an artist—from his 1927 Images of Guatemala to his 1936 Birds of Paradise and his 1965 Los Tres Reyes. In 2014, the Museum acquired an important set of original gouaches used for Mérida’s popular 1941 Mexican Costume portfolio of serigraphs. The exhibition features nearly 30 works.

For a preview, visit the impressive glass mosaic mural Mérida made for HemisFair ‘68—it has recently been reinstalled in San Antonio’s new Convention Center.

Carlos Mérida: Selections from the Permanent Collection
July 8, 2016–January 29, 2017
Golden Gallery
MAY | JUNE 2016

Visit samuseum.org for calendar updates

EVERY TUESDAY & SUNDAY

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<td>Young Friends: LOOP Mega Mixer</td>
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11 | THURSDAY

Homeschool Student Workshop
9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00-3:30 p.m.
Register: jessica.nelson@samuseum.org

Art to Lunch
12:30-1:00 p.m.

Young Friends: LOOP Mega Mixer
5:30-8:30 p.m.

20 | FRIDAY

Art History 201: Mickalene Thomas
6:00–7:30 p.m.

Family Flicks: Ernest and Celestine
Sundown | Free

21 | SATURDAY

Members-Only Tour: Rodin—The Human Experience
Tours: 10:00-10:45 a.m. and 11:00-11:45 a.m.
RSVP: 210.978.8123 or at samuseum.org/calendar

22 | SUNDAY

National Art Museum Day
FREE General Admission
10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

24 | TUESDAY

Sketching in the Galleries
6:00–8:00 p.m.
Free for members | $10 non-members

Art Fit: Art + Exercise
6:00–7:00 p.m.

25 | WEDNESDAY

Playdates: Chinese Bats
10:00–10:45 a.m.
Register: samuseum.org/calendar

27 | FRIDAY

Lecture: Rodin and the Nude by Sabin Howard
6:00–7:00 p.m.

Friends of European Art and Institute of Classical Architecture and Art Reception
7:00–8:00 p.m.

29 | SUNDAY

Exhibition Closing Rodin—The Human Experience
6:00–8:00 p.m.
Free for members | $10 non-members

JUNE

1 | WEDNESDAY

Playdates: Yummy Yellow
10:00-10:45 a.m. and 11:00–11:45 a.m.
Register: samuseum.org/calendar

3 | FRIDAY

Film on the Green: Pan’s Labyrinth
6:00–7:30 p.m.

4 | SATURDAY

Tour for Visitors Who are Blind or Visually Impaired
10:00-11:00 a.m.
Free | Register: 210.978.8138

5 | SUNDAY

Summer Teacher Institute: Art at 360°
14-17 | TUESDAY – FRIDAY
9:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m. and 1:00–3:30 p.m.
Register: samuseum.org/learn/educators

6 | FRIDAY

Lecture: Corita Kent and the New Catholicism of the 1960s by Thomas Crow, PhD
5:00–6:00 p.m.

7 | SATURDAY

Tour for Visitors Who are Blind or Visually Impaired
10:00-11:00 a.m.
Free | Register: 210.978.8138

8 | TUESDAY

Gallery Talks: Special Exhibitions
5:30–6:30 p.m.

9 | THURSDAY

Member Opening Reception: Highest Heaven
6:00–8:00 p.m.
$30 Members | Free for Circle Members
RSVP: 210.978.8123 or samuseum.org/memberreception

10 | FRIDAY

Member Preview Day: Highest Heaven
10:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m.
Tours 1:00 & 2:00 p.m.
Art Party: Egyptomania
Party: 6:00–8:00 p.m.
Gallery Talks: 5:30, 6:15, and 7:15 p.m.

11 | SATURDAY

Exhibition Opening: Highest Heaven
12 | SUNDAY

Collector’s Conversation: Roberta and Richard Huber on Highest Heaven
3:00–4:00 p.m.

14 | TUESDAY

Sketching in the Galleries
6:00–8:00 p.m.
Free for members | $10 non-members

Art Fit: Art + Exercise
6:00–7:00 p.m.

14–17 | TUESDAY – FRIDAY

Summer Teacher Institute: Art at 360°
10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
$45 members | $80 non-members
Register: samuseum.org/learn/educators

15 | WEDNESDAY

Playdates: Wings
10:00-10:45 a.m. and 11:00–11:45 a.m.
Register: samuseum.org/calendar

17 | FRIDAY

Art History 201: Roy McMakin
6:00–7:30 p.m.

19 | THURSDAY

Family Flicks: Ernest and Celestine
Starts at sundown | Free

20 | FRIDAY

Art Crawl: Exploring the Five Senses
10:00–11:00 a.m.

22 | WEDNESDAY

Playdates: All Along the Nile
10:00-10:45 a.m. and 11:00–11:45 a.m.
Register: samuseum.org/calendar

23 | THURSDAY

Homeschool Student Workshop
9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00–3:30 p.m.
Register: jessica.nelson@samuseum.org

Art to Lunch
12:30–1:00 p.m.

24 | FRIDAY

Art off the Wall
6:00 p.m.

28 | TUESDAY

Sketching in the Galleries
6:00–8:00 p.m.
Free for members | $10 non-members

Art Fit: Art + Exercise
6:00–7:00 p.m.

29 | WEDNESDAY

Playdates: America the Beautiful
10:00-10:45 a.m. and 11:00–11:45 a.m.
Register: samuseum.org/calendar

Unless otherwise noted, programs are free to members and free to the general public with the price of Museum admission, or where applicable, special exhibition admission.
Flower Power

The Alamo Heights/Terrell Hills Garden Club held a meeting at the Museum earlier this spring and toured Corita Kent & the Language of Pop. Caroline Carrington and Audrey Curl were tasked with creating a floral arrangement inspired by Kent’s for eleanor. “Corita made me think outside the box,” said Curl. See their arrangements below.

2,621 Art Lovers

On March 15, during our spring break free day, the Museum welcomed our highest recorded single day attendance: 2,621. Inspired by Corita Kent, the campus was a “happening” place with dance, music, poetry and art activities.

New & Improved

In the next eighteen months the Museum will undergo several major renovation projects, from the glamorous—the renovation of the European Galleries—to the not so glamorous—moving the heating and cooling systems to a new building on the other side of Jones Avenue. Along the way, we will be renovating the auditorium, upgrading the kitchen in the restaurant, and improving the restrooms in the American Gallery. We’ll keep you posted on more precise timetables. In the meantime, pardon our dust and commotion while we create a better museum. There is still plenty of art to see and are many programs to attend.

Mother’s Day

Our pop-up restaurant, Sketch, will celebrate Mother’s Day, Sunday, May 8, with a special brunch from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There’s a guided tour of Rodin: The Human Experience at 12 p.m.

Painted Churches

On March 7 the docents took a road trip to the Schulenberg area for a guided tour of four of Texas’ historic painted churches. Built between 1895 and 1919 by Czech and German immigrants, the churches contain remarkably detailed decorative painting, including faux-marble surfaces, cheerful patterning, and Catholic symbolism. (Much of the stained glass is lovely as well.) Painstakingly restored testaments to artistry and faith, the churches reveal a rich story of the experience of Texas immigrants in both poor and wealthier communities at the turn of the last century. Let the Education Department know if you’d like to see a similar trip for members: moira.allen@samuseum.org.

High Praise

The New York Times named Highest Heaven in their spring Museum section on a nationwide roster of intriguing spring exhibitions. The exhibition opens to the public June 11.

EXHIBITION OPENINGS AND CLOSINGS

Roberto de la Selva: Modern Mexican Masterpieces in Wood

Rodin: The Human Experience
March 5–May 29, 2016

Highest Heaven: Spanish and Portuguese Colonial Art from the Collection of Roberta and Richard Huber
June 11–September 4, 2016

Carlos Mérida: Selections from the Permanent Collection
July 8, 2016–January 29, 2017

ANY DAY. ANY TIME.

You can check out a sketch pad and pencils from the Shop.
Every week

Gallery Talk: Museum Highlights
Tuesdays | 4:30–5:30 p.m.
Sundays | 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
Great Hall | Free

Gallery Talk: Special Exhibitions
Tuesdays | 5:30–6:30 p.m.
Sundays | 12:00–1:00 p.m.
Great Hall | Free with Special Exhibition admission

Rodin | Through May 29
Highest Heaven | Starting June 12

Sketching in the Galleries
Tuesdays | 6:00–8:00 p.m.
Meet in the Great Hall | Free for members | $10 non-members
May | Led by artist Alba De Leon
June | Led by artist Karl Frey

Participants will receive individual attention from local artists to make representational drawings of works in the Museum.

Meditation in the Japanese Gallery
Saturdays | 10:15–11:00 a.m.
Free with Museum admission | Cushions and stools are provided.

Lectures

Lecture: Corita Kent and the New Catholicism of the 1960s by Thomas Crow, PhD
Friday, May 6 | 6:00–7:00 p.m.
Auditorium | Free with Museum admission

New York University Rosalie Solow Professor of Modern Art Thomas Crow, PhD discusses Corita Kent and the role of religion in her work during an era of rebellion.

Art History 201—Contemporary Art
Third Fridays | Doors open 5:30 p.m.
Lecture 6:00–6:45 p.m. | Reception follows
Auditorium and Great Hall | Free with Museum admission

It’s art in the context of art history with Contemporary Art Curator Anna Stothart and internationally-known artists. Limited auditorium and Great Hall overflow seating.

May 20 | Mickalene Thomas
Best known for her ornate paintings with rhinestones, New York-based artist Mickalene Thomas explores notions of beauty, race, and femininity inspired by the history of portraiture, still life, and landscape.

June 17 | Roy McMakin
Roy McMakin’s Seattle-based workshop Big Leaf Manufacturing fabricates handmade furniture that bridges sculpture and domestic design.

Lecture: Rodin and the Nude by Sculptor Sabin Howard
Friday, May 27 | 6:00–7:00 p.m.
Auditorium | Free with Museum admission

Classical figurative sculptor Sabin Howard speaks on his traditional approach to contemporary sculpture and his fascination with the works of Auguste Rodin. Howard will work with a live clothed model to demonstrate Rodin’s method of rendering the human figure.

in collaboration with the Institute of Classical Architecture and Art.

Collectors’ Conversation: The Scholar and the Sleuth
Roberta and Richard Huber on Highest Heaven
Sunday, June 12 | 5:00–6:00 p.m.
Auditorium | Free with Museum admission | Reception follows
Join Chief Curator William Keyse Rudolph in conversation with Roberta and Richard Huber, collectors and lenders of Highest Heaven: Spanish and Portuguese Colonial Art, on historic arts commerce, the influence of region and religion on art, and their experience as collectors.

Educator Workshops

FREE Evening for Educators: Art—The Human Experience
Wednesday, May 4 | 5:30–8:30 p.m.
2 CPE/GT | RSVP: samuseum.org/calendar

Participate in tours and workshops exploring artists’ fascination with the human figure. Sessions include figure drawing, sculpting posture and gesture, caricature workshops, and a tour of Rodin: The Human Experience. Enjoy refreshments, pick up curriculum packets, and network with other educators.

Summer Teacher Institute: Art at 360°
Tuesday, June 14–Friday, June 17 | 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
$45 members | $80 non-members | Lunch included
20 CPE/GT | Register: samuseum.org/learn/educators

See how math, science, and technology intersect with the arts using the Museum as a primary resource for teaching. Be ready to interact, collaborate, and make art with peers through hands-on activities, demonstrations, and workshops led by experts in their field.

Sponsor Support

Family Programs have been generously underwritten by a grant from the John L. Santikos Charitable Foundation Fund of the San Antonio Area Foundation and the Faye L. and William L. Cowden Charitable Foundation.

The San Antonio Museum of Art Docents help make Sketching in the Galleries and Family Programs possible.

Lectures and Art History 201 are made possible by generous support from the Louis A. and Frances B. Wagner lecture fund.

Art Party is generously funded by a grant from the John L. Santikos Charitable Foundation Fund of the San Antonio Area Foundation.

Above: Our Lady of the Rosary of Pomaia (detail), Bolivian, late 17th or 18th century
Oil on canvas, h. 45 1/4 in. (114.9 cm) w. 39 3/8 in. (100 cm), Roberta and Richard Huber Collection Photograph by Graydon Wood, Philadelphia Museum of Art
FOR FAMILIES

(For free children 12 and under)

First Sundays for Families
Great Hall | 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
Sunday, May 1 | Asian Pacific Heritage
Sunday, June 5 | More than Meets the Eye
The Museum invites children and their families to explore the collections, create art, and share Sundays together.

Art Crawl: Gallery Tours for Babies 0-18 months and Caregivers
Second Thursdays | 10:00–10:45 a.m.
Thursday, May 12 | The Wonder of Nature
Thursday, June 9 | Exploring the Five Senses
Put your babies in their slings or strollers. Art selections engage both you and your infant. Includes playtime.

Playdate (Ages 2–4)
Wednesdays in May | 10:00–10:45 a.m.
Wednesdays in June | 10:00–10:45 a.m. & 11:00–11:45 a.m.
RSVP required at samuseum.org/calendar
Cultivate, nurture, and inspire creativity through stories, gallery activities, hands-on art, movement, and music.

Family Flicks
Free to All | Ages 6 and up | Sundown
Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and picnics to outdoor films in collaboration with Slab Cinema. During inclement weather, films are cancelled. See website for movie trailers.
May 20 | Ernest and Celestine (France, 2012) 80 minutes
June 17 | Nocturna (Spain, 2007) 88 minutes | Suggested for ages 7+

Homeschool Student Workshops
Third Thursdays | 9:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m. and 1:00–3:30 p.m.
Register: 210.978.8174 or jessica.nelson@samuseum.org
Thursday, May 19 | Rodin: The Human Experience
Thursday, June 23 | Parts of Art
Participate as a family in a guided tour and hands-on art activity. Extend learning through art at home with Museum materials. Advance registration required.

Summer Camps
Camps are led by professional artist-educators and include tours of the Museum, instruction in art techniques, media, and storytelling. Tuition covers materials, snacks, and a sketchbook in a canvas tote bag. Caregivers provide lunch and transportation. Register online at samuseum.org/summercamp.
June 5–10 | Stories and Clay (ages 6-7) | 10:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
June 20–24 | Around the World with Art (ages 8-10) | 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.
July 11–22 | Animation 101 (ages 11-14) | 10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Art Party
Second Fridays | 6:00–8:00 p.m.
Gallery Talks | 9:30, 6:15, and 7:15 p.m.
Free with admission | Cash bar
Cocktails and music inspiration:
May 13 | Rodin: The Human Experience
Music: Henry Brun and the Latin Playerz
June 10 | Egyptomania
Music: Bombasta Barrio Big Band | Bar: Bluebox

Art Party is a collaboration of the Museum and KRTU Jazz 91.7.

Art Fit: Art + Exercise
Second and Fourth Tuesdays
Meet in the Great Hall | Free
May 10 and 24 | 6:00–7:00 p.m.
June 14 and 28 | 6:00–7:00 p.m.
Enjoy a short gallery talk on fitness and the visual arts, followed by exercise and a run down the river led by coaches from Run Wild Sports.
Art Fit: Art + Exercise is endorsed by the Mayor’s Fitness Council and Let’s Move! Museums and Gardens.

Film on the Green: Pan’s Labyrinth
(Spain, 2006, R) 119 min
Friday, June 3 | 8:30 p.m. | West Courtyard
Free with Museum admission | Cash bar
Pack a picnic, bring a blanket, and grab a drink for the screening of Pan’s Labyrinth, from the imagination of director Guillermo del Toro.

Culture + Cuisine: Highest Heaven
Tuesday, June 21 | Tour: 6:00–6:45 p.m. | Dinner: 7:00 p.m
$50 members | $65 non-members
Register: samuseum.org/calendar
Start with a tour of Highest Heaven and finish with a delicious three-course meal at Restaurant Nao (at the Culinary Institute of America in the Pearl). Price includes food, tax, and service charge. Space is limited. Transportation between the Museum and Nao is not provided.

LOVE ART? ENJOY PEOPLE? BECOME A DOCENT!
New Docent Preview Sessions
June 28, July 12, August 9 | 4-6 p.m.
To attend one, contact Chris Torgerson at 210.978.8138

MEMBERS-ONLY EVENTS

Young Friends: LOOP Mega Mixer
Thursday, May 19 | 5:30–8:30 p.m.
The Museum will host this year’s Leadership Organization of Professionals (LOOP) Mega Mixer. Learn more about your community and network with other young professional organizations.

Members-Only Tour:
Rodin: The Human Experience
Saturday, May 21 | Free for members
RSVP: 210.978.8123 or at samuseum.org/calendar
Tour Group #2: 11:00–11:45 a.m. (reception to follow)
Tour Group #1: 10:00–10:45 a.m. (reception beforehand)
Members will enjoy light refreshments and a docent-led tour of the exhibition.

Reception: Friends of European Art and Institute of Classical Architecture and Art
Friday, May 27 | 7:00–8:00 p.m. | River Pavilion
Free for Friends of European Art and ICAA Members
RSVP: samuseum.org/calendar or 210.978.8123
Enjoy a private reception following the lecture “Rodin and the Nude.”

Member Opening Reception: Highest Heaven
Thursday, June 9 | 6:00–8:00 p.m.
Great Hall | $30 for Members | Free for Circle Members
RSVP: 210.978.8123 or samuseum.org/memberreception
Members will celebrate the opening of Highest Heaven: Spanish and Portuguese Colonial Art from the Collection of Roberts and Richard Huber with an exclusive preview accompanied by music, drinks, and hors d’oeuvres.

Member Preview Day: Highest Heaven
Friday, June 10 | 10:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m.
Members see the exhibition first. Docent-led tours at 100 p.m. and 2:00 p.m.
How did you come to be a docent?
I’ve lived all over the U.S. and overseas, but San Antonio is the best, and our Museum is one of the city’s true gems. One day I saw a docent in the Great Hall and asked, out of curiosity, what she did. Two years later, I thought I’d try it. Now being a docent is really my passion. When I talk to people who’ve never been to the Museum I say, “You’ve got to see this place!”

What do you like most about it?
I had no professional experience working with groups of kids and wondered how I’d do—docents not only need to know the collections and special exhibitions, they must pitch their presentations to a wide range of audiences. It turns out I love working with children, just as I love the variety of adult visitors. The friendships built among docents are also tremendously rewarding. We share knowledge and keep up a lively conversation—online and in person.

What works of art inspire you?
The Greek collection is my favorite. So much of classical Greek literature and myth opens up in objects in our collection. For example, the Calyx-Krater with Telephos and Orestes shows a pivotal moment in the legends surrounding the Trojan War. Telephos, son of Herakles, threatens to kill the infant Orestes unless Agamemnon, the boy’s father, gets Achilles to heal a wound in his thigh. Only after being healed did Telephos agree to lead the Greek army back to Troy and to ultimate success. The Calyx-Krater is remarkable in its large size, great detail, and condition. So many objects in our collections are like the tip of an iceberg—as you learn more, they seem to have almost no bottom.

How hard is the homework?
Docents train for two years, learning the collections gallery by gallery in small steps. We start out giving two-minute presentations to our peers and work up to being able to give an around-the-world tour to the public. We range widely in age and profession—you don’t have to be an art expert, just an interested person.

What kinds of art conversations do you hear from the kids?
While taking first-graders on an “Animals in Art” tour, I showed them the Bactrian camel in the Asian Collection. When I asked why the Bactrian camel had two humps, one boy said, “They’re to help people hold on when they’re riding.” Then a second boy, the smallest in the group, piped up, “They represent good and evil.”
Keeping Up with Jones Avenue

FINDS AND CURIOSITIES IN WALKING OR BIKING DISTANCE OF THE MUSEUM

1] PARAMOUR BAR — 0.3 miles
102 9th St., Suite 400 | 201.340.9880
paramourbar.com

This rooftop hangout has our vote for excellent craft cocktails, wine, and beer, genial hospitality, and good design. Located atop the Phipps legal offices, the space is a comfy marriage of contemporary and vintage. Paramour serves coffee by day and becomes a bar in the evening. General and beverage manager Christopher Ware is a veteran of high-end drink service—Bohanan’s Bar, Arcade Midtown Kitchen—which may partly explain why the atmosphere, drinks, and service are pulled off with such apparent ease. You can’t beat the view: Paramour’s L-shaped balcony faces the River Walk on one side and the Museum on the other.

2] OCTA-TETRA MUSEUM — 0.2 miles
1100 Broadway, #305 | 210.884.4897 or uncledan@homespun-homeschoolers.com
facebook.com/The-Octa-Tetra-Museum

For Dan Suttin math + art = true love. His studio/teaching space is packed with a dizzying array of colorful geometrical models based on polyhedrons. The San Antonio College math tutor (and recent winner of a $1,000 AwesomeSA grant) makes it his mission to help students understand mathematics through hands-on construction of paper “sculptures” of complex geometric forms. Sutton’s joyful “mad-professor” style is grounded in solid teaching skills: kids and adults alike come away from a visit to Octa-Tetra with a nifty model of their own making and an expanded understanding of mathematics and its applications in engineering, art, design, and architecture. Gather a group, make an appointment, and pay Octa-Tetra a visit.

3] SKETCH AT THE MUSEUM — 0 MILES
200 W. Jones Ave. | sketch@samuseum.org

The Museum’s pop-up restaurant is getting rave reviews. That’s not surprising, given that it’s run by José Ramón Campos, who owns Commonwealth Coffee House and Bakery. “We came up with a menu and daily specials that are French-inspired, but also international,” said Campos. Enjoy properly French baked goods from pastry chef Vincent Lacoste and quiches, salads, crepes, sandwiches, soups, and daily specials from chef Olivier Pheulpin. What’s more, dining at Sketch is always 10% off for members.

4] GRAYZE ON GRAYSON — 0.9 MILES
512 E. Grayson St. | 210.481.8776
grayzeongrayson.com

There’s no shortage of restaurants that redefine American regional comfort foods with inventive ingredients, but Grayze does it affordably, sans attitude, and oh so well. Chef Pedro Cuellar, formerly of Arcade Midtown Kitchen, makes a fine shrimp grits with ham and pickled mustard greens; tender braised pork shank with white balsamic on mascarpone polenta and salsa verde; and a sublime roasted cauliflower salad with tahini and basil. The converted home with front patio, indoor, and back-garden seating is relaxed and, in the back, pet-friendly. Brunch will soon feature a DJ. Grayze on!

5] THE SHOP AT THE SAN ANTONIO MUSEUM OF ART — 0 MILES
200 W. Jones Ave | 210.978.8140
samuseaum.org/shop

New to the Shop for spring and summer are colorful silk twill scarves from Austin designer Paige Russell of ELOI. Russell develops the limited-edition patterns by starting with construction paper cutouts then reproducing them in silk. It seems at once a shout-out to Matisse and a means of making lovely wearable art. Her “Velvet Morning” design (pictured above) was inspired by Nancy Sinatra and Lee Hazlewood’s eerie, bizarre mid-60s duet “Some Velvet Morning,” while “Green” turns vintage MasterCard, Visa, and American Express designs into folk art. Summer-accessory-challenged? Russell’s website, www.eloi.us, offers techniques for tying scarves to keep up your hair, elongate your neck, or wear as a bandeau or halter. But first, buy one at the Museum Shop! You’ll be doing good while looking great.
March 31, 2016

1. Gala Chairs Lacey and Tucker Dorn, Honoree Karen Hixon, and Tim Hixon
2. Marie Half, Barbara Dreeben, Tena Gorman
3. Barbie and Toby O’Connor
4. Cosmo Guido, Danielle Bochat, Maryanne and Tom Guido
5. Chave Gonzaba, Dr. William Gonzaba, Lisa Wescott, Dr. Efrem Castillo
6. Dr. Edward Briggs, Karen Hixon, Dr. Sara McCamish
7. Rodney Taylor, Mayor Ivy Taylor, Patsy Stewes
8. Dr. Homero Garza, Judge Sandy Marion
9. Karen Herrmann, Director Katie Lubber, Lacey Dorn, Rose Marie Hendry
NEW DOCENT PREVIEW SESSIONS

June 28, July 12, August 9 | 4–6 p.m.
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FRIAY NIGHT
at the MUSEUM

Your weekend starts here! Open 'till 9 p.m.

MAY

6 | Friday
Lecture: Corita Kent and the New Catholicism of the 1960s by Thomas Crow, PhD
6:00–7:00 p.m.

13 | Friday
Art Party: Rodin—The Human Experience
6:00–8:00 p.m.

20 | Friday
Art History 201: Mickalene Thomas
6:00–7:30 p.m.

Family Flicks: Ernest and Celestine
Sundown | FREE

27 | Friday
Lecture: Rodin and the Nude by Sculptor Sabin Howard
6:00–7:00 p.m.

JUNE

1 | Friday
Film on the Green: Pan's Labyrinth (119 min, R)
8:30 p.m.

10 | Friday
Art Party: Egyptomania
6:00–8:00 p.m.

17 | Friday
Art History 201: Roy McMakin
6:00–7:15 p.m.

Family Flicks: Nocturna
Sundown | FREE

24 | Friday
Art off the Wall
6:00 p.m.