



A YEAR IN REVIEW: 2013 AT THE BOWDOIN COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART

The Bowdoin College Museum of Art has enjoyed an exciting year replete with critically acclaimed exhibitions, landmark acquisitions, and compelling educational programs. It has also introduced on its website a “Search Collections” portal that permits online access to the Museum’s entire collection. As the information compiled in this report suggests, the staff of the Museum and its many supporters have much to celebrate. We look forward to seeing you during the year ahead.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS



PRINTMAKING ABC: In Memoriam David P. Becker

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(November 15, 2012–March 24, 2013)

“*PRINTMAKING ABC* is a broad exhibition having an emotional depth and graphic richness at levels that we are never otherwise offered. Absorbing this exhibition could be transformative; it presents a selection from among the great efforts of the human eye and hand.”

–*Portland Press Herald*, January 13, 2013



Per Kirkeby: Paintings and Sculpture

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(March 26–July 14, 2013)

“This is a big moment for Bowdoin, and a remarkable event for Maine. It is an opportunity to see an event of the kind that only Bowdoin offers.”

–*Portland Press Herald*, April 14, 2013

“The Bowdoin College Museum of Art has done fans of this intriguing artist, revered especially among painters, a great service.”

–*Boston Globe*, April 27, 2013



Maurice Prendergast: By the Sea

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(June 29–October 13, 2013)

“Whether you want to wrap your head around the brainiest moments of Western art history or simply want to be charmed by an elegant American Impressionist, ‘By the Sea’ is well worth a visit.”

–*Portland Press Herald*, July 14, 2013

“The cleanest critical response to ‘Maurice Prendergast: By the Sea’ at the Bowdoin College Museum of Art—the loveliest, most languid art show of the New England summer—is probably: See it. Drink it in. Then go find a beach, try to recreate some of the show’s simple joys.”

–*Boston Globe*, July 27, 2013

Selected as the Best Modern Show of 2013 by Sebastian Smee, chief critic at the *Boston Globe*

Katherine Bradford: August

(June 29–September 1, 2013)

“Bradford has taken the unlikely genre of marine painting and transformed it into a densely packed, metaphorical realm that is simultaneously abstract and representational.”

–*Hyperallergic*, August 18, 2013

“Bradford earmarks vast swaths of space, free-styling with pure abstraction alongside figurative imagery.”

–*ArtForum*, October 2013

“This Mighty Scourge of War”: Art of the American Civil War

(August 8, 2013–January 5, 2014)

“Duration was among the chief reasons for the war having such an enormous and lasting impact. So even if *This Mighty Scourge of War* weren’t so well done, which it is, its presence would be welcome.”

–*Boston Globe*, November 14, 2013



Breakthrough: Work by Contemporary Chinese Women Artists

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(September 27, 2013–January 5, 2014)

“*Breakthrough* is one of the year’s best exhibitions in Maine. It addresses some vastly complicated issues without dumbing them down while managing to be an engaging show that is very easy to enjoy.”

–*Portland Press Herald*, November 3, 2013

“Over the past five years Bowdoin College has become an increasingly prominent hub for Chinese art.”

–*Asian Art Newspaper*, November 2013

Selected as a Critic’s Pick by Sebastian Smee at the *Boston Globe*

STUDENT/FACULTY-CURATED EXHIBITIONS IN THE BECKER GALLERY

The Fixed Image: History and Process in American Photography

(January 18–March 10, 2013)

How She Should Behave: Women’s Archetypes in Early Modern Europe

(October 24–December 8, 2013)

Transformative Gestures: Paintings of the Renaissance

(March 12–June 2, 2013)

Alfred Cheney Johnston: Portrait of a Lost Photographer

(December 11, 2013–February 9, 2014)

SELECTED PERMANENT COLLECTION RE-INSTALLATIONS

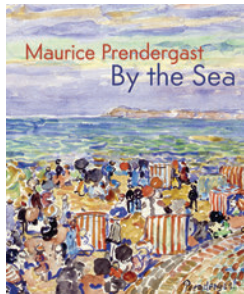
James Bowdoin’s America: Paintings and Decorative Arts, 1660–1830

(opened August 8, 2013)

Imago to Persona: Portraits from Antiquity

(opened August 15, 2013)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS



Maurice Prendergast: By the Sea, co-edited by Joachim Homann and Nancy Mowll Matthews and published by Prestel-Delmonico Press, June 2013.

Artefacts: Studies in the History of Science and Technology, Volume 9: Analyzing Art and Aesthetics, co-edited by Anne Collins Goodyear and Margaret Weitekamp and published by the Smithsonian Institution Scholarly Press, June 2013.

A President in Yellowstone: The F. Jay Haynes’ Photographic Album of Chester Arthur’s 1883 Expedition by Frank Goodyear and published by University of Oklahoma Press, June 2013.



Breakthrough: Work by Contemporary Chinese Women Artists, exhibition catalogue by Sarah Montross, Peggy Wang, and Shu-Chin Tsui, October 2013.

Lines in Long Array: A Civil War Commemoration, Poems and Photographs, edited by Frank Goodyear and David Ward and published by Smithsonian Books, October 2013.

SELECTED ACQUISITIONS

Gifts

- 320 works of minimal, conceptual, and post-minimal art from the Herbert and Dorothy Vogel Collection

“The Bowdoin College Museum of Art has received a major gift of 320 works of contemporary art from the Dorothy and Herbert Vogel Collection, one of the most storied and significant collections of contemporary art in the United States. Nearly 70 artists are represented in that gift, including painters Julian Schnabel and Pat Steir and multimedia artist Richard Tuttle.”

–*Boston Globe*, January 10, 2014



Small White Waterfall with Pink Splashes, 1995, oil on canvas by Pat Steir. Herbert and Dorothy Vogel Collection.



Virgin and Child, oil painting by Studio of Bronzino.

- Chinese Tang Dynasty ceramic vessel from an anonymous donor
- *Virgin and Child*, oil painting by Studio of Bronzino from George and Elaine Keyes
- Winslow Homer's camera from Neil Paulsen
- Fifty-six photographs of Ziegfeld Follies performers by Alfred Cheney Johnston from Francis DiMauro
- Seven prints by Andy Warhol from the Andy Warhol Foundation
- Three wood sculptures by Bernard Langlais from the Kohler Foundation
- Three paintings by Angelo Ippolito from Jon and Michael Ippolito
- Sixty-six prints by Leonard Baskin from Peter Rothberg '74
- Two Jerome Witkin drawings from Randall Bond '67 in memory of Marvin Sadik
- Ten photographs by Marilyn Bridges from Antony James Ellman
- 141 photographs by modern and contemporary photographers from Stephen Nicholas
- *Humor and Fear, New Mexico*, photograph by Joel-Peter Witkin from halley k harrisburg '90 and Michael Rosenfeld



Flowers, 1970, screen print by Andy Warhol.



Distortion #24, 1931 photograph by Andre Kertesz.

Purchases

- Pendant portraits of the artist and his wife, 1789, two engravings by Augustin de Saint-Aubin
- *Modern Art*, 1896, lithographic poster by Arthur Wesley Dow
- *Distortion #24*, 1931, photograph by Andre Kertesz
- Portraits of Marcel Duchamp, 1958, three photographs by Arnold Rosenberg
- *Jumping, Standing, and Untitled (Still Life)*, ca. 1960, three paintings by Sol Lewitt
- *Floater*, 2012 painting by Scott Davis

SELECTED PUBLIC PROGRAMS

- Public lectures by various artists, including Hung Liu and Katherine Bradford, and scholars, including Richard Wattenmaker (Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution), Judy Andrews (Ohio State University), Nancy Mowll Mathews (Williams College Museum of Art), and Klaus Ottmann (Phillips Collection)
- Academic symposium, “Reading Prints: David P. Becker’s Legacy at the Bowdoin College Museum of Art,” in conjunction with *PRINTMAKING ABC: In Memoriam David P. Becker* organized by Joachim Homann
- Academic symposium, “Female Embodiment of the Visual World: Women’s Art in Contemporary China,” in conjunction with *Breakthrough: Work by Contemporary Chinese Women Artists* organized by Sarah Montross, Peggy Wang, and Shu-Chin Tsui
- BCMA Collectors’ Collaborative event at the International Center for Photography in New York City
- BCMA reception at the Getty Museum in Los Angeles for photographer Abelardo Morell ’77, whose retrospective *Abelardo Morell: The Universe Next Door* was then on view at the Getty
- BCMA reception at Art Basel in Miami
- BCMA visit by The Walpole Society



Prendergast opening.

OTHER

- Anne Collins Goodyear served as the President of the College Art Association.
- A “Search Collections” portal was introduced on the Museum’s website. For the first time the entire collection of the Museum is now searchable online.
- The BCMA established ROAM (Really Open and Accessible Museum), a new committee to encourage and support the Museum’s use of new technology to increase access, communication, and educational opportunities.