YEAR in REVIEW

July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019



BOWDOIN COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART BRUNSWICK, MAINE



FROM THE CO-DIRECTORS

The Walker Art Building—the historic home of the Bowdoin College Museum of Art—marked its 125th anniversary this past year. In recognition of this milestone, the Museum organized a series of exhibitions and programs that both celebrated and considered anew its historic and contemporary collections. A new collections catalogue—the first since 1981— was also published with written contributions by more than seventy scholars who included Bowdoin faculty and students in addition to experts from around the world.

Such anniversaries are good occasions to take stock of the past and think critically about future priorities. In this spirit, the Museum unveiled earlier this year a new "Strategic Directions" document, a plan for the next five years that has taken shape after more than a year of conversation with staff, faculty, students, and supporters. These are our three leading objectives:

- 1. Generate Teaching and Learning
- 2. Support an Inclusive and Diverse Community
- 3. Encourage the Development of Creative Dispositions

The timing is auspicious as the College turns its own attention to the future and to the important challenge of defining the "knowledge, skills, and creative dispositions" with which it aims to equip its students. The Museum aspires to serve as a partner with our faculty and staff colleagues in this ambitious and forward-facing endeavor.

We appreciate the generosity of many friends. Your support makes possible the ambitious exhibitions, public programs, and educational activities that occur at the Museum. We look forward to seeing you back at the Museum in 2020, as we celebrate, among other things, the bicentennial of Maine statehood. Thank you again for your support.

Anne Collins Goodyear Frank H. Goodyear III





BCMA BY THE NUMBERS

36,909

1,115 Additional patrons Attended

OFF-SITE PROGRAMS

233 BOWDOIN CLASS SESSIONS HELD

IN MUSEUM

UNIQUE BOWDOIN CLASSES HELD AT THE MUSEUM

66% OF BOWDOIN DEPARTMENTS

HELD A CLASS IN THE MUSEUM

2,634 STUDENTS VISITED FOR CLASSES

3,176 OBJECTS PULLED FROM STORAGE FOR BOWDOIN CLASSES

71%

OF THE CLASS OF 2019 ATTENDED A CLASS IN THE MUSEUM DURING THEIR BOWDOIN CAREERS

74 public programs

16 STUDENT-LED PUBLIC PROGRAMS EXHIBITIONS 7 EXHIBITIONS CURATED BY FACULTY OR STUDENTS 25

16

STUDENT EMPLOYEES

70 Tours led by bowdoin

STUDENTS **1,420** ADULTS PARTICIPATED IN GUIDED TOURS

1,535 K-12 STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN GUIDED TOURS

MAINE TOWNS SENT SCHOOL GROUPS TO THE MUSEUM FOR A TOUR

333 WORKS ACQUIRED FOR THE PERMANENT COLLECTION

507 Members of the museum

\$0 COST TO VISIT THE MUSEUM

FEATURED EXHIBITIONS



ART PURPOSES: OBJECT LESSONS FOR THE LIBERAL ARTS

June 29 through November 10, 2019

This is a show about ideas held at a teaching museum. It very much fits the multidisciplinary model of a liberal arts college. On the one hand, we are being introduced to a vast range of art objects in Bowdoin's encyclopedic collection, but we cannot help noticing how seemingly disparate works often dovetail in their content and concerns. "Art Purposes" makes a great argument for why the museum is a phenomenal tool for serving the college's mission.

Maine Sunday Telegram, October 6, 2019



Visitors enjoy Art Purposes: Object Lessons for the Liberal Arts.

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Phenomenal set of exhibitions! Always exceeds expectations.

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Museum comment book, February 22, 2019

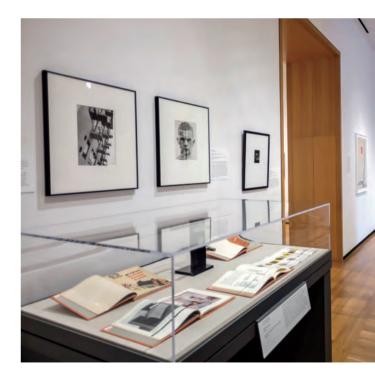
MODERNISM FOR ALL: THE BAUHAUS AT 100

March 1 through May 12, 2019

....

For a small space, it's a big show with a great deal of worthy information. . . . It also makes sense that Bowdoin College would mount a [Bauhaus centennial] show. James Bowdoin founded the first college art collection in America intended for teaching. Set in the Beaux-Arts gem of a museum designed by the leading American architect of the day, Charles McKim, the modernist impulses of the Bauhaus are only more apparent.

Maine Sunday Telegram, March 31, 2019







From Egyptian tombs to toxic corn, there's more to environmental art than what you see. A sweeping exhibition of 2,000 years of artworks at Bowdoin College in Maine challenges viewers to reconsider the relationship between art and nature. The definition of environmental art has broadened in recent years, and "Material Resources" seeks to crack it open even wider. *National Resources Defense Council, March* 5, 2019

Visitors enjoy a tour of Material Resources.

I loved the student led tour! So great to hear students' passion and to learn so much about the works.



LET'S GET LOST AND LISTENING GLASS

September 27, 2018 through September 29, 2019

Like undulating ripples of water swept by a lingering breeze, swirls of black lines converge and disperse in linn meyers' site-specific drawing *Let's Get Lost*. Complemented by an interactive sound installation *Listening Glass*, the piece transforms the Walker Gallery at the Bowdoin College Museum of Art into a multi-sensory metaphor for artistic process, ephemerality and time. *Bowdoin Orient, September 28, 2018*



Detail of *Let's Get Lost*; artist linn meyers working on the wall drawing and sound installation *Listening Glass* in tandem with artists Rebecca Bray, James Bigbee Harvey, and Joshua Knowles. Students assisted with the installation of these works.



EXHIBITIONS

A Handheld History: Five Centuries of Medals from the Molinari Collection at Bowdoin College July 26, 2018 through January 20, 2019

In the Round: Ancient Art from All Sides August 23, 2018 through October 13, 2019

Let's Get Lost *and* Listening Glass September 27, 2018 through September 29, 2019

Kate Furbish and Edwin Hale Lincoln: New England Botanical Studies October 4, 2018 through February 10, 2019

Among Women October 11, 2018 through April 7, 2019

1968—Spring of Discontent: The Photography of Michael Ruetz November 15, 2018 through January 6, 2019

Material Resources: Intersections of Art and the Environment December 6, 2018 through June 2, 2019

Fashioning Modernity: Art and Independence among the Yorubas in Nigeria January 17 through March 17, 2019 **Chinese Ceramics, Jades, and Paintings** February 1, 2019 through January 5, 2020

Modernism for All: The Bauhaus at 100 March 1 through May 12, 2019

Photographic Lives: Robert Freson, Irving Penn, and the Portrait March 28 through June 2, 2019

The Nineteenth Century: European and American Art May 2, 2019 through January 5, 2020

Treasures from the Wyvern Collection: A Special Preview May 23 through June 2, 2019

Suspense: Key Moments in Midcentury Art May 30 through August 18, 2019

Art Purposes: Object Lessons for the Liberal Arts June 29 through November 10, 2019

Emerging Modernisms, 1900–1950 June 29, 2019 through March 29, 2020

A Bowdoin College class studies original works of art in the Zuckert Seminar Room

Superb example of creative research at its best. Stunning!

Museum comment book, July 28, 2018

SELECTED ACQUISITIONS

GIFTS

Collection of thirteen Old Master prints, ca. 1630–ca. 1830, gift of Mary K. and John F. McGuigan Jr.

Houses on a Village Street, black chalk and gray wash with pen and black ink, ca. 1650, by Pieter Molijn (Dutch, 1595–1661), Museum Purchase, with support by George and Elaine Keyes and an anonymous donor [below, left]

Capriccio of Roman Ruins, pen and brown ink drawing, ca. 1670, by Jacob van der Ulft (Dutch, 1621–1689), Museum Purchase with funds contributed by George and Elaine Keyes and an anonymous donor

Windsor Armchair, wood, ca. 1780, gift of Susan Zuckert in loving memory of Donald Mack Zuckert '56.



Machiasport Petroglyph Drawing, ink on coated cloth, ca. 1868–69, by Henry Taylor (American), gift of Carole A. Pope in memory of her father, Gardner Chase Pope '34 and in honor of her brother, John Alan Pope '64, and her son, Matthew Scott Wilcox '88

Mrs. Viola Andrews—My Mother, oil with fabric collage on canvas, 1974, by Benny Andrews (American, 1930– 2006), gift of halley k harrisburg '90 and Michael Rosenfeld [below]





Untitled (Ramapo Freeze), graphite, 1976, by Richard Pousette-Dart (American, 1916–1992), gift of the Richard Pousette-Dart Estate

Collection of thirty-one archival pigment prints, 1976–2017, by Donna Ferrato (American, born 1949), gift of Carol R. Koobatian Ouzounian '87

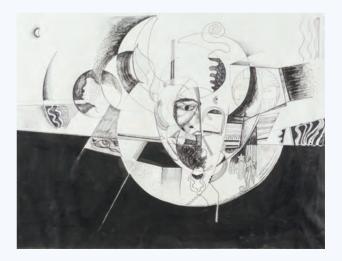
Polar Bear, graphite, 1983, by Andy Warhol (American, 1928–1987), gift of Donald A. Goldsmith '65, Jeremy T. Goldsmith '04, and the Greenacres Acquisition Fund [below, left]

El Salvador, handprinting and printed collage, 1986, by Nancy Spero (American, 1926–2009), Museum Purchase with funds donated anonymously

Theater (Watson), oil on canvas, 2001, by Katherine Bradford (American, born 1942), gift of Katharine J. Watson in celebration of the artist

Balsam Lake, Mountain Wild Forest, Ulster County, New York, October 15, 2016, 24-hour video, 2016, by Mark Tribe (American, born 1966), Museum Purchase, with support from the Collectors' Collaborative and the Helen Johnson Chase Fund [page 9, top]







PURCHASES

A Triptych: The Adoration of the Magi, The Nativity at Night, with the Annunciation to the Shepherds, and The Flight into Egypt, oil on panel, ca. 1518–1519, after Jan De Beer, (Netherlandish), Museum Purchase, Lloyd O. and Marjorie Strong Coulter Fund, Jane H. and Charles E. Parker, Jr. Art Acquisition Fund, and Laura T. and John H. Halford, Jr. Art Acquisition Fund [opposite, top]

Saint Bavo of Ghent and a Kneeling Donor, painted glass roundel, ca. 1525–30, by an unidentified artist, Bequest and gift of Miss Susan Dwight Bliss, Charles Potter Kling, and Dr. Bernard Samuels, by exchange [top right]

Sojourner Truth, albumen silver print, 1864, by an unidentified artist, Museum Purchase, James Phinney Baxter Fund [right]

Portrait of Yvonne Jacquette Burckhardt, oil crayon, ca. 1962–63, by Mimi Gross (American, born 1940), Museum Purchase, Greenacres Acquisition Fund

Masking Myself, ink and marker, 1972, by David C. Driskell (American, born 1931) Museum Purchase, Barbara Cooney Porter Fund [opposite, lower right]

Cloudscape, single-channel video installation, black and white, sound, 2004, by Lorna Simpson (American, born 1960), Museum Purchase, Lloyd O. and Marjorie



Strong Coulter Fund, with the New Media Arts Consortium, a collaboration of the art museums at Bowdoin College, Brandeis University, Colby College, Middlebury College, Mount Holyoke College, and Skidmore College

Grandma and JC in Her Kitchen, gelatin silver print, 2006, by LaToya Ruby Frazier (American, born 1982), Museum Purchase, Gridley W. Tarbell II Fund [top left]



SELECTED PROGRAMS

The Museum is well-known on campus and beyond for its active calendar of public programs, including scholarly lectures, gallery conversations, musical performances, film screenings, academic symposia, and public tours by faculty, students, and Museum staff. During the past year, the Museum invited many special guests to participate in programs and to deliver public presentations. Seventeen Bowdoin faculty members and seven Bowdoin students led gallery programs in conjunction with exhibitions. In addition, the Museum brought to campus an outstanding group of scholars, curators, and artists. The following list of speakers reflects the breadth and excellence of the public programs at the Museum.

Makeda Best (Harvard Art Museums) Sarah Bond (University of Iowa) Rebecca Bray (artist) Nicola Courtright (Amherst College) Melissa Cullina (Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens) Robert Freson (photographer) James Bigbee Garver (artist) Todd Gustavson (George Eastman Museum) Josh Knowles (artist) Macauley Lord '77 (L.L. Bean Outdoor Discovery School) linn meyers (artist) Laura Muir (Harvard Art Museums) Elizabeth Otto (SUNY Buffalo) Jennifer Powell (Kettle's Yard, University of Cambridge) Ellen Price (Serge Sabarsky Collection) Yelena Rakic (The Metropolitan Museum of Art) Stephanie Rothenberg (artist) Stephen Scher (collector) Jennifer So (University of Hong Kong) Andrea Sulzer (artist) Mark Tribe (artist) Peter Van Alfen (American Numismatic Society) Robert Wellington (Australian National University) David Ying and Phillip Ying (Bowdoin International Music Festival)



LIST OF DONORS

The Bowdoin College Museum of Art is grateful to the many alumni, parents, friends, foundations, and others who support the Museum through gifts, memberships, and grants. The following includes gifts received between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy.

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As of June 30, 2019



Summer Exhibition 2020

AT FIRST LIGHT: TWO CENTURIES OF ARTISTS IN MAINE

June 27–November 15, 2020

On the occasion of the 200th anniversary of statehood, the Museum brings together some of the most outstanding artistic treasures created in Maine over the last two centuries. All artistic mediums are represented, including painting, sculpture, drawing, printmaking, photography, new media art, and various craft traditions. The exhibition honors the extraordinary diversity that characterizes the arts in Maine.

Front cover: Bowdoin Dance Collective performs a piece choreographed in response to *Let's Get Lost* and *Listening Glass*; visitor enjoys a quiet moment in the gallery; and Ben Wu '18 leads a tour of A *Handheld History*.

Above: *North*, 2001 pigment print by William Wegman, American, born 1943. Gift of William Wegman and Christine Burgin, 2014. Bowdoin College Museum of Art. Courtesy of the artist.

Bucket List destination. Thank you for being here.

Museum commment book July 15, 2018