



Museum Notes

A Publication for Members of the NIU Art Museum



Read about the NIU Museum Studies international adventure to Salemi, Sicily! (Page 3)

Welcome New Art Museum Members!

Ann Fricke
Lisa Stocksdale
Grace Wahler

Renewals

Renie Adams & David Wagner
Rivka Baker
Joyce Barker
Michael & Elaine Bennett
Rudolph & Ingeborg Bisanz
Rodney Borstad
Natalie Calhoun
Susan Carter & Robert Sabin
Richard & Thecla Cooler

Jan Devore
Eileen Dubin
Cynthia Fahler
Patricia Galvin
David & Linda Groat
Karen Hagen
Jitka Hurych
Richard & Kathleen Katz
Marguerite Key
Charles Larry & Emmylou Studier
Dimitri Liakos
David McMahon
Liz Mehren & Joe Shapera
Bill & Jo Monat
Sharon Nelson
Nick Noe

Juliann Olsen
David Parker
Kathleen Pawlak
Patricia Perkins
Catherine Raymond & Alan Potkin
John & Ursula Rooney
Maureen & Morley Russell
Bill & Kathy Scarpari
Peggy Simonds
Jerry & Ging Smith
Marian Swenson
Ruth Anne Tobias
Sharon Tourville
Pat Vary
Jerrold & Carol Zar
Estelle Von Zellen

Southeast Asian Curators' Talks

Please mark your calendars for a Special Members' and Friends' Event to take place at the NIU Anthropology Museum AND the NIU Art Museum with shuttle service in between. Guest curators **Catherine Raymond** and **Richard M. Cooler** will give brief but absolutely delightful commentary in the galleries regarding the collections on display. Please join us for a bit of wine and Asian treats and relish this opportunity to view these exhibitions on **Saturday, November 10th from 4:30 - 6:30pm**. Invitations are in the mail!

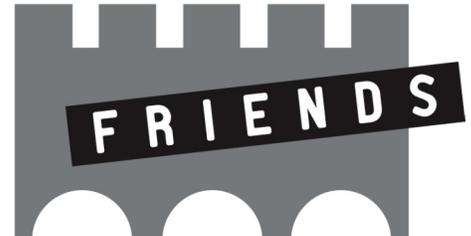
The Results Are In:

We are pleased to announce the selection of our new Friends of the NIU Art Museum logo. This design was created by NIU Associate Professor of design Aleksandra (Ola) Giza. Key components of her design were the ideas of our members providing the museum with financial and moral support, a sense of community and structure, and sometimes, the unexpected. Come spring we should have some new tee shirts and totes available.

Museum Staff: Jo Burke, Director; Pete Olson, Assistant Director; Heather Green, Coordinator of Marketing & Education; Diana Arntzen, Technical Assistant

Graduate Assistants: Ryan Burns, Adrienne Miller, Tess Michalik, Sarah Rivers

NIU ART MUSEUM



Southeast Asian Exhibitions Open



Top Images: (Left) **Dr. Catherine Raymond** and College of Visual and Performing Arts Dean, Richard Holly, (Center) Snapshot of Greg Beyer and Students performing on Karen bronze drums, (Right) **Dr. Raymond** addresses Burmese scholars **Bottom Images:** (Left) Visitors view artwork in Current Views and Actions, (Center) Reception crowd in Rotunda Gallery, (Right) **Catherine Raymond** demonstrates the ambient chimes following Burmese caravans

The Southeast Asian Exhibition Suite is officially open, and has generated quite a buzz in the Northern Illinois community and beyond. Our reception was packed with over one hundred fifty visitors mingling through our galleries to the music of the Khmer Traditional Ensemble.

Since the reception, we have hosted hundreds of visitors and scheduled over a dozen guided tours of our gallery spaces. Our visitors have run the gamut between international scholars and travelers to local high school students and community members. It has been truly exciting to share our exhibitions with such an enthusiastic audience, and we were thrilled to kick off the year with such a lively reception.

In cooperation with the NIU Music Department, Associate Professor Greg Beyer composed and performed an original contemporary piece using Karen bronze drums. The musicians provided entertainment for the International Burma Studies Conference Gala, and furnished an opportunity for viewers to see (and hear) select artifacts from our exhibition in action.

Many thanks are due to our guest curator, **Dr. Catherine Raymond**, Director of the Center for Burma Studies, for her tireless efforts to make *Music for the Divine* a success. We also thank Dr. Judy Ledgerwood from the Center for Southeast Asian Studies for invaluable financial (and moral) support. Every four years we have the opportunity to work with **Dr. Raymond** to show off the Burma Art Collection at NIU to community members, students and scholars from around the globe during the International Burma Studies Conference. We are excited to take part once again, and are delighted with the exhibition.



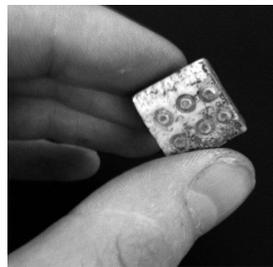
Illinois Arts Council Award!

We are pleased to announce that the NIU Art Museum has again received recognition through the awarding of an Illinois Arts Council general operating support grant. This FY2013 award for \$6,500 will be used to augment our 2012-2013 season exhibitions and programs.

The IAC evaluates the museum on its effectiveness in five areas: its Pursuit of Excellence, Organizational Capability, Community Involvement, Service to Illinois Artists, and Evidence of Community Support. Peer reviewers commenting on our exhibition and program offerings have mentioned in particular, the important and creative tie-in of our bus trips to exhibitions, the appropriateness of a university museum to offer such challenging and interrelated exhibits, and the effective interaction with community in utilizing private collections for display.

We are very honored to receive this award and recognition from the IAC; we look forward to putting our funding to good use in the coming months.

Museum Studies - Sicilian Adventure



On behalf of the NIU Anthropology Department, and in cooperation with the NIU Museum Studies program, Heather Green (Coordinator, NIU Art Museum), Agnes Ma (MFA candidate and Museum Studies Alumna) and Josh Tulisiak (Museum Studies student) had the opportunity to travel to Salemi, Sicily with Professor Michael Kolb of Anthropology, and Museum Director and NIU Anthropology alumna, Erin Harney, to curate an exhibition of historic artifacts from NIU Sicilian dig sites.

Every year Dr. Kolb travels with anthropology students to Salemi to get their hands dirty at an archeological dig. Over the years, Dr. Kolb wanted to put together an exhibition of the findings at the Museo Civico di Salemi, and he finally got his chance this August.

In cooperation with local Italian officials, the NIU team spearheaded the organization of this exhibition. The monumental project included: curating artifacts, designing the museum interior, designing print and publication materials, and writing and researching artifact labels. Over the course of two very Intensive weeks, the NIU team got the ball rolling toward the grand opening which was held September 17th, 2012 in Salemi.

In coming years, the NIU Museum Studies and Anthropology departments hope to be able to organize more projects together in Sicily.

Illinois Association of Museums Awards

IAM recognized the NIU Art Museum and the NIU Museum Studies Program at their annual conference held in September 2012.

The Golden Age of Wordless Novels and Illustrated Books - 1917-1951 received an 'Award of Excellence' and *Inked: Tattoo Imagery in Contemporary Art* (held at the Jack Olson Gallery in the School of Art) took home an 'Award of Excellence' for catalog design and an award of 'Superior Achievement' for the exhibition.

Agnes Ma (pictured center) was honored with the first ever award for 'Outstanding Museum Studies Graduate Student' from IAM! We send out our most sincere congratulations to Agnes!



(Above) Peter Van Ael, Coordinator of the NIU Museum Studies Program (pictured right) accepts awards on behalf of NIU from IAM officials. (Left) A glowing smile from Agnes Ma!

Museum Behind The Scenes



Many of our members and visitors wonder what goes in to putting together one of our exhibitions. Here is a little behind-the-scenes peek at what it takes to get a show up and running. Our award-winning blog: niuartmuseum.blogspot.com provides some behind the scenes action, but for those of you who are not technologically inclined, here's a peek behind the curtain—so to speak.

The installation of *Music for the Divine* took place over the course of three weeks and included countless hours of meticulous artifact cleaning/handling and creative problem solving. For example, in finding the best way to showcase the artifacts, we relied once again on museum volunteer handyman **Mike Bennett** to custom build pedestals for the stunning display of Karen drums in the large turret.

Across the hall in *Current Views and Actions* and *Karen: A People on the Border*, **Jo Burke** and Heather Green collaborated on the layout of the exhibition, while Grad Assistants Ryan Burns and Adrienne Miller rolled up their sleeves to install the show. Since the photographs in *Current Views and Actions* were unframed, Ryan and Adrienne meticulously measured the spacing between drywall screws that would be driven in to the wall, matching up with magnets on the front of the artwork to gently hold the prints in place over the course of the show. This project sounded a lot easier than it actually was, and Ryan and Adrienne quickly realized they had their work cut out for them. It may have taken them a while, but after all their hard work, the show looked fantastic.

Many thanks to all our fearless Grad Students and our multi-talented volunteers for helping us make these exhibitions happen.

(Photos left to right)

One of our generous volunteers, John Benson, delicately cleans one of the Lokanats for *Music for the Divine* // Grad Assistants Ryan Burns and Sarah Rivers help Burma Studies Student, Ryan Keller safely transport a bronze Karen drum to the museum for exhibition // Installation shot of 'magnetic magic' in *Current Views and Actions* // Grad Assistants Sarah Rivers and Tess Michalik help set up a platform for a manuscript chest in *Music for the Divine*



Sneak Peek & Plea for Indulgence

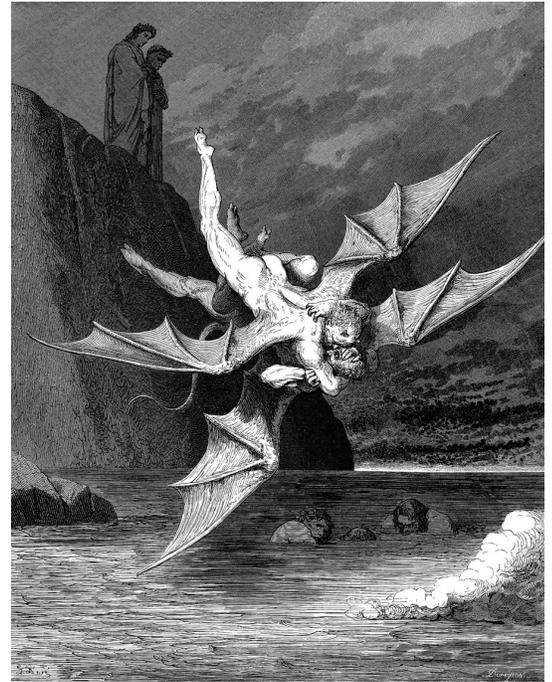


We'll be honest; we didn't get the response we were looking for from our beloved members regarding contributions to our Vice + Virtue exhibition suite. We humbly request you scour your homes in search of creative fodder. If you have any pop culture items you're willing to lend from your household, please contact Pete Olson at polson.niu.edu or give him a call at 815-753-7867.

Vice + Virtue will contain an array of contemporary and traditional artwork. The diverse range can be seen in the images above and to the right; both of which will be included in the show—consider them as potential food for thought.

Also, be sure to mark your calendars for our Vice + Virtue Poetry Night, Thursday, February 7th from 7:15-8:30pm in Altgeld room 315.

Thank you in advance for your charitable contributions!



Images:

April Dauscha (left)
video still from *Perpetual Adoration* 2012

Gustav Dore (right)
wood engraving illustration from
Dante's Inferno, 19th century edition.

Volunteers - Thank You!

Museum Committees:

Exhibition Advisory Committee:

Audre Anderson	Michael Bennett
Ryan Burns	Karen Brown
Peter Van Ael	Diane Rodgers

Education Advisory Panel:

Deborah Booth	Cynthia Hellyer-Heinz
Liz Rex	Shei-Chau Wang

Unfortunately, **Joe Bonomo** has stepped down from our Exhibition Advisory Committee to have more time to attend to his professional responsibilities. We thank Joe for his insightful contributions over the years, and welcome new committee member, **Diane Rodgers!**

Our special thanks and gratitude to the following good folks:

Michael Bennett: Design and construction of angled sculpture stands

Gary Burchett: Design and construction of a tasteful, Altgeld-appropriate, moveable rack for our new folding stools

Susan Carter: For actually enjoying keeping our accounts in order

Terri Smialek: Continued research and preparation for our extended bus trips and assistance on our last big mailing

Zaneta Taylor: omg - mailing prep galore!

Fall 2012 Volunteer Museum Attendants: **Audre Anderson**, Yvonne Beckway, John Benson, and **Richard M. Cooler**

Fall 2012 Museum Studies Practicum Student: Lindsay Rice. Of late, Lindsay has been helping Jo with survey development and grant reports



Get-On-The-Bus season opener on September 7th to Chicago gallery districts.
(Image left to right - **Karen Brown, Lori Hartenoff & Jo Burke**) Lori is holding her souvenir from one of the galleries—a brown paper bag that reads "I WANT TO BE ORDINARY"—hardly possible, Lori!

Fall 2012 Update:

Chicago Cultural Heritage Museums I

Exploring a selection of Heritage Museums in Chicago, including the Cambodian American Heritage Museum, The Institute of Puerto Rican Arts and Culture, and the National Hellenic Museum. **The date of this trip has changed to Friday, November 30th. The return time has shifted from 7:30pm to 9:00pm, and pricing is: \$30 for members; \$35 students & senior non-members; and \$40 all others.**

If you missed our registration deadline and are still interested in our trip to **Cedar Rapids on November 3rd, 2012**, please call the Art Museum at 815-753-1936 and leave your name and phone number to let us know. We may be able to accommodate you in the event of a last-minute cancellation.

Coming up Spring 2013: (details subject to change)

Chicago Cultural Heritage Museums II

We continue our cultural tour around Chicago with the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, the Indo American Center, and the Dank Haus in Lincoln Square. **Friday April 26th, 2013. Pricing information TBA.**

Chicago Cultural Heritage Museums III

We conclude our jaunt around Chicago's Heritage Museums with The Swedish-American Museum, the Chinese-American Museum of Chicago, and we'll end our trip at Casa Italia. **Friday June 7th, 2013. Pricing information TBA.**

Is it time to renew your membership?

We do not send out reminder notices for membership renewal. Please take a look at the date following your name on the mailing label to see when your current membership is scheduled to expire.

Thank you.

Sponsor Members:

Phillip & Gayalla Burchett
Natalie Calhoun
Virginia Cassidy
John & Nancy Castle
Ellen Roth Deutsch & Herb Deutsch
Richard F. Grott
Charles Larry & Emmylou Studier
Jerry & Miriam Meyer
Bill & Jo Monat
Nick Noe
Martin S. Novak
Patricia Perkins
Maureen & Morley Russell
Marilyn Sjoholm
Terry Smialek
Lynne M. Waldeland
Christine Worley

Patron Members:

Michael & Elaine Bennett
Jo Burke
Richard & Thecla Cooler
Lisa Freeman
Norden Gilbert & Ben Thomas
Larry & Carmeda Gregory
Jerry & Annette Johns
Dr. Anne C. Kaplan
Richard & Kathleen Katz
Mary Olson
Beth & Harvey Plotnick
Darsha Primich & Robert Fleisher
Catherine Raymond & Alan Potkin
Helen Shirley
Diane Ragains Slawin

Corporate Sponsors:

3M
ICON Fine Art Services
The National Bank & Trust, Sycamore
Schwab
Veolia Transportation

Foundation Members:

David C. & Sarajeon Ruttenberg

7. By becoming a member of the **Friends of NIU Art Museum** you help increase community support for the arts and receive special privileges and benefits. As a **Friend of the NIU Art Museum** you contribute to both the continuance and growth of a valuable cultural resource in northern Illinois. Your membership provides essential support for exhibitions, educational programs, artists' lectures, exhibition-related publications and conservation of the permanent collection.

Benefits & Levels of Membership:

FRIENDS: Individual \$25 / Dual \$45 / Student \$10 / Senior \$15 / Dual Senior \$25
Choice of:

- ⇒ NIU Art Museum Travel Mug
 - ⇒ NIU Art Museum Academic Calendar
 - ⇒ NIU Art Museum Tote*
 - ⇒ NIU Art Museum Tee Shirt*
- *(additional fee of \$5 for Student and Senior members)

- Priority registration and discounted fees on museum activities
- Printed mailing of exhibition announcements
- E-mail announcements/listserve
- Special members-only previews, receptions, bus trips and special events
- 20% discount on NIU Art Museum catalogues
- Subscription to **Museum Notes** newsletter

If you are already a member please share this form with a friend. Thank you.

SPONSOR Membership \$100

All of the Friends privileges **plus**
Choice of **one** of the following prints from the **Friends Collector Print Program:**

- ⇒ Larry Gregory, *Conkles Hollow, Ohio*
- ⇒ Charlotte Rollman, *Hopkins Park, DeKalb*
- ⇒ Philip Smith, *Five Summers Past*
- ⇒ Sidney Chafetz, *Public Servant*
- ⇒ Eugene Larkin, *27 Feathers*
- ⇒ Jack Coughlin, *Small Winter Owl*
- ⇒ Peter Olson, *Hummingbird Nebula*

- Complimentary exhibition catalogues
- Recognition in **Museum Notes**

PATRON Membership \$250

All of the above Friend & Sponsor privileges **with**
Choice of **one** of the following prints from the **Friends Collector Print Program:**

- ⇒ Renie Adams, *Point of View*
- ⇒ Michael Barnes, *Sideshow*
- ⇒ David Driesbach, *Opening Night*

- **Name engraved on Membership Plaque in Museum**

Return This Portion to the NIU Art Museum, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115

YES! I want to Join Renew my Membership of the NIU Art Museum at the level circled:

Individual/\$25 Dual/\$45 (2 people, one mailing address) Student/\$10 Senior/\$15
Dual Senior/\$25 (2 seniors, one mailing address) Sponsor/\$100 Patron/\$250

***Students and Seniors please enclose copy of current I.D.**

I would like to help with an additional donation of \$_____. _____ I do not wish to receive a premium. Please use the entirety of my membership fee (and/or donation) towards programming and collection conservation.

Premium Selection: _____; Sponsor or Patron Print Selection: _____

Name _____ Street _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Phone _____

E-mail address _____ Enclosed is my check payable to the NIU Art Museum for \$_____

Please charge my : Mastercard Visa Discover American Express

Account number _____ Expiration date _____

Name on card _____ Signature _____

- I am interested in volunteering:**
- Baking/Receptions Housing artists/scholars overnight
 - Gallery Attendant/Information Desk Advisory Panels - Area of Interest: Events Fundraiser
 - Education/Outreach Exhibitions Collections Get-On-The-Bus Trips
 - Other _____

Other Art Events in the Area

The DeKalb Area Women's Center (1021 State Street - DeKalb)

Currently hosting an exhibition of quilts from the DeKalb County Quilters Guild.

The On-Stage Gallery will exhibit artwork done by children living at Safe Passage in honor of October being domestic violence awareness month.

Annual Holiday Shopping Fair - November 30th, from 6-9pm and on December 1st, from 9-4

The Art Box (308 E. Lincoln Hwy - DeKalb)

Currently exhibiting paintings by NIU Emeritus Professor Carmen Armstrong.

An exhibition of artwork from NIU Art Museum member **Dale Osterle** will be held from December 1st - 28th.

More information about the upcoming show can be found on dekalbgallery.com

The Ellwood House Visitor's Center (509 N. First Street - DeKalb)

will host an exhibition of 20 Artists from dekalbgallery.com from October 19th - December 9th.

Join our listserve for the most up-to-date Art Museum information! E-mail hgreen2@niu.edu to sign up for email updates, or find us on the web: www.niu.edu/artmuseum - also on Facebook, Artslant & Twitter!

The exhibitions of the NIU Art Museum are sponsored in part by the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency, the Friends of the NIU Art Museum, and the Dean's Circle of the College of Visual and Performing Arts.

NIU Art Museum
 Algelid Hall 116
 Northern Illinois University
 DeKalb, Illinois 60115
 (815)-753-1936
 Gallery Hours:
 Tuesday - Friday 10:00 - 5:00
 Saturday 12:00 - 4:00
 And by appointment for groups tours

