

# MIDWEST MUSEUM BULLETIN

A PUBLICATION OF THE MIDWEST MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART • 429 South Main St. • Elkhart, IN 46516 • (574) 293-6660  
**Volume 31, No. 5. JULY/AUGUST 2008** MUSEUM HOURS: Tues. - Fri. 11:00-5:00, Sat. 1:00-4:00, Sun. 1:-4:00 (Free)  
**MEMBER AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS**

## Modern Images of Native Americans *The Art of Fritz Scholder*

The Midwest Museum of American Art is pleased to present a major exhibition of the late Native American artist Fritz Scholder (1936-2005) organized by the museum from the Tom and Mary Jane McClain collection of Phoenix, Arizona. **Modern Images of Native Americans: *The Art of Fritz Scholder*** will feature 50 paintings, sculpture, drawings, and lithographs, that feature contemporary depictions of Native Americans. The exhibit will open on **Friday, July 11, 2008** and continue through **Sunday, October 5, 2008** for a 12-week period.

Fritz Scholder's work is far from the traditional ideal set down in the 19th century by artists such as Frederic Remington. Scholder was trained as an expressionist painter and introduced to early Pop Art in Sacramento by Wayne Thiebaud in 1961. By 1964, Scholder captured the sense of urgency of 20th century life on the reservation and the effects of white culture on native born while teaching at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe. Major museums around the world have collected the work of Fritz Scholder and the largest retrospective ever is planned for Fall 2008 at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian and the NMAI in New York. Some of the works on display at the Midwest Museum of American Art will be loaned to the Smithsonian for that event.



The late Tom McClain started collecting the artist's work in 1976 when they met in Chicago. In 1990 Tom and Mary Jane McClain moved from Syracuse, Indiana to Phoenix and began assembling the largest private collection of Scholder's work in the world—a total of nearly three hundred objects and archival materials. After the death of Tom McClain in 1998 the collection returned to Indiana and was

reorganized by the Midwest Museum of American Art. Now under the stewardship of the museum, the collection has traveled across the country in various formats to such institutions as the Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

This exhibition is graciously sponsored by Old National Bank.

above: "Cat Man Flexing", c.1990, bronze, ed. 12

## Gallery Renovation complete... World's Largest Public Collection of *Overbeck Art Pottery*

The Midwest Museum is the recipient of a second collection of Overbeck Art Pottery from R. Douglas & Barbara Grant of Syracuse, Indiana. The Grants gave 211 pieces of Overbeck pottery to the museum in 2004 then matched it this year by another 191 objects. In addition the Grants gave monies to renovate the R. Douglas & Barbara Grant Family Gallery. Today the gallery features new lighted, custom-built display cases, carpeting, and wall covering. On loan as a future gift are 54 drawings by Hannah Overbeck and entire collection of other Hoosier art pottery. This substantial act of generosity by the Grants has placed the



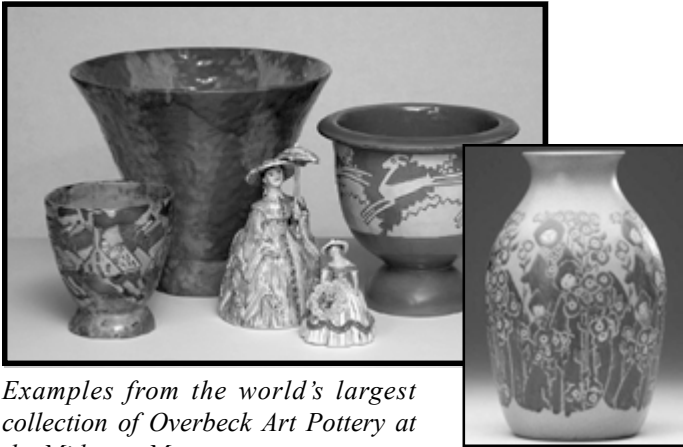
Midwest Museum of American Art in the forefront of the American Art Pottery nation of collectors. A *Special Reception* to showcase the new gallery and honor Doug & Barbara Grant will be held on the afternoon of July 20 at 2:00 PM. Dr. Eric Martz, son of Indiana

potter, Karl Martz, and creator of the [martzpots.org](http://martzpots.org) website, will attend along with other art pottery collectors and friends.



*Collectors, R. Douglas & Barbara Grant pause in the gallery with over 500 pieces of Overbeck pottery & ephemera they have donated to the Midwest Museum of American Art since 2004.*

Join us for a Special Reception  
 to Honor the Collectors  
*R. Douglas & Barbara Grant*  
 on Sunday Afternoon, July 20  
 from 2:00-4:00PM.



Examples from the world's largest collection of Overbeck Art Pottery at the Midwest Museum.

## Family Free Day

The Midwest Museum of American Art would like to thank **Peggy Weed** for continuing the sponsorship of FREE Family Sundays. The museum is open year-round with 52 weeks of Sundays which provide a means of entertainment, togetherness, and education in a nice environment. Thanks to Peggy Weed the museum can continue its mission to bring art and culture to Elkhart citizens and residents of Northern Indiana.

## Notice to Members

The Midwest Museum of American Art would like to send notices for special events to all members who utilize email. You may call the museum with your email address, write it on your membership renewal form when you return it, or email it directly to us at [mdwstmsmam@aol.com](mailto:mdwstmsmam@aol.com) Museum Staff will be better able to keep you up-to-date on current events as well as reach those members who are farther away than the immediate area zip codes. MMAA plans to continue printing and mailing bulletins and invitations to members without computer access but future cost savings dictate a move toward more effective use of our website.

Visit the official website at [MidwestMuseum.US](http://MidwestMuseum.US)



*"Last Indian with American Flag", 1976, serigraph, ed. 146/150 by Fritz Scholder (1937-2005)*

*Because of the powerful association with the militant confrontations on reservations and the ultimate tragedy of Wounded Knee, images such as this placed Scholder squarely in the middle of explosive issues in the late 1960s and early 1970s. His lecture tour of Midwestern universities was cancelled in 1972 for this reason.*

## Docent of the Year...

The Docent of the Year will be honored at the Annual Luncheon on July 21 at the home of Jane Poe near Fernwood. Docents are volunteers who help people learn in the museum environment. Anyone interested in becoming a Docent can contact museum staff at 293-6660.

## Art Camp I & II for Children

The leader for both 5-day Art Camps will be **Bonnie Elder**, recently retired Art Educator from Elkhart. Art Camp I will be held at the Midwest Museum beginning **Monday, July 14, through Friday, July 18.**

Art Camp II will be held at MMAA beginning, **Monday, August 4, through Friday, August 8.**

Students will be involved with the FUNdamentals of art, learning about line, shape, & textures while creating their own exciting compositions!

Day 1: still life drawing; Day 2: landscape; Day 3: portrait drawing; Day 4: 3-dimensional; Day 5: fun with abstract art.

Times for specific age groups are as follows:

Ages 5-7 years meet from 12:30PM to 2:00 PM.

Ages 8-12 years meet from 2:30PM to 4:30PM.

**FEES: \$50./student for the week.** Call 293-6660



*"Indian on Green Pinto", 1970, oil on canvas, by Fritz Scholder*

## Recent Gifts to the Permanent Collection

The Midwest Museum is the recipient of a large body of work by Goshen College Professor *Emeritus*, Abner Hershberger. Thirty-three works from the artist's "Heritage" series have found a permanent home at the museum. Hershberger has shown his work throughout the United States and in Europe over the course of his 50 year career. In 1997 he departed from his well-known abstract land formations to explore his upbringing in the Mennonite faith. As an artist Hershberger continued to break new ground exhibiting The "Heritage" paintings in Washington D.C., Los Angeles, Colorado, and in his home state of South Dakota. As an important educator, Hershberger saw fit to place these paintings in the stewardship of the Midwest Museum for future scholarly study.

## NOON □ TIME □ TALKS

A variety of Gallery Talks or Films  
every Thursday □ 12:20-1:00pm



**JULY 3 David Smith, American Sculptor**  
This film presents the work of American sculptor David Smith who was born in Indiana.

**JULY 10 BEYOND TRADITION: Contemporary Indian Art & Its Evolution**  
This film highlights recent developments in native American Art.

**JULY 17 Fritz Scholder (1937-2005)**  
Curator Brian Byrn discusses Scholder's career in the context of the 20th Century.

**JULY 24 Fritz Scholder (1937-2005) PART II**  
Curator Brian Byrn leads a walking tour of the exhibition of Fritz Scholder's work.

**JULY 31 SEASONS of the NAVAJO**  
This film presents a sensitive portrait of a traditional Navajo family and how they embody the simple truth of living far removed from 20th century stress.

**AUG 7 Jaune Quick-To-See Smith (b.1940- )**  
Curator Brian Byrn discusses the work of one of the leading contemporary Indian artists who resides in New Mexico. MMAA owns three examples of her work.

**AUG 14 ACOMA Pottery in the MMAA Collection**  
Assistant Curator Stacy Jordan examines the history of Acoma pottery and relates it to the 20th century examples in the Permanent Collection.

**AUG 21 Maria Martinez, San Ildefonso Potter**  
Curator Brian Byrn introduces a classic film on Maria Martinez highlighting the four examples in the collection.

**AUG 28 Emmi Whitehorse**  
This short film features the Native American artist and her paintings of the late 1990s.

### ***MORE...Recent Gifts to the Permanent Collection***

The Midwest Museum has received several donations of art in the past months. These works, used as objects of learning, preserve the memory of the artist. They join a continually growing collection used to fulfill the mission of education by the only public trust for American Art in Indiana.

The works recently donated include (6) ceramic pieces by Phillip Gearheart (1935-1998). Donated by Cheryl Waldman of Elkhart and Indianapolis, these ceramic vessels relate to the experimental nature of the artist's work in the early 1960s. As one of Professor Karl Martz's most ingenious students at Indiana University in the Graduate Ceramic Program, Gearheart went on to work with NASA and develop the tiles for early space shuttles.

Other ceramic works donated to the collection include pieces by Vivika (1910-1995) & Otto Heino (b.1915- ); Marvin Reichle, Professor of ceramics at Ball State in the late 1960s; and, Kurt Wild (b.1931-).

## *A Gift in Honor of, or in Memory of, a Cherished Friend or Relative*

### **In Memory Of**

**J.P. Burns**  
by Mary Helvey

**R.W. "Bill" Broadbent**  
by James H. Broadbent Family

**Florence Dufour**  
by Jeanne Wells

**Lee Charles Elliott**  
by Jane Burns  
Tom & Dot Corson

**Greg Fossett**  
by Allen Norris &  
Betty Plunkett

**Marian Ingwalson**  
by Mary Helvey  
Rosemary Mathews

**Harold W. Kastner**  
by Jane Burns

**Kenneth Kegerreis**  
by EHS Class of 41'  
Jane Burns  
Paul & Betty Thomas

**In Honor of  
Liz Bryant Birthday**  
by Jane Burns

**In Honor of  
Dr. Rick Burns Birthday**  
by Jane Burns  
Brian & Lisa Byrn

**In Honor of Dr. & Mrs. John Regan 50th Anniversary**  
by Jane Burns

### **Eleanor Grieb**

by Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Basquin  
Timothy Grieb  
Riley Grieb  
Perry & Mary Grieb  
Richard & Patricia Beitelshees  
Philip & Verna Brinson  
Jane Burns  
Brian & Lisa Byrn  
Joyce Cleaveland  
Mary Helvey  
Don & Marjorie Hershberger  
Rosemary Mathews  
Joseph & Virginia Rueff  
John & Pat Van Dyke  
Kathryn Van Dyke Shanholt  
Phyllis Warrick  
York Woods Center

**Mary Meagher**  
by Mary Helvey

**Charles V. Owens**  
by Jane Burns  
Brian & Lisa Byrn

**Tracy Rutchik**  
by Jane Burns

**John Von der Heide**  
by Brian & Lisa Byrn

**Keith A. Yoder**  
by Jane Burns

These aforementioned ceramic works were donated by artist Lina Zerkle (b.1941- ) of Waterloo, Indiana, herself a potter at one time. After graduation from IU with a Masters of Fine Arts in 1969, Zerkle went on to practice pottery making for over 15 years only to turn to fiber, i.e. contemporary quilts in the mid 1980s. The artist has placed (5) of her contemporary quilted fiber pieces in the museum's collection after her recent exhibition, "Expressions in Fiber...".

Bruce Bertrum of Elkhart and sisters, Theresa Holmes & Joyce Dennison contributed (2) Chicago scenes by Mark Coomer (b.1914- ) in memory of their mother, Jan Bertrum. Phillip & Mary Jane Monteith donated (2) lithographs by Richard Florsheim (1916-1979) and Robert Sudlow from their collection. Jeanne Ashbaugh of Elkhart donated (2) paintings by Emma Schrock (1924-1991) to the MMAA collection bringing the total number of works by the Elkhart County primitive painter to sixteen.



# The Midwest Museum Welcomes its New and Renewing Members

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 \*‡#Mr. & Mrs. Keith Holmes

## CORPORATE

#Lake City Bank

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 #Mr. & Mrs. Harold Smith  
 \*#Tri Kappa - Gamma Chapter

\* indicates new or increased  
 ‡ indicates Charter Member  
 # indicates Donor has donated  
 for more than 10 years.

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 #Eleanore Koppin  
 \*#Heidi A. Linder  
 Michelle Matsey  
 #Thyra Metzler  
 Melissa Miller  
 \*#Patricia Morison  
 \*#Suzan Stuckman  
 \*#Judith Svihla  
 \*#Barbara Toth  
 #Alice (Betty) Wiley  
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 \*Eunice S. Wenger  
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 #Jean Vander Reyden  
 \*#Jeanne Wells  
 \*‡#Eleanor Wiswell



**Summertime at the Museum!!!**  
**SPECIAL RECEPTION**  
**New Overbeck Gallery**  
**Sunday, JULY 20 at 2:00 PM**  
**Modern Images of Native Americans**  
**: The Art of Fritz Scholder**  
**ART CAMPS for students**  
**Free Gallery Talks**

Midwest Museum of American Art  
 429 S. Main St., P.O. Box 1812  
 Elkhart, IN 46515

