

MIDWEST MUSEUM BULLETIN

A PUBLICATION OF THE MIDWEST MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART • 429 South Main St. • Elkhart, IN 46516 • (574) 293-6660
Volume 32, No. 3 MAY/JUNE/JULY 2010 MUSEUM HOURS: Tues. - Fri. 10:00-4:00, Sat. 1:00-4:00, Sun. 1:-4:00 (Free)

MEMBER AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

The 31st Anniversary Celebration

UNBROKEN THREAD Nature Paintings and the American Imagination The Art of Philip Koch

In conjunction with the 31st Anniversary of the Midwest Museum of American Art will present an exhibition of paintings and drawings by Maryland artist Philip Koch with an Opening Reception for the Artist on **Sunday, June 6, from 1-4PM**. The exhibit continues **through September 5**. Koch is no stranger to the Midwest having been the subject of an exhibit at MMAA in 1995 and, earlier in his career, having graduated with an MFA degree from Indiana University in Bloomington in 1972. The museum acquired the painting, "Edward Hopper's Road", in 1995 after the artist's first exhibit.

This exhibition contains a group of drawings, pastels, and paintings that Koch created over the past seven years at various locations in New England. In his travels to Cape Cod and several places in Maine, he followed in the footsteps of artists from the past from the early 19th Century onward to present. Koch lives in Maryland and is senior Professor of Fine Art at the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) in Baltimore. He has achieved national renown as an outstanding landscape painter. Koch feels that artist predecessors influenced his creativity throughout his career. He considers himself very much part of the "unbroken thread" that has evolved through the tradition of depicting New England in art for over 200 years.

Koch's first landscape paintings were done in the hills of southern Indiana in the early 1970's. A former abstract artist, Koch turned to working in a realist direction after seeing the work of Edward Hopper. Since 1983 Koch has enjoyed 12 residencies in Hopper's former painting studio on Cape Cod. Fine Art Connoisseur magazine labeled Koch a "contemporary master."

For more information about the painter Philip Koch go to www.philipkoch.com



*"Acension", 2008, oil on canvas, 40" x 32",
by Philip Koch (b.1948-)*



*"Down to the Bay", 2008, oil on canvas, 36" x 72",
by Philip Koch (b.1948-)*

**DICHROIC GLASS:
The Electric Light and Space Constructions of
RAY HOWLETT
continues thru May 30**

Bus Trip to GRAND RAPIDS

The first Bus Trip of the Summer takes us to the **Grand Rapids Museum of Art** on Tuesday, **July 20**. We will view the exhibition, *Dutch Utopia: American Artists in Holland, 1880-1914*, that examines the work of forty-three American painters drawn to Holland during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. These artists established colonies in six communities in the Netherlands. Inspired by their pastoral surroundings as well as the great tradition of seventeenth-century Dutch art and the work of the contemporary Hague School, these American artists created visions of Dutch society inspired by a nostalgic yearning for a pre-modern way of life.

On the second leg of our journey we will visit the **Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park** to see the work of **Dale Chihuly**. Dale Chihuly the most sought-after glass artist in the world, returns for a second exhibition to celebrate the 15th anniversary of Meijer Gardens. His works will be displayed at 15 sites, from the English Perennial Garden at the entryway to the Frey Boardwalk in the wetlands. Included are chandeliers, glass towers up to 30 feet high, floating spheres, reeds rising from the earth, the sun, the moon, and a rowboat full of glass.

FEE: \$50. Call for reservation & timetable at **293-6660**. Payment due upon reservation.

Evaluation for Condition & Restoration of Artwork with Joel Oppenheimer and Special Lecture on JOHN JAMES AUDUBON (1785-1851)

In conjunction with the 31st Anniversary of the Midwest Museum of American Art and Bradley Vite Fine Arts, Joel Oppenheimer of Joel Oppenheimer Inc., Chicago, will present a **day of Evaluation for Condition & Restoration of artwork** in need of repair on **Saturday, June 12, 2010, from 10:00AM to 4:00PM** at the museum. The museum offers an opportunity for the public to bring a work(s) of art to be evaluated for restoration by experts in the field of conservation **FREE** of charge. Two works of art per person can be brought to the museum for examination on a first-come-first serve basis. Signs will direct visitors to the area for consultation when entering the museum at 429 South Main Street.

On **Sunday, July 11, at 2:00PM**, Joel Oppenheimer will deliver a **FREE** lecture on **John James Audubon**. Audubon is considered to be America's great 19th Century naturalist particularly noted for his depiction of birds of North America. Mr. Oppenheimer has worked as a professional Conservator of works on paper for the past 30 years and has specialized in the collection and sale of Audubon lithographs. He successfully launched his own conservation laboratory and The Natural History Art Gallery that specializes in lithographs by John James Audubon. Joel Oppenheimer Inc fine art galleries are located in Chicago in The Wrigley Building and in Charleston, South Carolina. For more information about Joel Oppenheimer go to www.audubonart.com or contact the museum at (574) 293-6660.

Happy Birthday MMAA

A note from the Director

For 31 years the Midwest Museum of American Art has followed its mission, "to collect, preserve, exhibit, and interpret" works of art by American artists. With this in mind, everything done by the museum has been driven by the desire to operate at the highest level of excellence.

Our Trustees, Advisory Board, Staff, and you the members, through your support, have allowed us to vigorously and responsibly pursue our mission to bring recognition to the often overlooked work of American artists. Your support in these challenging times, when support of the arts is more difficult to obtain, is especially worth recognition. In truth, the Midwest Museum of American Art wouldn't be here without the commitment of members like you.

The Museum feels sad to have lost many major members and donors in 2009, however, I am inspired by our past successes and am looking forward to more years of even greater accomplishments at the Midwest Museum of American Art. Please stop by on May 2 for our Anniversary Celebration so I can personally thank each of you.

Jane Burns, Director

Children's Summer Art Camps

The Midwest Museum will offer a new series of summer Art Camps for students ages 5 (who have completed Kindergarten) through ages 12. Enrollment in all Art Camps will be limited to 20. **FEES for each Art Camp will be \$50** (includes all materials)

ART CAMP I JUNE 14 - JUNE 18 (1-week)

Ages 5 - 7 yrs. 12:30pm - 2:00pm; Mon-Fri

Ages 8 - 12 yrs. 2:30pm - 4:30pm; Mon-Fri

ART CAMP II JULY 12 - JULY 16 (1-week)

Ages 5 - 7 yrs. 12:30pm - 2:00pm; Mon-Fri

Ages 8 - 12 yrs. 2:30pm - 4:30pm; Mon-Fri

An art educator, (to be announced), will lead students on an adventure in creating drawings, watercolors, mixed media works and collages, while utilizing the museum's permanent collection of American Art for inspiration. New projects are emphasized for each session. Call 293-6660 for registration.

•The ARTIST'S ATTIC •

**a SALE of unique ODDITIES
and cast-off treasures**

Friday, June 4

from 11am-5pm

Saturday, June 5

from 1-4pm

**Cash Only. No Checks. All proceeds
from this sale benefit the MMAA
Education & Acquisition Fund**

NOON □ TIME □ TALKS
every Thursday □ 12:20-1:00pm



A Continuing Series on Art & Technology PLUS American Landscape Painting

MAY 6 Herb & Dorothy (film; 89 min.)

This inspirational film tells the story of an ordinary postal clerk and librarian who managed to build one of the most important contemporary art collections in history. (to be shown again on Sunday, May 8 at 2:00PM)

MAY 13 R. Buckminster Fuller (1895-1983)

Curator Brian Byrn discusses this American architect who invented the geodesic dome.

MAY 20 George Rickey (1907-2002)

Curator Brian Byrn discusses the work of the artist and his kinetic sculpture in the 20th Century

MAY 27 Christo (b.1935-) & Jeanne Claude

Assistant Curator Stacy Jordan presents a talk about these two internationally famous artists and their visually impressive but controversial environmental sculpture.

JUN 3 American Light: The Luminist Movement

This film presents the group of New England artists who from 1850 to 1875 created paintings of dramatic color and poetic light. (32-minutes)

JUN 10 Philip Koch (b.1948-)

Curator Brian Byrn presents a talk about the new exhibit of landscape paintings by Maryland artist, Philip Koch.

JUN 17 Thomas Cole (1801-1848)

Assistant Curator Stacy Jordan presents lecture about this early landscape painter who produced both realistic and allegorical works inspiring other New England painters.

JUNE 24 Asher B. Durand (1796-1886)

Curator Brian Byrn presents a talk about the son of a watchmaker and silversmith, Asher Brown Durand. Durand was encouraged by Thomas Cole to become a landscape painter during the Financial Panic of 1837 and became one of the main proponents of the Hudson River School.

JULY 1 John Frederick Kensett (1816-1872)

Assistant Curator Stacy Jordan discusses the work of this 19th Century American painter.

JULY 8 Frederic Edwin Church (1826-1900); film

This film traces Church's career from early studies of the Hudson River Valley to the late, more monumental, natural wonders of South America. (29 minutes)

The series continues in July with the following topics:

JULY 15 Charles Woodbury (1864-1940) (BB)

JULY 22 Edward Hopper (1882-1967) (BB)

JULY 29 Rockwell Kent (1882-1971) (SJ)

TRIBUTES

The Midwest Museum of American Art gratefully acknowledges gifts in honor or in memory of special friends.

In Memory Of

Jim Battjes

by Jane Burns
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Generous Gifts by State & Local Questors

The Midwest Museum of American Art has received monetary gifts for the Roof Fund from three local Questor chapters including La Salle-Rosseau Questors #441, Ann Mann, President; the Christiana Questors #765, Sue Cook, President; and, Michiana Voyagers #14, Gary Mann, President. In addition, past President of the Indiana State Questors, Deb Beck, is to be commended for her extraordinary support in obtaining a generous grant from the state organization for the Roof Fund. Many thanks to all those Questor members for helping maintain a vital component of the museum building.

Other Monetary Gifts

The Midwest Museum of American Art has received monetary gifts to purchase an EdgeStar portable countertop dishwasher with digital controls. Many events take place over the year during which refreshments are served to members and guests. This dishwasher will make life easier for Staff to clean-up afterwards. Thanks goes to Trudy Basquin, Jane Burns, Brian & Lisa Byrn, Verna Brinson, Adah Lynn, Peg Trobaugh, and Mike Wilson for donating monies to achieve this goal.

The Midwest Museum Welcomes its New and Renewing Members

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junktique for the Artist's Attic benefit....

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UNBROKEN THREAD: The Art of Phillip Koch
Opens June 4 thru September 5
The ARTIST'S ATTIC SALE June 4 & 5
Children's Summer Art Camps
Special Talks & FILMS

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