

# NEWS



from the Worcester Art Museum

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## IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## FALL 2007 EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS AT THE WORCESTER ART MUSEUM

(WORCESTER, Mass., August 15, 2007)—The Worcester Art Museum, which opened to the public in 1898, is world-renowned for its **35,000-piece collection** of paintings, sculpture, decorative arts, photography, prints, drawings, and new media. The Permanent Collection spans fifty-one centuries of art and culture. View paintings by Cassatt, Gauguin, Goya, Monet, Sargent and Whistler; admire mosaics from the ancient city of Antioch; see cutting-edge contemporary art; and discover the Museum's many other treasures. **Special exhibitions** showcase masterworks, seldom-seen gems, and important works on loan. Enjoy a delectable lunch in **The Museum Café**, and browse **The Museum Shop** for unique gifts and exhibition catalogues.

Dedicated to the promotion of art and art education, the Museum offers a **year-round studio art and art appreciation program** that enrolls over 7,000 adult and youth students each year. Public tours are offered Saturdays at 11am and Sundays at 1pm, September through May. Audio tours featuring highlights from the Permanent Collection are available in English and Spanish.

**Museum hours** are Wednesday through Sunday, 11am-5pm, Third Thursdays of every month, 11am-8pm, and Saturday, 10am-5pm. **Admission** is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and full-time college students with current ID, and FREE for Members and all youth 17 and under. Admission is also FREE for everyone on Saturday mornings, 10am-noon (co-sponsored by Fidelity Investments and The TJX Companies, Inc., with additional support provided by National Grid.).

The Museum is located at 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, Mass., easily accessible from the Massachusetts Turnpike (I-90), Route 290 and Route 9. Free parking is available near entrances on Salisbury, Lancaster and Tuckerman streets. For more information, visit the Museum website at [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org) or call 508.799.4406.

## EXHIBITIONS

### **Printmaking Methods: Stencil**

*September 8–November 25, 2007*

This exhibition is the fourth in a series of installations examining the techniques of stencil and *pochoir* printmaking. Using fine examples and technical material drawn from the collection, the exhibition explains the materials and procedures of stencil printing. Among the artists included are champions of the process from the 1930s, like Harry Gottlieb and Guy McCoy, Op and Pop artists from the 1960s, like Victor Vasarely and Andy Warhol, and artists whose complex precision prints are often created from scores of overprinted screens, like Richard Estes and Robert Cottingham.

### **Textile Heirlooms from the Indus Valley**

*September 14, 2007–February 3, 2008*

The women of diverse, often nomadic ethnic and cultural groups living in the Indus Valley region (in present-day Pakistan, western India and southeastern Afghanistan) have traditionally infused their heart and soul into their elaborately embroidered garments and functional textile objects. Such vibrant textile heirlooms celebrated important family events, formed dowries and added color to daily domestic life. The exhibited works, dating from the late 19th to the first half of the 20th century, were assembled by the former Ambassador to Pakistan and his wife, Tom and Peggy Simons, collectors who care about conserving and honoring this folk-art tradition.

### **Martha Rosler: Bringing the War Home**

*September 22, 2007–January 13, 2008*

*Martha Rosler: Bringing the War Home* is the first Museum exhibition to bring together Rosler's two landmark series of photomontages. In the pioneering series, *Bringing the War Home: House Beautiful* (1967-1972), news photos of the Vietnam War from *Life* magazine are combined with domestic interiors from *House Beautiful*. The recent group, *Bringing the War Home: House Beautiful, New Series* (2004) revives the strategy to address the current conflict in Iraq. Rosler's montages raise questions about the connections between advertising, journalism, politics, sexism, and violence and re-connect two sides of life that have been falsely separated—distant wars and the living rooms of America.

### **An American Vision: Treasures from the Winterthur Museum**

*November 4, 2007–April 6, 2008*

Winterthur Museum and Country Estate, located near Wilmington, Delaware, was founded in 1951 by the great American collector Henry Francis du Pont. du Pont distinguished himself as an astute connoisseur and collector of American fine and decorative arts. By acquiring many of the finest and rarest items made or used in America between 1640 and 1860, he chronicled American history through the objects Americans owned. Although du Pont's collecting was by his own admission driven by personal interests, he recognized the importance of building a representative collection, which today comprises over 85,000 works. This exhibition presents du Pont's preferences—the greatest strengths of Winterthur's collections—in both thematic and chronological groupings: *Early Settlement and Sophistication*, *A Passion for Rococo*, *East Meets West*, *The Arts of the Pennsylvania Germans*, and *American Classicism*. A self-guided audio tour of the exhibition will be available.

### **Abstract Expressionist Prints**

*December 22, 2007–March 16, 2008*

Since the presentation of *The Stamp of Impulse* in 2000, the Worcester Art Museum has come to be identified around the world with avant-garde American printmaking of the 1940s and 1950s. This reputation is well founded, for since the time of the exhibition the Museum has continued to collect Abstract Expressionist prints by gift and acquisition. This exhibition will present a selection of work that has never been exhibited in Worcester. The artists represented include Grace Hartigan, Hedda Sterne, Alexander Liberman, Joan Mitchell, Robert Motherwell, Milton Resnick and Jackson Pollock.

### **Wall at WAM: Alexander Ross**

*Through Spring 2008*

Known for paintings that are uniquely hybrid in nature, Alexander Ross produced a project for the Museum's Wall at WAM series that adapts his imagery and technique for the second-story setting and grand scale of the Renaissance Court. The result is a new kind of hybrid based on clay elements, photography, drawing and inkjet, which creates a frieze-like expanse activating the entire sixty-seven foot wall. For all their obvious differences, Ross' mural shares with the ancient *Worcester Hunt* mosaic, located below, an action and aesthetic that are notable for disorienting shifts in scale, non-illusionistic space, and moments of improvisation within a system of representation. Although separated by 1500 years, the mosaic and Ross' mural powerfully emulate human emotions, then and now, about the external world. You have to see it to believe it!

## **EVENTS AND PROGRAMMING**

Around every corner of the Museum there are stunning masterpieces spanning 5,000 years of human creativity. Enhance your Museum experience by joining a tour, lecture, gallery talk, concert, performance, family day, party or other event offered throughout the year.

### **September**

#### **Youth Classes Art Exhibition**

*On view through October 19*

#### **Youth Reception, Higgins Education Wing, Sunday, September 9, 1-3pm FREE**

Enjoy the fun artworks created by Museum summer classes Youth students. Discover students' talents in drawing, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, and more in this colorful and varied showing of student work. Free. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406,

[www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

#### **Adult Classes Open House**

*Friday, September 14, 5:30–7pm*

The Museum's Fall Classes brochure is out! Come to the Open House and find out what's new at WAM! Stop by and meet instructors, discuss your artistic interests and goals, and enjoy light refreshments. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn all about the new classes and workshops offered this fall session. Free. Learn more by calling 508.793.4333 or 508.793.4334, or browse the Classes brochure online. Register early as classes fill quickly! Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406,

[www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

#### **Lecture: Tales from the Indus Valley**

*Sunday, September 16, 2pm*

In conjunction with the exhibition *Textile Heirlooms of the Indus Valley*, Ambassador Thomas W. Simons recalls the years he and his wife Peggy spent collecting and traveling in the Indus Valley region. Having lived in the Middle East as a boy and again as the U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan in the 1990s, Dr. Simons' experience will lend a unique vision to this important collection. Held in the Conference Room of the Higgins Education Wing. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

#### **Third Thursday's at WAM: [The Pandas](#) & Gallery Tour with the Director**

*Thursday, September 20, 5:30-8pm*

The Museum is open late the third Thursday of every month until 8pm. Kick off the fall season with local band, [The Pandas](#). Also enjoy a gallery tour with Museum Director, Jim Welu. Always great company, food, and a cash bar. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

#### **Adult Fall Classes**

*Starting September 24*

Join the Museum for new classes and workshops, or sign up for an old favorite. The fall session of classes offers something for everyone, and all of our adult classes are offered for PDPs. Dynamic program combines viewing authentic art objects in the galleries with art-making experiences in the studios. Workshops and classes in drawing, painting, sculpture, photography, computer arts, creative writing as well as exciting off-site programs here and abroad. Learn more by calling 508.793.4333 or 508.793.4334, or browse the Classes brochure online. Register early as classes fill quickly! Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **WAM 101: College Student Night**

*Tuesday, September 25, 5:30–8pm*

FREE for all college and graduate students from any discipline who are interested in finding out about all the great things happening at the Worcester Art Museum. The Museum is closed to everyone else, but the doors are opening just for you! Venture off campus and join Museum Director Jim Welu as he takes you on a tour of special exhibitions. Enjoy munchies, beverages, and free museum stuff! No RSVP required. Registration in Lancaster Lobby, through the Lancaster Street entrance. College Freshman...don't forget to bring your Woo Card to rack up your points! Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **October**

#### **Youth Fall Classes**

*Starting October 9*

Check online or flip through the Classes Brochure to see the artistic opportunities that pop up when fall arrives at WAM! Learn more by calling 508.793.4333 or 508.793.4334, or browse the Classes brochure online. Register early as classes fill quickly! Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

#### **Artist Demonstration: Stencils**

*Sunday, October 14, 12-3pm*

*Lancaster Lobby*

Join artist and Worcester Art Museum instructor Randy LeSage as he demonstrates the artistic techniques used in the exhibition *Printmaking Methods/Stencil*. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

#### **Archeological Institute of America (AIA) Lecture Series: Archaeology and Technology**

*Tuesday, October 16th, 7:30pm*

Thomas Holland will speak at the Museum about the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, a military unit charged with finding missing soldiers. The unit uses forensic and archaeological methods as a means of establishing the identity of MIA remains. Mr. Holland is the Scientific Chief of the Joint POW/MIA Accounting at the Central Identification Laboratory. Free. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

#### **Third Thursday's at WAM: [Chromatic Swing](#) & A Conversation with the Artist: Martha Rosler**

*Thursday, October 18, 5:30-8pm*

The Museum is open late the third Thursday of every month until 8pm. Through May, live music will be featured! In October, enjoy the sounds of [Chromatic Swing](#). Also enjoy A Conversation with the Artist: Martha Rosler. Always great company, food, and a cash bar. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

#### **A Conversation with the Artist: Martha Rosler**

*Thursday, October 18, 7–7:30pm*

In conjunction with the exhibition *Martha Rosler: Brining the War Home* the artist discusses the significance of this exhibition and her work with Curator of Contemporary Art, Susan Stoops. Held in the Contemporary Gallery with reception to follow in The Museum Café. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

#### **Annual Birder's Tour of the Worcester Art Museum**

*Saturday, October 20, 2pm (One Day Only!)*

Don your wellies! Bring your bins! Get your life list out! It's the annual *Birder's Tour of the Worcester Art Museum* in which we wend our way through 4000 years of art identifying species of birds found in the works. This is a birding trip like no other. Come and learn how birds have been admired in art, myth and religion for their beauty, wildness, variety, powers of flight and, er....taste! Birds and are found in every corner of the Worcester Art Museum, from Ancient Egypt to Modern Art. From the exotic Purple

Swamphen and Helmeted Guineafowl to commonplace chickens and turkeys: we will look at them all. Art Museums are important and unique resources in natural history; come and find out why. This unique tour is led by Museum teacher and Docent Mark Lynch, who is also a trip leader, teacher and ecological monitor for Massachusetts Audubon Society at Broad Meadow Brook Sanctuary. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **Appraisal: Treasure or Trash Day**

*Sunday, October 28, 12–5pm*

Do you have a family heirloom passed down through generations? Maybe a great yard sale item or flea market finds that might be a treasure? Would you like to know what it is worth? Bring your special items to *Treasure or Trash Day* at the Worcester Art Museum. Appraisers from Skinner, Inc. Auctioneers and Appraisers of Boston and Bolton, MA will provide verbal appraisals for your items. You may have seen these appraisers on the popular series the *Antiques Roadshow*. Please do not bring coins, stamps, jewelry or musical instruments. Good quality photographs can be substituted for large or fragile items. A sample place setting from a full set of china is all that is necessary. *Arrangements can be made with Skinner's appraisal services department at 978.779.6241 for a written appraisal.* Held in Lancaster Lobby, Higgins Education Wing. Single item appraisals: \$10 Members, \$15 Nonmembers. Up to 3 item appraisal: \$25 Members, \$30 Nonmembers. For frequently asked questions and preregistration information call 508.793.4334, or 508.793.4333, or go online at [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org). Drop-ins welcome. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

## **November**

### **Adult Classes Offsite/Insight Art Exhibition: Italy & Greece**

*On view November 1-22*

### **Reception: Adult Classes Offsite/Insight Art Exhibition: Italy & Greece**

**Thursday, November 15, 5–7pm FREE**

Take a trip without leaving home and learn about the Museum's study abroad classes! Higgins Education Wing. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **Opening Celebration: An American Vision**

*Saturday, November 3, 8–11pm*

Join us to celebrate the world's greatest collection of American Decorative Arts in the United States from the Winterthur Museum and Country Estate in Winterthur, Delaware. Henry Francis du Pont, an advisor to Jackie Kennedy when she redecorated the White House, lovingly collected American Decorative Arts, and this exhibition showcases some of the finest examples from his personal collection. Enjoy music, hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. A party not to be missed! \$15 Members, \$25 Nonmembers. RSVP to 508.799.4406, x3105 or online at [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org). Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **Profs Night**

*Thursday, November 8, 5:30pm*

College Professors...are you interested in finding out ways to incorporate the Museum collection and exhibitions into your curriculum? Join Museum Director Jim Welu for a private tour of the Permanent Collection, Conservation Lab, and other areas of the Museum facility that are rarely open to the public. Held in The Museum Café. Light dinner will be served. Free. RSVP required to Debby Aframe, Librarian, at [debbyaframe@worcesterart.org](mailto:debbyaframe@worcesterart.org), or call 508.799.4406 x3106. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **Archeological Institute of America (AIA) Lecture Series: Egyptology**

*Friday, November 9th, 7:30pm*

The first evidence of Egyptian activities in the western Sinai comes from the 3rd Dynasty. After this time Egyptian expeditions exploited the region around the sites of Maghâra and Serâbît el-Châdim for another 1500 years. During the latter phase of this a new focus of exploitation emerged - the vast mines near Timna in the Wadi Araba, located in today's Israel. This lecture, lead by Thomas Hikade, will explore the landscape of

the Sinai and the mining regions, present the archaeological and epigraphical material from major sites in the western and eastern Sinai, and will outline the efforts undertaken by the Egyptians in order to procure precious raw materials. Conference Room, Higgins Education Wing. Free. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

**Lecture: Howard Zinn on Bringing the War Home**

*Sunday, November 11, 2pm*

Noteworthy historian, playwright, and social activist Howard Zinn will speak in conjunction with the exhibition by contemporary artist Martha Rosler: *Bringing the War Home*. Zinn will make parallels between Rosler's work and our nation's history with conflict. **Lecture will be held at the United Congregational Church**, entrance near Institute Road and Tuckerman Street. Reception to follow in the Museum galleries. \$15 Members, \$20 Nonmembers, Veterans Free. Pre-registration is required. For student group rates, please call 508.793.4333 or 508.793.4334, or register online at [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org). Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406

**November Tour of the Month: Treasures from the Winterthur Museum**

*Wednesday, November 14, 2pm*

*Saturday, November 17, 2pm*

Join Docent Emily Wolf as she takes you through an in-depth look at the culture of Early America via the exhibition *An American Vision: Treasures from the Winterthur Museum*. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

**Third Thursday's at WAM: [Ameranouche](http://www.worcesterart.org) & Winterthur Gallery Tour**

*Thursday, November 15, 5:30-8pm*

The Museum is open late the third Thursday of every month until 8pm. Through May, live music will be featured! In November, enjoy Gypsy Jazz stylings of [Ameranouche](http://www.worcesterart.org). Also gallery tour of the exhibition *An American Vision: Treasures from the Winterthur Museum*. Always great company, food, and a cash bar. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

**Family Day Celebrate America!**

*Sunday, November 18, 1-4:30pm*

Discover the art and culture of early America at the Museum! Held in conjunction with the exhibition *An American Vision: Treasures from the Winterthur Museum*, take part in this adventure for all ages through art-making activities, performances, and much more! Family Day is sponsored by Bank of America. Free with Museum admission. Free for Youth 17 and under. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

**15th Annual WAM Food Drive**

*Friday, November 23, 11am-5pm*

The Museum is collecting food donations for local shelters and food pantries. Visitors who deliver nonperishable food items to any of the Museum's entrances the Friday after Thanksgiving may enjoy free admission. All food donations, such as canned soups and vegetables, boxed pastas and cereals, and paper goods are accepted. Thank you for your support! Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

**December**

**December Tour of the Month: What Child is This? Images of the Nativity**

*Wednesday, December 12, 2pm*

*Saturday, December 15, 2pm*

Just in time for the Christmas season, Docent Barbara Steege will guide you through images of the Christ Child in scenes of the Nativity, found in the Worcester Art Museum galleries. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **Adult Classes Art Exhibition**

*December 7, 2007–January 28, 2008*

Take pleasure in the creative work accomplished by adult students in the fall session of classes. The exhibition highlights drawings, paintings, photographs, prints, mosaics, sculpture, computer art, and more. A reception honoring these artists will be held in January. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **Third Thursday's at WAM: Kallin Johnson & Holiday Celebration**

*Thursday, December 20, 5:30-8pm*

The Museum is open late the third Thursday of every month until 8pm. Through May, live music will be featured! In December, enjoy pianist Kallin Johnson. Also this month, enjoy holiday shopping at the Museum Shop – Members receive special discount in December. Always great company, food, and a cash bar. Held in the Renaissance Court. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **First Night Worcester at WAM: A Tropical New Year's Celebration!**

*Monday, December 31, 2-8pm*

Bring out your ugliest Hawaiian shirt and sunglasses and join in as the Museum helps *First Night Worcester* bring in the New Year! Guaranteed to heat up your December night, your inexpensive *First Night* button gives you entree to an afternoon and evening of sizzlin' artistic delight! Check your local newspaper for the FNW program guide, or [www.firstnightworcester.com](http://www.firstnightworcester.com) for specific program information, times and locations. Come visit the Museum throughout the day and evening for exhibition viewing and participatory art making experiences for the entire family in the Higgins Education Wing. Happy New Year! Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **Save the Date**

#### **Flora in Winter 2008 – ON View Four Days ONLY!**

*January 24–27, 2007*

Come see the magnificent floral interpretations of artworks from the Worcester Art Museum's collection. It's a feast for the eyes and spirit in the middle of winter. Presented in partnership with Tower Hill Botanic Garden. Visit [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org) for information about special events and programming.

#### **Decorative Arts Symposium: Collecting and Preserving Early America**

*Sunday, March 16, 2008, Time TBD*

In conjunction with the exhibition *An American Vision: Treasures from the Winterthur Museum*, this symposium will focus on the need to collect and preserve the cultural history of Early America. Preeminent scholars from throughout the nation will present on a variety of topics. Pre-registration required.

#### **2008 Grand Tour: Worcester Art Museum Gala Auction**

April 12, 2008, Mechanics Hall

Electronic images available.

Editors: Why typeset when you can copy and paste from the web?

Find this release online at <http://www.worcesterart.org/Information/press.html>

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