# ARTavoras

### REORDERING THE UNIVERSE: RECENT ACQUISITIONS

#### On view through November 5, 2006

Although it may seem a hyperbole to declare the universe reordered with the confluence of three dozen works of art, it just might be accurate when taking into account the magnificent miscellany that is *Reordering the Universe: Recent Acquisitions*.

This assortment of the latest works of art to enter the BSUMA collection is delightfully diverse. All the works have been acquired since Peter Blume became director in 2003. The scope of the exhibition is enormous, including everything from artifacts made in pre-Dynastic China to contemporary artists. Sculpture, painting, decorative arts prints, and more are given space in this remarkable exhibition.

A bonus to *Reordering the Universe* is its thematic organization. Games, Vanity, Politics, Foodways, Drawing on the Classical World, Rituals and Symbols of Power, Deluxe, and Myths and Legends are the sub-themes that group works of art from disparate cultures and time periods around these powerful ideas that are prevalent in all cultures. Members of the Ball State faculty were invited to contribute brief insights into the meaning of these works of art from their discipline's point of view, as part of a larger cultural matrix. A successful work of art will always reveal a great deal about the time and context in which is was made and used.

Professors dedicating their time and knowledge to this exhibition were Able Alves, History; Colleen Boyd, Anthropology; Frank Felsenstein, English; Patricia Nelson, Art; Diana Saiki, Family and Consumer Sciences; Chris Shea, Modern Languages and Classics; and Ken Swope. Also contributing were Ruta Saliklis, associate director, and Peter Blume, director of the BSUMA.

Reordering the Universe will be on view through Sunday, November 5, 2006; bring a friend and prepare to learn something new.



Chandelle • Norman Bluhm • 1966 Gift of the family of Norman Bluhm

a newsletter for the friends of





#### CREATURES OF THE SEA & SKY



Cupid and Crane Carl Paul Jennewein • 1923 BSUMA



Offering Table with Food for the Afterlife
China, Ming Dynasty • 1368-1644
Gift of Thomas and Marsha French in honor of David T. Owsley

Who hasn't wanted to be a bird? Who hasn't wanted to be able to fly without the restraints of noisy airplanes, to soar through clouds and sky without a care? Birds are inspiring creatures, and their myriad colors, shapes, and sizes have fascinated people, particularly artists, since the beginning of time. The same can be said of fish, those slippery big-eyed beings, as they wander effortlessly into the intriguing mysteries of the deepest ocean. Submarines may be an adequate substitute, but the experience of being a fish has never been truly replicated by human beings.

These captivating truths are paramount in *Creatures of the Sea and Sky*, a new special exhibition opened Friday, May 19, 2006. Ruta Saliklis, associate director of the BSUMA, has devoted months to selecting and presenting some very special works from the museum's collection to create this extraordinary compilation.

Spanning many artistic styles and regions across the globe, the works of art in *Creatures of the Sea and Sky* are a fun, educational treat for the young (and young at heart). Colorful sculptures, detailed paintings, and many more works will undoubtedly capture the imaginations of not only children, but their families and friends as well.

As a special enhancement for this exhibition, listen carefully for the sounds of chirping birds throughout the gallery! People of all ages are welcome to enjoy this whimsical gathering of a diverse range of styles and artistic methods.

Creatures of the Sea and Sky will be on view through Sunday, November 5, 2006.

### FISHY & FEATHERY FAMILY DAY

What's better than a family gathering in the summer? That's right...a family gathering in the summer at the 70<sup>th</sup> birthday bash of your exceptional art museum. Bring the entire family to the Museum of Art on Saturday, July 1, for an afternoon of fun activities. Young and old alike will find something to fascinate and amuse them at this summer's Family Day.

Planned for all guests are music, scavenger hunts with exciting prizes, hands-on activities, special mini-tours and gallery activities, and a giant birthday cake for the BSUMA! The museum turns 70 this year, and the continued patronage of east central Indiana families is one of the best gifts we continue to receive.

Be sure to check out the special exhibitions *Reordering the Universe: Recent Acquisitions* and *Creatures of the Sea and Sky* while visiting the museum for Family Day; its aviary and aquatic themes are perfect for children and anyone who likes animals. Then, take a stroll through the rest of the museum and see how many fish and birds you can find in other works of art!

Family Day is on Saturday, July 1 from 2 pm to 4 pm. Admission to the museum, including all Family Day activities, is free of charge. Parking is available at the new McKinley Parking Structure at the corner of McKinley and Ashland Avenues on the Ball State University campus. For additional parking information, please visit http://www.bsu.edu/artmuseum/visit or call BSU Parking Services at (765) 285-1208.



FAMILY DAY • Children can participate in hands-on creative activities.



# CALENDAR of EVENTS summer 2006

#### **JULY**

**SATURDAY** • 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Family Day: Celebrating with Fish & Feathery Friends

In association with *Creatures of the Sea and Sky*, hands-on bird and fish-related art activities, a screening of the *Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill* (2003, *83 minutes*), birthday cake in honor of the Museum of Art's 70th anniversary, and more.

#### 4 TUESDAY

Museum closed for Independence Day



THE MUSEUM OF ART'S WEST GALLERY featuring The Thompson Collection, 1942

#### **AUGUST**

18 FRIDAY • 12:30 pm

Welcome Week: Freshman Orientation

See why the Ball State University of Museum of Art is the preeminent east central Indiana art museum. Open to incoming freshmen; call 285-5242 to register.

#### 21 MONDAY

Fall semester begins

27 SUNDAY • 2:30 pm

Reel Time: Space Firebird

(1981, 103 minutes), is a classic Jappanese award-winning anime film from Osamu Tezuka about the age-old questions of birth and life, and the meaning of it all.

\* Programs highlighted with asterisks are part of a year-long celebration of events and activities commemorating the 70th anniversary of the Ball State Museum of Art, 1936-2006.

First Person is an occasional program offered by the Ball State University Museum of Art for visitors to meet staff and discuss informally artwork in the collection as well as its museological principles.

All programs are free unless otherwise noted.

Admission to the Ball State University

Museum of Art is complimentary.

## CALENDAR of EVENTS

#### summer 2006



#### SEPTEMBER

**MONDAY** • 12:00 pm

Museum closed for Labor Day

TUESDAY • 12:00 pm

Art High at Noon: Glass

See and discuss examples from ancient Rome and contemporary artist Dale Chihuly's Basket Piece with a museum docent.

19 TUESDAY • 12:00 pm

Art High at Noon: Visually Representing

Compare in the gallery Vic Muniz's Seville Orange, Silver Goblet, Apples, Pear, and Two Bottles, After Chardin; and Katherine Porter's Chalantenango with a museum docent.

#### 24 SUNDAY

First Person: Director's Highlights\*

Join director Peter Blume for a tour of the favorites he organized for Reordering the Universe: Recent Acquisitions, and find out more about how the Museum of Art builds its collection.



#### **OCTOBER**

TUESDAY · 12:00 pm

Art High at Noon: Gold

View and discuss Pre-Columbian pre-contact gold pendants.

17 TUESDAY • 12:00 pm

Art High at Noon: Childe Hassam

In honor of the artist's birthday, see his paintings Bowl of Goldfish and At the Window.

22 SUNDAY • 2:30 pm

First Person: Fish and Feathered Friends\*

Tour Creatures of the Sea and Sky with Tania Said, curator of education, and learn about the exhibition organized by former associate director Ruta T. Salikilis

#### 27 FRIDAY

#### Annual Halloween Bash

The Ball State University Museum of Art puts on its scariest face for a real monster mash with a costume contest, music, food, and "kreepy kids krafts."

#### 29-31 SUNDAY-TUESDAY

Fall Break

Museum keeps regular hours.

#### NOVEMBER

SUNDAY · 12:00 pm

**Exhibitions closing:** 

Creatures of the Sea and Sky

Reordering the Universe: Recent Acquisitions

From Reordering the Universe: Recent Acquisitions Proserpine • Hiram Powers • 1844-49 Gift of David T. Owsley in honor of Dr. Thomas Sargent and Frances Petty Sargent





The Art Building under construction, August 20, 1934.

Dignitaries placing items in the cornerstone box, July 1934.

his year, the Ball State University Museum of Art celebrates its past, present, and while recognizing its 70th birthday. As east central Indiana's premiere resource for visual art, the museum has an important role and will continue to excel in its endeavor to educate about and through art while meeting the region's growing expectations.

The original Muncie Art Association was formed in 1892 and hosted public exhibitions of American and European artworks. It was not long before the group expanded its goals to purchase and collect several of the exhibited artworks each year. The idea that Muncie should have its own permanent art gallery was subsequently formulated.

The Muncie Art Association used the public library on East Jackson Street to display its small collection for some time, followed by the hallways of Muncie Central High School's art department. A 1920 addition to the Ball State Teachers College allowed space for an art gallery, and with that the Association's collection had a home.

During the 1930s and 1940s, the size of the permanent collection at the new Ball State Art Gallery grew dramatically. Local collectors and benefactors, including members of the Ball family, lent and donated from their own collections with impressive generosity. Plans for a new, larger art gallery were approved, and the new space was to be completed by September 1, 1933. However, the economic hardship of the Great Depression hurt funding for the new gallery and subsequent building projects were frozen. Hope returned in the form of a federal Public Works Administration grant, and the Ball State University Museum of Art as we know it was completed in 1935.

Clever number crunchers may deduce that this makes the museum seventy-one years old, not seventy, but the formal opening reception for the museum was not held until April 30, 1936. Thus anniversaries have been celebrated according to the official opening date. Francis F. Brown was the first director of the museum, and it is for him that the Brown Study Room is named.

Over the years, the museum has acquired, researched, documented, preserved, and exhibited works as a cultural contribution for the campus, the community, and the state. Some of our works have been loaned for major exhibitions to other museums, including the Musée du Louvre in Paris and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

The Ball State University Museum of Art has a rich and proud history that warrants celebration, and with many special exhibitions and events planned for this summer, it has never been easier to be a part of this exciting museum family.

# TH MUSEUM OF ART ANNIVERSARY





President L. A. Pittenger capping the Art Building gable, 1935.

Fine Arts Building architect George Schreiber (right) presents keys to university president L.A. Pittenger (left), 1936.

#### Help the Museum of Art Develop a New Slogan!

New exhibitions and a new color scheme are just a couple of the exciting changes happening in honor of our 70th anniversary. But most exciting of all is the unique chance to see your words become the new Ball State University Museum of Art slogan! Anyone can submit a potential slogan, and from these entries a winner will be named next year. Submit your idea through our homepage by visiting the "Help the BSUMA Create a New Slogan" link or by mailing your submission to artmuseum@bsu.edu or the BSU Museum of Art, Attention: Slogan, Ball State University, Muncie, IN, 47306. The contest will run through March 1, 2007. For more information, please visit our website or call (765) 285-5242.



Francis F. Brown views a sculpture by Leo Amino in 1947. Brown supervised the Gallery until 1948.

Ball State Art Gallery in the former library of North Quad. Exhibition of the Frank C. Ball Collection.





MUSEUM HOURS

MONDAY-FRIDAY
9:00 AM-4:30 PM

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
1:30 PM-4:30 PM

765.285.5242 www.bsu.edu/artmuseum

#### in this ISSUE

Reordering the Universe: Recent Acquisitions	1
Creatures of the Sea & Sky	2
Fishy & Feathery Family Day	3
Calendar of Events	4
BSU Museum of Art 70th Anniversary	6

MBALL STATE UNIVERSITY
USEUM OF ART

**CELEBRATING 70 YEARS 1936 - 2006** 

BALL STATE UNIVERSITY MUNCIE, IN 47306

Membership Levels	within one year
DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE	○ \$5,000 OR MORE
PHILANTHROPIST	\$2,000-\$4,999
BENEFACTOR	\$1,000-1,999
SUSTAINING	<b>\$500-999</b>
PATRON	\$250-499
SPONSOR	\$100-249
FAMILY/DUAL	<b>\$50-99</b>
INDIVIDUAL	\$25-49
O NEW O RENEWAL	
GIFT FROM	

please complete this form and mail it to the address listed below.
O Please sign me up as a Ball State University Museum of Art member, or
O Please process this gift membership for me.
O Enclosed is a check for \$ made out to the Ball State University Museum of Art.
O Charge my credit card for \$
Credit card #
○ Visa or ○ MasterCard Exp. Date/
CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE

To become a member of the Ball State University Museum of Art,

#### SUMMER 2006 - VOLUME 11 | NUMBER 4

Art Words is published quarterly by the Ball State University Museum of Art • Muncie, IN Writing : Marie Zatezalo • Editor: Tania Said ArtWords Design: Marin & Marin Design Group ©2006. All rights reserved.

MR./MRS./MISS/MS./DR.	
SPOUSE/PARTNER/OTHER ADULT'S NAME	
ADDRESS	
CITY	STATE ZIP
WORK PHONE	HOME PHONE
E-MAIL	