

NEWS

from the Worcester Art Museum

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IMMEDIATE



ADMISSION AND HOURS HAVE CHANGED

JANUARY – MARCH 2007 EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS AT THE WORCESTER ART MUSEUM

(WORCESTER, Mass., January 5, 2007) — The Worcester Art Museum, which opened to the public in 1898, is world-renowned for its 40,000-piece collection of paintings, sculpture, decorative arts, photography, prints, drawings and new media. The works span 5,000 years of art and culture. View paintings by Cassatt, Gauguin, Goya, Monet, Sargent and Whistler; admire floor mosaics from the ancient city of Antioch; see cutting-edge contemporary art; and discover the Museum's many other treasures. Special exhibitions showcase the masterworks, seldom-seen gems, and important works on loan. Enjoy a delectable lunch in the Museum Café, and browse the Shop for unique gifts and mementos.

Dedicated to the promotion of art and art education, the Museum offers a year-round studio art and art appreciation program that enrolls over 6,000 adult and youth students each year. Public tours are offered Saturdays at 11 a.m. and Sundays at 1 p.m., September through May. Audio tours are also available in English and Spanish.

Museum hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Third Thursdays of every month, 11 a.m.-8 p.m. (evening hours sponsored by Commerce Bank), and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 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, 10 a.m.-noon (sponsored by The TJX Companies, Inc. and 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, call (508) 799-4406 or visit the Museum web site at www.worcesterart.org

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

Mi Puerto Rico: Master Painters of the Island, 1780-1952

Through January 14, 2007

This exhibition, the first comprehensive show of its kind, celebrates the art and artists of this Caribbean paradise. *Mi Puerto Rico* beautifully illustrates the rich artistic heritage of this Commonwealth of the United States and includes over forty paintings featuring portraits, landscapes, still lifes, and scenes from everyday life, by Puerto Rico's greatest masters: José Campeche (1751-1809), Francisco Oller (1833-1917), and Miguel Pou (1880-1968) plus many more influential artists of the time.

Louise Bourgeois: The Woven Child (in context)

Through February 25, 2007

At 95, Louise Bourgeois, who has been making art since the 1940s, continues to be one of the most innovative and influential artists of our time. This exhibition focuses on a group of Bourgeois' fabric figures and books (from 1996-2004), and includes the United States premiere of a major fabric sculpture, *The Woven Child* (2002), recently acquired by the Museum. The project introduces what is new in this artist's prolific career while it also demonstrates the continued relevance of textiles to Bourgeois.

La Belle Epoque: Works on Paper, 1885-1915

Through March 28, 2007

This installation drawn from the Museum's permanent collection of prints, drawings, and photographs reflects the vivacious *Belle Epoque*, "the Beautiful Era" at the turn of the last century when the French styles of Realism, Impressionism, Orientalism, and Art Nouveau simultaneously influenced art and fashion throughout the West. The presentation will include prints by Auguste Renoir and James McNeil Whistler, drawings by Edgar Degas and Maurice Prendergast, and photographs by Eugene Atget and Alfred Stieglitz.

Mountain Harvests: Chinese Jades and Other Treasured Stones

Through June 17, 2007

Nearly 100 objects in jade, amethyst, agate, turquoise, coral, amber, crystal and other colorful stones comprise this exhibition. The works date from the 3000 BC to the 20th century and range from ceremonial objects and pendants from early tombs to desktop accessories, such as brush-pots and table-screens or mountain scenes. Later works on view, often representing figures, animals, flowers, fruits, vases or old bronze vessels, tend to be decorative in function.

Flora in Winter 2007

February 1-4, 2007

The Museum comes alive this February for our 5th Annual *Flora in Winter* celebration. Worcester Art Museum and Tower Hill Botanic Garden collaborate to host *Flora in Winter*, the premier floral design event of the year. Skilled artisans from across New England create clever, provocative interpretations at both venues. It is a succulent feast for the eyes and spirit in the middle of winter. Visit www.worcesterart.org for a schedule of events, concerts, demonstrations and tours.

Youth Art Month

March 1-31, 2007

Marvel at the talent and creativity of art students in grades K-12 from all over Central Massachusetts and the MetroWest. Each year, the Worcester Art Museum joins the Massachusetts Art Education Association to celebrate the national Youth Art Month with a salon-style, floor-to-ceiling exhibition of more than 400 student works.

Sketches from Here and There: Gustave Baumann Gouaches

April 28 – July 29, 2007

Gustave Baumann was the most popular and influential woodcut artist of the twentieth century. The Museum has recently received a major gift of prints and drawings from the Baumann Estate. To announce and celebrate this significant gift, the Museum will present an exhibition of about fifty of Baumann's original gouache sketches.

Edward Ruscha/Raymond Pettibon: The Holy Bible and THE END

April 7 – May 27, 2007

This exhibition brings together Ed Ruscha and Raymond Pettibon, two major contemporary artists who, as individuals, explore the associations of images and words. The project represents their recent collaborative work on two print series, *The Holy Bible* and *THE END*, printed under the auspices of master printer, Ed Hamilton, at Hamilton Press, Venice, California. In addition to thirty-three collaborative lithographs, the exhibition will include drawings, prints, and a zine (self-published Xeroxed books) by Pettibon and prints, altered books, and paintings by Ruscha.

Wall at WAM: Alexander Ross

March 22, 2007 – Spring 2008

Known for paintings that are uniquely hybrid in nature, Ross has conceived 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.

EVENTS

JANUARY

Adult Art Student Exhibition

Through January 28

Enjoy the creative work done by adult students in the fall session of classes. The exhibition showcases drawings, paintings, photographs, prints, mosaics, sculpture, computer art, and more. Free. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

Three Kings Day Celebration

Saturday, January 6, 1-3pm

Celebrate *Three Kings Day* at the Museum! Planned in conjunction with the exhibition *Mi Puerto Rico*, guests of all ages will enjoy traditional Puerto Rican food, music, a special Santos carving demonstration, and a few surprises. This event is supported in part by a generous grant from the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

Youth Winter Classes

Starting January 9

A wide range of classes are offered for children this winter. Parents and children ages 3-5 can escape the cold of winter and head to the tropics by creating art in *Island Adventure*. Come explore art, culture, and language in *French Art, Culture, and Conversation* for 5-7 year olds. Students ages 8-10 years old can choose from studio art courses, or get computer savvy in *Get an iLife*. Exciting 3-D art and sculpture classes are being offered for 11-13 year olds, including *Seeing in Sculpture* and *Textile and Fiber Arts*, and students ages 14-17 will have a chance to build their portfolio in a multimedia portfolio preparation class. Learn more by calling 508.799.4406 x3129, 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

Adult Open House and Adult Student Exhibition Reception

Thursday, January 11, 5:30-7 pm

Come to this celebration of art in the Higgins Education Wing, and find out what's new at WAM! Stop by and meet our instructors, view student artwork from the fall session, discuss your artistic interests and goals, and enjoy light refreshments. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn all about the new classes and workshops we are offering this winter/spring session. Free. Learn more by calling 508.799.4406 x3129, 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

Mi Puerto Rico: Gran Final

Friday, January 12, 8-11pm (snow date: Saturday, January 13)

Did you come to the opening and have a great time, or did you miss the opening and wish you were there? This festive evening features live music by *Curubande*, and the salsa stylings of Ray and Annette Gonzalez from *Salsa Storm*. This is a party not to be missed! Food from the island, cash bar. Call the RSVP line or pay at the door: 508.799.4406 x3105. \$10 members; \$15 nonmembers. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

January Tour of the Month: *Images of Children in the Collection*

Wednesday, January 17, 2pm

Saturday, January 20, 2pm

Look closely at the artworks in the Museum and you are bound to find representations of children throughout the centuries. Join Museum docent Paula Connelly as she talks about some of the children immortalized in the masterpieces of the Museum's permanent collection. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

Young Friends – January Third Thursday

Gallery Talk: Louise Bourgeois

Thursday, January 18, 5:30-8pm

Join the Young Friends of the Worcester Art Museum, a group of young professionals who appreciate art and enjoy socializing on a monthly basis, for an evening featuring a gallery tour, appetizers, and a cash bar. Susan Stoops, curator of Contemporary art, leads a tour of the provocative exhibition, *Louise Bourgeois: The Woven Child (in context)*. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

Adult Winter Classes

Starting January 22

Join us for new classes and workshops, or sign up for an old favorite. The winter/spring 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 508.799.4406 x3129, 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

Gallery Talk & Reception: Judith Solodkin

Sunday, January 28, 2pm

Judith Solodkin, Master Printer & Founder of Solo Impression, New York, talks about printing Louise Bourgeois' fabric and color lithograph book, *Ode à l'oubli*. View the exhibition, *Louise Bourgeois: The Woven Child (in context)*. Complimentary appetizers, cash bar. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

FEBRUARY

Flora Euphoria

Thursday, February 1, 6-8:30pm

Join us at the Museum Thursday night and enjoy the flowers at their freshest. Breathe in the fresh smell of spring, wander the galleries, visit with friends, or just be inspired! Live music, hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar add to the evening's festivities. No RSVP required. Free for WAM Members; \$15 for Nonmembers; \$7 THBG Members. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

Flora in Winter Interpretive Challenge Class

Friday, February 2, 3-5 pm

Watch and learn as a select group of arrangers craft beautiful floral designs inspired by an ancient mosaic. The finished arrangements will be on view to enjoy for the duration of *Flora in Winter*. Held in the Discovery Gallery. No RSVP required. \$5 Fee in addition to Museum Admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

Flora in Winter Demonstration: Arranging Flowers with Treasures at Home

Saturday, February 3, 3 pm

Arranger Ginna Thoma reveals some great ideas used by professionals (and flower enthusiasts alike!) to create floral masterpieces at home. Ginna will show you how drawing inspiration from the things that you love in your home, a photograph, vase or sculptural object, can bring out your creative side resulting in unique flower arrangements for all occasions. Held in the Conference Room, Higgins Education Wing. No RSVP required. \$5 Fee in addition to Museum Admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

Flora in Winter: Beyond the Seen

Sunday, February 4, 11am-4pm

Worcester Art Museum, in collaboration with Audio Journal, is making the popular *Flora in Winter* arrangements accessible to people with visual impairments. A tactile table with live flowers, greens, and other floral materials will be available in the Museum Library. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

A Cappella Concert at the Worcester Art Museum

Sunday, February 4, 3 pm

The *Master Singers To Go* will provide ambience for the final afternoon of *Flora in Winter*. Held in Renaissance Court. No RSVP required. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

Career Night

Wednesday, February 7, 5:30-8pm

Are you a college student thinking about a career in a Museum environment? Hear from a panel of art professionals, and then take part in break-out sessions to learn more about the careers that interest you most. Free. RSVP by Tuesday, February 6 to Debby Aframe at debbyaframe@worcesterart.org. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

Black History Month Celebration

Sunday, February 11, 1-3pm

To commemorate the achievements of African Americans, the Museum hosts a special reception in celebration of Black History Month. There will be a viewing of artworks created by Worcester youth participating in the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. *Keeping the Dream Alive* Essay Contest. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

Archeological Institute of America (AIA) Lecture Series

Ossuaries and the Burials of Jesus and James

Sunday, February 11, 3pm

Presented by Dr. Jodi Magness, Associate Department Chair, Religious Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In November 2002, the existence of a spectacular archaeological artifact was announced to the world: a small stone box called an ossuary inscribed with the name of James, the brother of Jesus. Since then, controversies have swirled around this ossuary, with scientific analyses indicating that all or part of the inscription is a modern forgery. Dr. Magness will discuss the ossuary within the context of ancient Jewish tombs and burial customs in Jerusalem in the time of Jesus (late Second Temple Period). Dr. Magness suggests that even if the inscription is authentic (ancient), this small stone box would never have contained the remains of James the Just, brother of Jesus. Free. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

February Tour of the Month: *Sin and Seduction*

Wednesday, February 14, 2pm

Saturday, February 17, 2pm

Museum docent Antonella Doucette once again takes us on an exciting exploration of sinful representations of woman throughout the Museum's collection. Discover these intriguing stories from across time in order to reach a better understanding of our cultural past. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

Young Friends – February Third Thursday

Looking for Love Trivia Tour

Thursday, February 15, 5:30-8pm

Join the Young Friends of the Worcester Art Museum, a group of young professionals who appreciate art and enjoy socializing on a monthly basis, for an evening featuring a gallery tour, appetizers, and a cash bar. Venture into the galleries for a self-guided exploration of the collection...Looking for Love "Trivia Tour." Food courtesy of El Basha. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

Youth February Vacation Workshops

Tuesday – Friday, February 20-23

Sign up now—these fun workshops during the school break fill quickly! Register for one two-hour workshop, or make a day of it and register for two workshops along with extended day and supervised lunch. Children can come to the Museum for a morning of creativity or a whole day of fun! This year's theme is vibrant colors—*Color Splash*—focusing on the way diverse colors have been used creatively for expression throughout time. Children ages 3 to 17 will enjoy experimenting in different media. Learn more by calling 508.799.4406 x3129, 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

MARCH

Youth Art Month: Grades K-8 Opening Reception

Sunday, March 11, 1-4 pm

Marvel at the talent and creativity of art students in grades K-12 from all over Central Massachusetts and the MetroWest. Each year, the Worcester Art Museum joins the Massachusetts Art Education Association to celebrate the national Youth Art Month with a salon-style, floor-to-ceiling exhibition of more than 400 student works. Free. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

March Tour of the Month: *The Way to the Cross*

Wednesday, March 14, 2pm

Saturday, March 17, 2pm

There are many images of the crucifix throughout the permanent collection. Come uncover the many works that tell the Christian tale of Christ's path to the cross with Museum docent Barbara Steege. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

Youth Art Month: Grades 9-12 Opening Reception

Thursday, March 15, 5:30 - 8pm

Marvel at the talent and creativity of art students in grades K-12 from all over Central Massachusetts and the MetroWest. Each year, the Worcester Art Museum joins the Massachusetts Art Education Association to celebrate the national Youth Art Month with a salon-style, floor-to-ceiling exhibition of more than 400 student works. Free. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

Young Friends – March Third Thursday

Conversation with Collectors (Boston Art Gallery Owners and Curator of Contemporary Art, Susan Stoops)

Thursday, March 15, 5:30-8pm

Join the Young Friends of the Worcester Art Museum, a group of young professionals who appreciate art and enjoy socializing on a monthly basis, for an evening featuring a gallery tour, appetizers, and a cash bar. Do you want to start collecting art? Join Curator of Contemporary Art, Susan Stoops, as well as local collectors and Boston art gallery owners to find out how! Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

The Worcester Way

Sunday, March 18, 1-4pm

Students from the Seven Hills Charter School celebrate their discovery of Worcester through song, dance, and art. Directed by Kathy Holton, Music teacher, students will celebrate Youth Art Month with new Worcester songs, readings and performances by the school Choir and STOMP, a student performing arts group. An exhibition of drawings of Worcester architectural wonders by Seven Hills students will be on view this day only in Lancaster Lobby. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

Youth Spring Classes

Starting March 20

Check online or flip through the Classes Brochure to see the artistic opportunities that pop up when spring reaches WAM! Parents and children ages 3-5 get ready for spring in *Spring into Art*. Students ages 5-7 years old can learn how to make art materials in *Cookin' Up Art*, and 8-10 year olds can get in touch with nature in *Eco Art*. Students 11-17 can choose from an array of studio art, photography, and computer classes. Learn more by calling 508.799.4406 x3129, 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

Opening Reception for Wall at WAM: Alexander Ross

Thursday, March 22, 7pm

Known for paintings that are uniquely hybrid in nature, Ross has conceived 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. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

APRIL

Archeological Institute of America (AIA) Lecture Series

[Living it Up in the Late Roman World: The Country Mansions of the Mega-Rich](#)

Sunday, April 15, 3pm

Presented by Dr. Roger Wilson, Professor and Head, Classical, Near Eastern and Religious Studies, University of British Columbia. The country villas of the late Roman aristocracy give us unique insights into the lifestyles of the super-rich as well as their taste and preferences in the interior décor of their mansions. This lecture will begin with a review of some of the characteristics of Roman imperial country retreats at the beginning of the fourth century—not only the well-known 'villa' of Diocletian at Split, but also more recent discoveries such as the estate of Galerius at Gamzigrad in Serbia and the suburban palace of Maximian at Cordoba in Spain. Architectural links will be explored between these places and some grand, fourth-century, palatial mansions in the Roman countryside, which are likely to have belonged to private, albeit very rich, individuals. In all cases, both the use of architectural space and the choice of subject matter for the principal mosaic floors will be analyzed in the light of the ways each owner chose to show off his wealth, status. Free. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

Youth April Vacation Workshops

Tuesday – Friday, April 17-20

Sign up now—these fun workshops during the school break fill quickly! Register for one two-hour workshop, or make a day of it and register for two workshops along with extended day and supervised lunch. Children can come to the Museum for a morning of creativity or a whole day of fun! *April Art* will explore the great outdoors and nature across the globe. Children ages 3 to 17 will enjoy experimenting in different media. Learn more by calling 508.799.4406 x3129, 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

April Tour of the Month: French Art at the Worcester Art Museum

Wednesday, April 18, 2pm

Saturday, April 21, 2pm

From Monet to Courbet, Gauguin to Renoir, the Museum's collection is full of French masterpieces. Museum docent Marjory Dick guides you through a selection of these Museum treasures, and incorporates a bit of French language into the tour too! Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

Young Friends – April Third Thursday

Gallery Talk: Mountain Harvests

Thursday, April 19, 5:30-8pm

Join the Young Friends of the Worcester Art Museum, a group of young professionals who appreciate art and enjoy socializing on a monthly basis, for an evening featuring a gallery tour, appetizers, and a cash bar. Curator of Asian Art, Louise Virgin, imparts her insights about the stunning exhibition, *Mountain Harvests: Chinese Jades & Other Treasured Stones*. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

About the Worcester Art Museum

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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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