

# NEWS

from the Worcester Art Museum

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## WORCESTER ART MUSEUM FALL 2005 & WINTER 2006 CALENDAR OF EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS

(WORCESTER, Mass., October 6, 2005) – The Worcester Art Museum is proud to announce the exhibitions of the coming year featuring art ranging from the cutting edge of contemporary to as far back as 3000 BC. Two exhibitions highlight the Worcester Art Museum's great tradition in acquisitions. *Frontiers: Collecting the Art of Our Time* showcases the work of over 30 contemporary artists from around the world, acquired no more than ten years after being created. *Recent Acquisitions in Photography* includes contemporary works as well as masters such as Alfred Steiglitz and Man Ray. Other exhibitions include *Mountain Harvest*, an exhibit of exquisitely carved Chinese jades and other precious stones, spanning five centuries, and a major retrospective of the work of Stephen Shore: *The Biographical Landscape: The Photography of Stephen Shore, 1968 – 1993*.

### SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

#### **Pillar-Print Masterpieces: Narrow Glimpses into Japanese Life, Legends and Literature**

Through January 21, 2006

The pillar-print format offered an exciting compositional challenge for 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-century woodblock-print masters. Now rare collectibles, pillar-print images (*hashira-e*) were often mounted onto paper hanging scrolls or simply pasted onto supporting interior house-pillars. Artists such as Masanobu, Harunobu, Koryūsai, Chōki, and Kiyoshige used the narrow format to depict striking portraits of kabuki actors, courtesans, beautiful women, handsome men, and lovers. Classic literary and legendary subjects and figures as well as auspicious New Year themes were also popular.

#### **Frontiers: Collecting the Art of Our Time**

November 13, 2005-February 12, 2006

Contemporary works broadly explore the times in which we live with a spirit of adventure and discovery. Believing that anything is possible, the artist-visionaries of today wholeheartedly embrace the world's uncertainties as inspiration in their studios. The exhibition features acquisitions of work by over 30 artists, including Laylah Ali, Tony Feher, Iñigo Manglano-Ovalle, Beatriz Milhazes, Paul Noble, Jenny Scobel, Yinka Shonibare, Kiki Smith.

#### **AFTERBURN—Willie Cole: Selected Works, 1997-2004**

November 13, 2005-January 7, 2006

In his assemblage, installation and wall works, Willie Cole (b. 1955) transforms ordinary, domestic objects such as bicycle parts, irons, and lawn jockeys into powerful works embedded with references to the African-American experience and inspired by West African religion, mythology, and culture. Fifteen works from an exhibition organized by the University of Wyoming Art Museum include examples of Cole's sculptures, scorched canvases, and iris prints.

### **New to View: Recent Acquisitions in Photography**

December 17, 2005-April 16, 2006

This exhibition highlights the Museum's photographic treasures acquired over the past five years. Many of the photographs will be on view for the first time, including important prints by Alfred Steiglitz, Man Ray and Todd Webb.

### **Flora in Winter**

January 26–29, 2006

View creative floral displays alongside the artwork that inspired them. For this unique four-day event, garden clubs and floral designers create botanical masterpieces to interpret their favorite works of art at the Worcester Art Museum. Presented in collaboration with Tower Hill Botanic Garden, **Flora in Winter** features displays, special programs and guided tours at both locations.

### **Mountain Harvest: Chinese Jades and Other Treasured Stones**

February 2006-February 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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, often representing figures, animals, flowers, fruits, vases or old bronze vessels, tend to be decorative in function.

### **Youth Art Month**

March 1-31, 2006

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.

### **The Biographical Landscape: The Photography of Stephen Shore, 1968 – 1993**

March 24-June 23, 2006

Organized by Aperture Foundation, *The Biographical Landscape* exhibition offers an opportunity to revisit the works of Stephen Shore, one of the most prominent and influential American photographers to emerge in the last half-century. Shore's large color images of the urban landscape—gas stations, Piggly Wigglys, street scenes and diner fare—remind viewers how their sense of vision changes quickly because of photography.

### **David Thorpe**

April 7-August 13, 2006

This installation of nine works by the young British artist David Thorpe (b. 1972) will be his first solo museum project in the United States. Thorpe uses a traditional medium of intricately cut paper to create visionary landscapes. His works often depict dramatic, imaginary landscapes loosely based on actual places, such as the American West, not necessarily experienced first-hand by the artist. Thorpe has said, "The world of imagination is endless. We can make anything happen. All things are possible. We can make a world that is magnificent, full of adventure... I try to show these adventures, to make a world full of epic yet often modest moments."

### **Surrealist Works on Paper**

Late Spring through Summer 2006

Prints, drawings, photographs and books from the Worcester Art Museum's collection explore the Surrealist movement in France and America.

## **PROGRAMS & EVENTS**

### **October Tour of the Month: Birder's Tour of the Worcester Art Museum**

*Wednesday, October 19, 2PM*

*Saturday, October 22, 2PM*

It's the annual Birder's Tour of the Worcester Art Museum with docent Mark Lynch, in which we wend our way through 4,000 years of art identifying species of birds found in the works. Free with Museum admission.

Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **Young Friends – Octoberfest with Beer Tastings**

*Thursday, October 21, 5:30-8PM*

Join the Young Friends of the Worcester Art Museum, art lovers between the ages of 21 and 45, for an evening featuring a gallery tours, appetizers, and a cash bar. Admission is free for members, \$10 nonmembers.

Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **Willie Cole at the African Cultural Center**

*Saturday, November 12, 2PM*

Join Willie Cole for a discussion of the cultural influences found in his work as he speaks amid the African art on display at the Worcester African Cultural Center, 33 Canterbury Street. Free with suggested donation to the WACC. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **Frontiers: Collecting the Art of Our Time, *Exhibition Preview Party***

*Saturday, November 12, 7-10PM*

Celebrate the openings of two exhibitions of contemporary art, Frontiers and AFTERBURN: Willie Cole with music, cocktails, savories, and sweets. \$10 members, \$20 nonmembers. RSVP by November 8 to

508.799.4406, x3105. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406,

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

### **Artist Talk: Willie Cole**

*Sunday, November 13, 2PM*

Join the artist at the Museum for a viewing of his two- and three-dimensional art and a discussion of his artistic process. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406,

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

### **November Tour of the Month: Pioneers of the New Millennium—A Look at Contemporary Art**

*Wednesday, November 16, 2PM*

*Saturday, November 19, 2PM*

Join Museum Docent in exploring contemporary art in the exhibition Frontiers. Free with Museum admission.

Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **Young Friends - Beaujolais Night**

*Thursday, November 17, 5:30-8PM*

Join the Young Friends of the Worcester Art Museum, art lovers between the ages of 21 and 45, for an evening featuring a gallery tours, appetizers, and a cash bar. Admission is free for members, \$10 nonmembers.

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### **Family Day: Contemporary Connections**

*Sunday, November 20, 1-4:30PM*

Discover exciting contemporary art at the Museum! Join in this fresh and fun adventure for all ages featuring art-making activities, performances, and much more. Free with Museum admission, and always free for ages 17 &

under. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **13th Annual WAM Food Drive**

*Friday, November 25, 11AM-5PM*

Visitors who deliver non-perishable food donations to any of the Museum's entrances on the Friday after Thanksgiving may enjoy free Museum admission that day. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **Adult Student Exhibition**

*December 2, 2005-January 29, 2006*

This exhibition showcases drawings, paintings, photographs, prints, mosaics, sculpture, computer art, and more. A reception honoring these artists will be held January 12, 5:30-7PM. Free. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **Talks About Art: Willie Cole**

*Sunday, December 4, 2PM*

Join African art historian Jean Borgatti and Worcester African Cultural Center Director Emil Iguanagu for a talk about their responses to the exhibition *AFTERBURN—Willie Cole: Selected Works, 1997-2004*. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **December Tour of the Month: It Was Once Brand New**

*Wednesday, December 7, 2PM*

*Saturday, December 10, 2PM*

The Worcester Art Museum has a long history of buying artwork from living artists. Hear the stories behind several of our 19th- and 20th-century "contemporary" works. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **December Youth Workshops**

*December 27-29, 10AM-Noon and 12:30-2:30PM*

Focus that holiday-fueled energy in a whimsical and creative way. Two-hour workshops for ages 3-12. Members \$16, nonmembers \$18. Adult/child classes: members \$24, nonmembers \$26. Supervised lunch available for \$2 a day. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, x3007, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **Young Friends – Holiday Shopping Sale/Wine Auction**

*Thursday, December 15, 5:30-8PM*

Join the Young Friends of the Worcester Art Museum, art lovers between the ages of 21 and 45, for an evening featuring a gallery tours, appetizers, and a cash bar. Admission is free for members, \$10 nonmembers. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **Holiday Concert: St. Paul's Cathedral Choir**

*Sunday, December 18, 3PM*

Choirmaster Ian Watson directs this annual yuletide performance in the Museum's Renaissance Court. The concert is Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **First Night Worcester: Arty Gras Festival!**

*Saturday, December 31*

The Museum is open, 11AM- 10PM. Go to [www.firstnightworcester.org](http://www.firstnightworcester.org), for specific program information, times and locations. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **Tour of the Month**

Third Wednesdays of January, February and March at 2:00 PM. Take a closer look at part of Worcester Art Museum's collection with a Museum docent. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **Black History Month Celebration**

*Sunday, February 5, 1:00-3:00 pm*

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. Don't miss Tina Gaffney perform her interpretation of an African American female figure from history, at 2 p.m. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **February Fun Week & April Art Break**

*February 21 –24, 2006*

*April 18 – 21, 2006*

These studio art workshops for kids ages 3-17 coincide with the school vacation weeks. Each themed workshop introduces children to the art in the Museum's galleries and invites experimentation with a new medium or style of art. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, x3007, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **Family Day: World of Wonder**

*Sunday March 19, 1:00-4:30PM*

These multi-generational Sunday afternoon features hands-on art-making activities, gallery hunts, storytelling, and musical or dance performances. Free with Museum admission, and always free for ages 17 & under. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, [www.worcesterart.org](http://www.worcesterart.org)

### **Docent Lead Tours, Free with Museum admission**

*Saturday 11AM-Noon*

*Sunday 1-2PM*

### **Free Saturdays**

Admission to the Worcester Art Museum is free for all every Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon.

### **Free for Kids**

Admission to the Worcester Art Museum is always free for ages 17 and under. Free, guided tours are available by reservation for youth and school groups of 10 or more.

### **About the Worcester Art Museum**

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 works span 5,000 years of art and culture, ranging from ancient Roman mosaics to Colonial silver, Impressionist paintings and contemporary art. 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., Thursday, 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 Massachusetts Electric, a National Grid Company). 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](http://www.worcesterart.org).

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