

NEWS

from the Worcester Art Museum

55 Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA 01609-3196
Telephone 508.799.4406, Fax 508.798.5646

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT: Allison Berkeley

Manager of Marketing and Public Relations

allisonberkeley@worchesterart.org 508.799.4406 x3073

THE WORCESTER ART MUSEUM ANNOUNCES SUMMER EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 2009

(WORCESTER, Mass., June 26, 2009) – The Worcester Art Museum is proud to announce our summer line-up of exciting exhibitions and events. In addition, the Museum offers a variety of Youth, Teen and Adult classes and workshops. Dine indoor or out in the courtyard at The Museum Café featuring an eclectic menu inspired by fifty centuries of art, open Wed-Fri, 11:30am – 2pm through September. Browse The Museum Shop for unique mementos. Worcester Art Museum is the only Museum in New England to offer FREE admission to children 17 and under. Make WAM one of your stops this summer!

EXHIBITIONS

Spies Like Us! Nathan Hale and Major André

Through September 20, 2009

It all began with a book donation to the WAM Library Book Sale in 2007. A box of old books was donated to the Library along with a host of art books from a friend of the Museum. WAM Librarian Debby Aframe looked through the box and found a very old book inscribed “Nathan Hale, 1769.” It turns out that this book belonged to America’s most famous spy, Nathan Hale. It was most likely one of Hale’s textbooks from Yale College. There are few known signatures of Nathan Hale in the world, and one of them will be on view at WAM this summer. The Museum owns two famous depictions of the capture of Major André, the revolutionary spy for the British that led to the exposure of Benedict Arnold as a traitor. Bring the family to learn about two of the most famous spies in American history, our patriot Nathan Hale and Britain’s Major André.



Rona Pondick: The Metamorphosis of an Object

Through October 11, 2009

Since achieving international prominence in the early 1990s, Rona Pondick (b. 1952) has become one of the most accomplished sculptors of her generation. Over the past decade, she has combined both ancient sculptural methods and the latest computer technologies to produce a powerful group of hybrid sculptures that fuse human and animal bodies or human and flora forms. Unlike other considerations of her sculpture, this exhibition presents Pondick’s art as the lens for looking at centuries of world sculpture from the collection of the Worcester Art Museum that she feels resonate with her own creative process. Provocative juxtapositions of Pondick’s hybrids with a personal selection of historic sculptures illustrate her connections to the past and her understanding of the effects of artistic cross-fertilization. The exhibition features 14 examples of Pondick’s sculptures from the past decade and focuses on her particular interest in three aspects of sculpture—the communicative capacity of gesture and posture, the treatment of hair, and the effects of repetition. A catalogue of this exhibition is available.



Printmaking Methods: RELIEF

Through October 18, 2009

This exhibition considers the relief processes, including woodcut, wood engraving and linocut. The oldest and simplest methods of making a precisely repeatable image depends upon carving a printing surface, applying a film of ink, and stamping the pigment onto paper or fabric. With the development of the printing press in the fourteenth century, woodcut became the most common method of mass producing pictures in the West. In Japan, the process developed independently as a method for creating stylish color images of actors and landscapes. At the beginning of the nineteenth century, finer detail and block longevity were accomplished by wood engraving. Metal engraving tools were used to carve images in the end grain blocks of very hard wood, in a process that required great technical skill. By contrast, ease and simplicity were the goal of linoleum block printing in the early years of the twentieth century. Developed as a floor covering, linoleum was soft, and without the grain that makes wood tricky to carve. This exhibition will include relief prints from around world, dating from the fourteenth century to the present. Carved printing blocks from wood and linoleum blocks, and cutting tools, will explicate the process of making a color relief print.



WALL at WAM: “Actions Speak” THINK AGAIN (David John Attyah and S.A. Bachman)

Through Fall 2009

Can a picture in a museum—even a 67-foot mural— counter political indifference? Can it provoke us to consider the ways silence amidst a discourse of brutality (whether state-sanctioned, media-driven, or personally inflicted) disconnects us from the individuals (living halfway around the world or in our own neighborhoods) whose bodies are affected? THINK AGAIN believes it can. Commissioned to create the 7th in the *Wall at WAM* series, artist collaborative THINK AGAIN has conceived a multi-media project examining the relationship among brutality, government, and the media. The project features concurrent outdoor projection on the exterior façade of the Museum. The projection is on view after dark during public evening hours on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Upcoming projection: September 17, 2009.



Twelve Zodiacal Animals

July 11, 2009 – January 3, 2010

According to Chinese astrology and lunar calendar, the year 2009 is the year of the Ox, and 2010 the year of the Tiger. Stone rubbings representing the twelve zodiacal animals, mounted on a pair of screens, are on view at the Worcester Art Museum. The rubbings were made from the twelve large stone reliefs that surround the tomb of the Korean general Kim Yusin (595-673 A.D.), situated near Gyeongju, in southeastern Korea. Listed in order, the animals are Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Ram, Monkey, Rooster, Dog and Pig.



Bound by Fashion: The Corset in European Art

September 16 – December 2009

Who among us hasn't wondered at one time or another about the lengths some people go in order to be fashionable? John Garton's Clark University art history seminar has taken the Museum's collection to guide us through depictions of female fashion from the sixteenth to the twentieth century, probing the psychological and physiological dimensions of binding fashion (the corset) in the lives of women through paintings in the Museum's collections.



EVENTS – July 2009

Adult Art Institutes

July 6-30, 2009 (Daytime and Evening)

Serious art students can pursue drawing & painting, watercolor, mixed media, sculpture, printmaking, computer arts, photography, and writing workshops. Undergraduate and graduate credit is available for some classes. The Sally Riley Bishop Education Fund supports the Summer Art Institute. 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

Youth & Teen Classes

Session 1: July 6-17, 2009

Session 2: July 20-31, 2009

Make Art all Summer Long! Classes at WAM are the creative way to add color to your summer. Whether you're looking for something new to do with your preschooler, want to encourage your preteen's interest in fashion or computer graphic design, or want to work seriously on a portfolio for college, WAM has the perfect class for you. Extended day program that includes fun activities and a supervised lunch is available. Space is limited, so enroll today! 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

EVENTS – August 2009

Adult August Workshops

August 1-14, 2009

Join us in August to explore new approaches, new projects, and even new art forms. There are classes for novices as well as for students with an art background. Delve into children's picture books, drawing, painting, photography, computer animation, mosaics, encaustic painting, and more. 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

Youth & Teen August Workshops

August 3-14, 2009 (Two One-week Sessions)

A wide range of workshops are offered for children this summer. *Art Together: Paint, Collage, Clay* for ages 3-5, *Wings, Tales and Scales* ages 5-7, *3-D Creatures* ages 8-10, *Pop Art Painting* offered for 11-13 year olds, and students ages 14-17 can take part in *Computer Art Foundations* just to name a few.. 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

EVENTS – September 2009

Youth Art Classes Exhibition

September 6-30, 2009

Reception: Sunday, September 6, 2009, 1-3pm

Featuring creations from students who participated in WAM's summer classes, this exhibition shows creativity and spontaneity. Discover our young students' talents in drawing, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, and more in this colorful and varied showing of student work. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

Adult Classes Open House

Thursday, September 10, 2009, 5:30-7pm

Meet with our faculty, attend demonstrations, and find out all about our exciting fall offerings. Discuss your artistic interests and goals, sign up for classes, and enjoy light refreshments. 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

WAM Zip Trip: Outside WAM (works of art outside the Museum walls)

Saturday, September 12, 12-12:30pm

Art is on the fast track this fall, as the Museum invites visitors to take part in a series of Zip Trips on Saturdays. These fast-paced docent-led gallery talks are designed to offer a short but in-depth view of a single work (or artist) on view in the Museum. [Woo cardholders](#)...this is a great way to get to know the Museum! Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

September Tour of the Month: Bound by Fashion

Wednesday, September 16, 2pm

Saturday, September 19, 2pm

Who among us hasn't wondered at one time or another about the lengths some people go in order to be fashionable? Join students from John Garton's Clark University art history seminar who will guide you through depictions of female fashion from the sixteenth to the twentieth century, probing the psychological and physiological dimensions of binding fashion (the corset) in the lives of women through paintings in the Museum's collections. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

WAM 101: College Student Night

Wednesday, September 16, 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 students...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

Third Thursday: Season Kick-off Party

Thursday, September 17, 2009, 5:30-8pm

The Museum is open late the third Thursday of every month until 8pm. Enjoy live music and a guided tour of highlights of the collection or a special exhibition. Always great company. Wine tastings and a cash bar. Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

Adult Fall Classes Begin

Starting September 21, 2009

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 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 Travel Learning 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

A Conversation with Rona Pondick

Wednesday, September 23, 6:30pm

Rona Pondick has become one of the most accomplished sculptors of her generation. Join Rona as she talks about her work in the current exhibition, [Rona Pondick: The Metamorphosis of an Object](#), and her artistic journey. *Funding provided by the Amelia & Robert Hutchinson Haley Memorial Lectures Fund.* Free with Museum admission, but space is limited. Reserve by calling 508.793.4333 or 4334. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

WAM Zip Trip: Opal

Saturday, September 26, 12-12:30pm

Art is on the fast track this spring, as the Museum invites visitors to take part in a series of Zip Trips. These fast-paced docent-led gallery talks are designed to offer a short but in-depth view of a single work (or artist) on view in the Museum. This Zip Trip concentrates on the work *Opal* by Anders Zorn. [Woo cardholders](#)...this is a great way to get to know the Museum! Free with Museum admission. Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury St., Worcester, 508.799.4406, www.worcesterart.org

About the Worcester Art Museum

Worcester's world-class museum chronicles the extraordinary history of human creativity through 50 centuries, from ancient civilizations to present day. Stroll the many galleries and magnificent courts to discover a diverse world of art and ideas. Explore mosaics unearthed from ancient Antioch. Step inside a medieval chapter house. Admire paintings by Baroque and Renaissance masters. Enjoy the delicate brushwork and rich imagery of Asian paintings. Relive American history in Colonial portraits and decorative arts. Experience the evolution of art movements such as Impressionism and Abstraction. Meet the emerging international artists of today. Special exhibitions showcase masterworks, seldom-seen gems, and important works on loan. The Museum also features a café, shop, and library and offers year round classes for children and adults.

Docent led public tours are offered Saturdays at 11am and Sundays at 1pm, September through May. Audio tours are also available in English and Spanish.

Hours: Wednesday through Sunday, 11am-5pm, Third Thursdays of every month, 11am-8pm, and Saturday, 10am-5pm. Admission: \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and full-time college students with current ID, and FREE for Members and all kids 17 and under. Admission is also FREE for everyone on Saturday mornings, 10am-noon (sponsored by The TJX Companies, Inc.).

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 .worchesterart.org.

###