

Bad day?

You're not the only one. Seeing how tough these folks had it just might make you feel better.

More details about the art.

Duane Hanson (American, 1925–1996), *Janitor*, 1973. Polyester, fiberglass, and mixed media. Gift of Friends of Art. Photo by John Nienhuis

Eduard von Grützner (German, 1846–1925), *The Catastrophe*, 1892. Oil on canvas. Gift of the René von Schleinitz Foundation. Photo by John R. Glembin

Ludwig Meidner (German, 1884–1966), *Self-Portrait*, 1912. Oil on canvas. Gift of Marvin and Janet Fishman. Photo by John R. Glembin

Roy Lichtenstein (American, 1923–1997), *Crying Girl*, 1964. Enamel on steel. Purchase. Photo by John Nienhuis, Dedra Walls

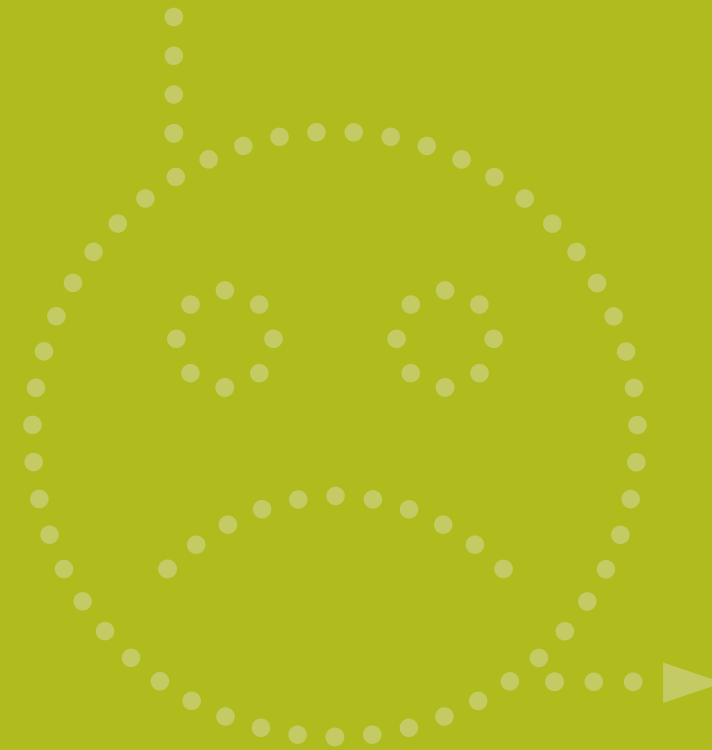
Puzzle Jug, 1773, Staffordshire, England. Earthenware (creamware). Lent by the Chipstone Foundation.

John James Audubon (American, b. Santo Domingo [now Haiti], 1785–1851), *Entrapped Otter*, ca. 1827–30. Oil on fabric. Layton Art Collection, Purchase. Photo by John R. Glembin

Christian Ludwig Bokelmann (German, 1844–1894), *The People's Bank Shortly Before the Crash*, 1877. Oil on canvas. Layton Art Collection, Gift of Frederick Layton. Photo by Larry Sanders

You Think *You're* Having a Bad Day

COLLECTION TOUR



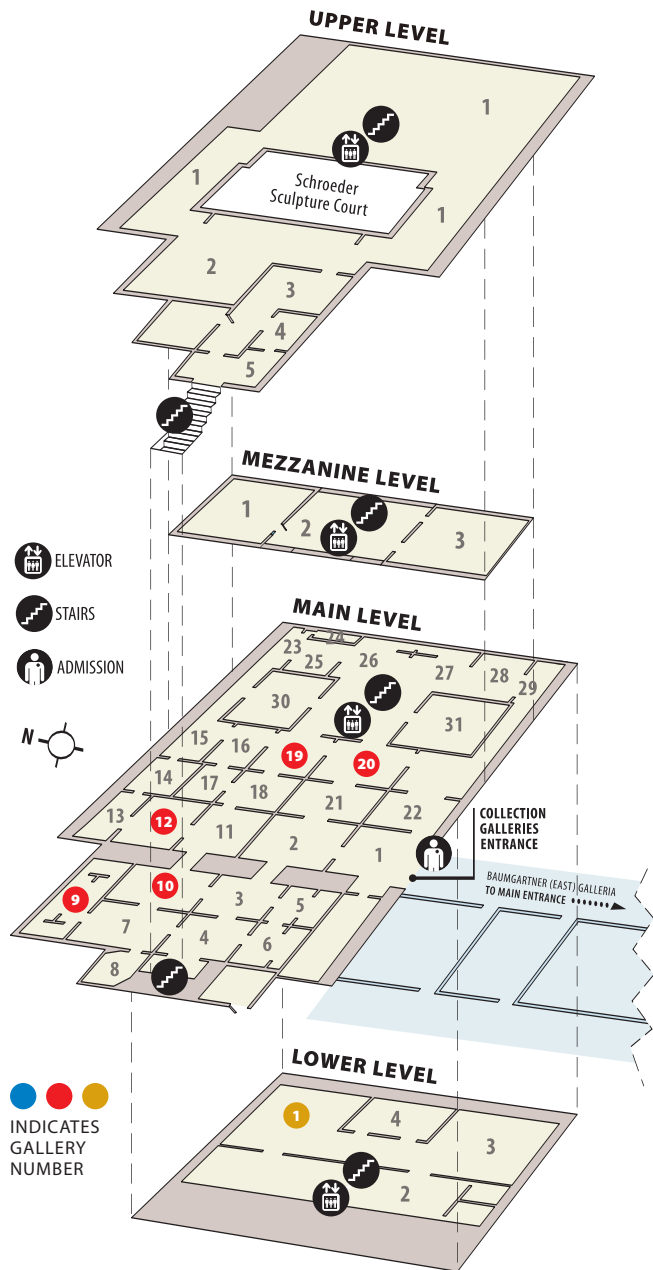
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Duane Hanson

Janitor, 1973

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Tired of the same old, same old? For over thirty years, Duane Hanson's hyperrealistic sculpture leaning against the wall has fooled visitors into sharing their woes. Talk to the *Janitor* about your weariness with the daily grind—he gets it.

Eduard von Grützner

The Catastrophe, 1892

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Drop a glass, people call you butterfingers. Drop a wine bottle, and people are bound to talk. You can bet the higher-ups at the monastery are going to hear about this one.

Ludwig Meidner

Self-Portrait, 1912

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At least you don't have lice. And that was the least of Meidner's problems. "One summer, I was dirtied from head to foot with mites, deprivation, and insanity," he wrote, describing the circumstances in which he painted *Self-Portrait*. Years of living in poverty in the rapidly urbanizing, politically charged pre-war Berlin will do that to a person. For more anxiety and despair, see the Specks Collection of German Expressionist prints, one of the largest in the country. Now that's some collective misery.

Roy Lichtenstein

Crying Girl, 1964

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Poor crying girl: All she wants is to be a one-of-a-kind image. But Roy Lichtenstein came along, blew her up, and sent her off to be machine-made. Maybe *he* thought challenging ideas about art—and pushing people to look more closely at popular culture—was clever. But it just makes her feel used.

Anonymous

American Decorative Arts

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Tough day at work? We understand. Early American craftsmen gave it their all, too. Of course, that often meant losing their eyesight. Or getting lead poisoning or lung disease. Or suffering paralysis, cancer, or insanity. Lots of toxic materials went into making household goods like the *Puzzle Jug* pictured here—mirrors, teakettles, even top hats. But that is nothing compared to your job, right?

John James Audubon

Entrapped Otter, ca. 1827–30

1



Ouch. That would hurt. He can gnash his teeth and splay his claws all he wants, but there is no getting that paw out. All this trouble, and still no lunch!

Christian Ludwig Bokelmann

The People's Bank Shortly Before the Crash, 1877

10



Financial crisis got you down? If you believe misery loves company, spend some time with these folks, and decide who in the crowd looks most forlorn. Bokelmann's depiction of the Panic of 1873 reminds us that broken banks are nothing new.

Whew!

Let's head back to the Quadracci Pavilion. Take in that magnificent atrium. Gaze out at the lake. Breathe. Your day is not so bad after all.

Today's museums are dynamic. Works of art are loaned for exhibitions throughout the world, and their location within the museum itself often changes. Works not on view may be traveling, being cleaned, or having a rest. If you come across a work of art that is not in its designated spot, please just continue your tour.