



MILWAUKEE
ART
MUSEUM

Member Magazine

Winter 2022

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Admission

Admission tickets are timed. Please reserve your tickets in advance at mam.org/visit; as Members, you receive priority access.

Hours

Thurs–Sun, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
Thurs until 8 p.m.

Membership Office

414-224-3284
Mon–Fri, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

ON THE COVER Christy Matson, *Full Moon Forest*, 2016. Collection of Monica Schaffer

Letter from the Director



Dear Members,

With the arrival of this new year, I invite you to join me in looking forward with anticipation and excitement. While not forgetting the trials of the past year, I am delightfully hopeful about the many wonderful things we can enjoy and accomplish together in the months ahead—as individuals, as Museum Members, as a Milwaukee and a global community.

As you well know, art can take many forms, from the evocative photographs of An-My Lê and the painting-like weavings of Christy Matson to the wonderful creations the visitors to the Kohl's Art Studio make. No matter the form, art is a celebration, a balm, a chance to reflect, and a source of

creative energy. Art is a conversation, one that is made that much richer by having many, many voices involved as we reach into the depths and connect the threads that shape our countless stories—as families, colleagues, neighbors, people.

I look forward to wading into the uncharted waters together and spreading the beauty, and to gathering often for conversation, laughter, and quiet reflection. The Museum and our lives are not what they were, nor will they be tomorrow what they are today. Let's come together and dream big—let's imagine a tomorrow that we can start building today.

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marcelle Polednik". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Marcelle Polednik, PhD
Donna and Donald Baumgartner
Director

An-My Lê: On Contested Terrain

Through March 27, 2022 | Baker/Rowland Galleries

For nearly 30 years, An-My Lê has drawn on traditions of landscape photography and her experience as a Vietnamese refugee and American citizen to produce captivating pictures that speak urgently to the present moment. With subtle and evocative large-format photographs that explore the precursors to and aftermath of battle, Lê poses timely questions: Is it our nature to be in conflict? What are the true consequences of war? How does the landscape record collective trauma? What is the status of photographic truth in our age of alternative facts? *An-My Lê: On Contested Terrain* is the first comprehensive survey of her work.

Born in Vietnam in 1960, Lê vividly remembers the sights, sounds, and smells of war. The U.S. military evacuated her and her family from Saigon in 1975, days before the city fell to the North Vietnamese. Through her photographs, Lê emphasizes, even embraces, the complexity of war and human nature. She carefully

“Hopefully, people will spend time and look and wonder about what everything means.”

—An-My Lê

composes her photographs to create their own stories and is quick to distinguish her work from photojournalism, which aims to accurately record events. Pointing to this examination of “complicated beauty,” she says: “Hopefully, people will spend time and look and wonder about what everything means. Hopefully they’ll walk away with more questions or interest in finding out something else about the world that was suggested.”

**Pick up your copy of the exhibition catalogue from the Museum Store.
\$65.00/\$58.50 Member**

RIGHT An-My Lê, *Fragment VIII: Cars along the Rio Grande at the US-Mexico Border, Ojinaga, Mexico*, from the series *Silent General*, 2019. Courtesy the artist and Marian Goodman Gallery
© An-My Lê



This exhibition is organized by Carnegie Museum of Art.

Major support for this exhibition is provided by Lannan Foundation and the William Talbott Hillman Foundation. Additional support is generously provided by the Virginia Kaufman Fund, the Henry John Simonds Foundation, the Phillip and Edith Leonian Foundation, the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation, Jennifer and Karl Salatka, the Virginia S. Warner Foundation, Deb and Sam Berkovitz, and the Gouge Family Fund. Generous support for the exhibition catalogue has been provided by Marian Goodman Gallery.

Milwaukee Presentation

Presenting Sponsor:

Herzfeld Foundation

Supporting Sponsors:

Lawrence W. Oliverson and Donna N. Guthrie
Milwaukee Art Museum's Photography Council
David C. & Sarajeon Ruttenberg Arts Foundation

Exhibitions originally scheduled for 2020 at the Milwaukee Art Museum are made possible by the 2020 Visionaries: Donna and Donald Baumgartner, John and Murph Burke, Sheldon and Marianne Lubar, Joel and Caran Quadracci, Sue and Bud Selig, and Jeff Yabuki and the Yabuki Family Foundation

Currents 38: Christy Matson

Opens Feb 25, 2022 | Bradley Family Gallery

The woven pictures featured in *Currents 38* resemble contemporary paintings, yet they are deeply rooted in weaving traditions. Using a digital jacquard loom, the Los Angeles-based artist Christy Matson (b. 1979) pairs new ideas and technologies with her knowledge of the centuries-old craft to create thoughtful, innovative compositions.

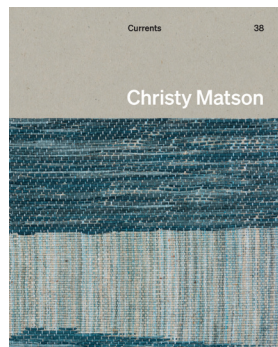
Though she works with textiles, Matson thinks of herself as a painter. Her woven pictures are rooted in minimalism, abstraction, and decoration and, hung on a wall, are not utilitarian. She employs historic weaving structures and techniques to explore memory; the gendered history of textile production, long considered a feminized form of labor; and issues around sustainability. Matson's work honors the traditional medium and reflects the strong, recent embrace of fiber by contemporary artists.

Currents 38 presents nearly 50 of Matson's woven pictures, including never-before-seen works she made for

the exhibition. The Museum's *Currents* series began in 1982 to highlight new trends in contemporary art. *Currents* exhibitions have featured the work of artists Rachel Harrison, Cindy Sherman, and Felix Gonzalez-Torres, and of craftspeople Richard DeVore, Gord Peteran, and Robert Turner, among others. Matson is the first fiber artist to be included.

A fully illustrated catalogue accompanies the exhibition and is the first publication dedicated to Matson's woven work.

Pick up your copy of the exhibition catalogue from the Museum Store. \$34.95/\$31.45 Member





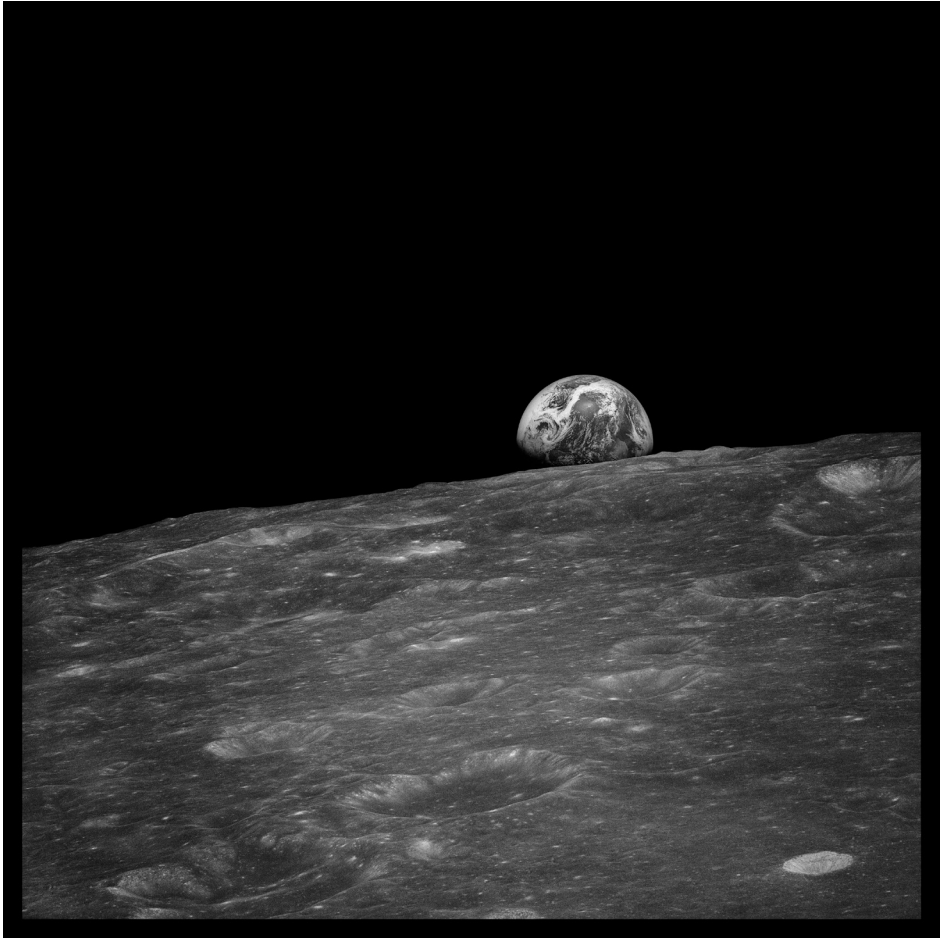
Presenting Sponsor:

Milwaukee Art Museum's Friends of Art

This research was supported by a Craft Research Fund grant from the Center for Craft



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William Anders (American, b. 1933), NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) (founded 1958), Michael Light (American, b. 1963), *Earthrise Seen for the First Time by Human Eyes*, photograph by William Anders, Apollo 8, December 24, 1968, from the project *Full Moon*, 1999, printed 2021. Gift of Photography Council, M2001.47. Courtesy the artist. Negative NASA; digital image ©1999 Michael Light

Shifting Perspectives: Landscape Photographs from the Collection

Opens March 18, 2022 | Herzfeld Center for Photography
and Media Arts

Shifting Perspectives explores how photography can transform our understanding of the physical world—of the places we call home. Photographers have been documenting and reflecting upon the landscape since the early 1800s, when camera technology made capturing an image possible. Their pictures often trace the effects that political and social forces, including war, climate change, manufacturing, and development, have on the land. The exhibition *An-My Lê: On Contested Terrain* provides an in-depth look at the perspective of a single photographer; this exhibition highlights not only a range of artists represented in the Museum's collection but also differing viewpoints, and marks the reopening of the Herzfeld Center for Photography and Media Arts. The more than 65 photographs represent, among others, contemporary artists Sky Hopinka and Pao Houa Her and iconic figures Ansel Adams and Lewis Baltz.

Among the works in the exhibition are *Earthrise Seen for the First Time by Human Eyes*, taken on a 1968 lunar mission (and brought to light only at the end of the 20th century); 19th-century photographs by George Barnard that record the aftermath of the American Civil War; and contemporary work by Afro-Caribbean artist Zalika Azim, which juxtaposes family photographs with images of Mars made by NASA's Perseverance Rover. Together the works in the exhibition trace the various ways we as a society see and understand the landscape, from metaphor to speculative terrain.

Exhibitions in the Herzfeld Center for
Photography and Media Arts sponsored by:
Herzfeld Foundation

2022 Scholastic Art Awards: Wisconsin Exhibition

Feb 5–March 20, 2022 | Schroeder Galleria

The annual exhibition that celebrates young talent in our state is back on-site this year. More than 200 artworks by Wisconsin students in grades 7–12 will be featured in the *2022 Scholastic Art Awards: Wisconsin Exhibition* at the



Armarion Julien, *A Crow Hat*, 2021. National American Visions Award and Gold Medal in Fashion. Grade 11, Pius XI Catholic High School, Milwaukee, Cathy Burnett, instructor

Museum. Pictured is an award-winning work in the Fashion category from last year, by Armarion Julien, then in grade 11 at Pius XI Catholic High School.

The juried exhibition is drawn from some 2,000 submissions in the categories of Architecture & Industrial Design, Ceramics & Glass, Comic Art, Design, Digital Art, Drawing & Illustration, Editorial Cartoon, Expanded Projects, Fashion, Film & Animation, Jewelry, Mixed Media, Painting, Photography, Printmaking, Sculpture, and Senior Art Portfolios. The Milwaukee Art Museum has hosted the Scholastic Art Awards for the Wisconsin region since 1976, presenting the extraordinary artistic work of area students for the entire community to enjoy.

The Scholastic Art Awards program acknowledges excellence in the visual arts and encourages the artistic endeavors of young people throughout the United States. The Silver Key Award denotes statewide recognition. Artworks with a Gold Key later compete at the national level, in New York. Many award

winners go on to achieve distinction in the fine arts, applied arts, and design, often crediting their success to the early recognition they received as participants in Scholastic. A number of artists represented in the Museum's collection were Scholastic Art Award recipients, including Nancy Burkert, Robert Indiana, David Lenz, JoAnna Poehlmann, Cy Twombly, Tom Uttech, and Andy Warhol.

This program is supported with funds from the State of Wisconsin and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Contributing Sponsors:

The Heller Foundation and Mary Ellen Heller
in memory of Avis Heller
Peter and Debra Johnson
An anonymous donor



Jules Ferdinand Jacquemart, *Chaos (Le Chaos)*, from *The Four Elements (Les Quatre éléments)*, 1863. Purchase, with funds from Print Forum, M2017.89.2. Photo by John R. Glembin

In the Dark: European Prints, 1600–1910

Opens Jan 14, 2022
European Art Galleries,
Level 2, Gallery S202

Artists have explored many facets of darkness over the centuries using the rich black-and-white contrasts central to printmaking. Some have depicted physical spaces like nocturnal landscapes and dimly lit rooms. Others have adopted the dark as a metaphor for despair or grief. In many of the works you will see on view, darkness contains the possibility of creation: it represents primordial states from which life emerges, and quiet moments pierced by spiritual revelation, artistic inspiration, or dreams.

In the Dark features 20 prints from between the early 1600s and the early 1900s by artists including Paul Gauguin, Francisco de Goya, Käthe Kollwitz, and Rembrandt van Rijn; all are drawn from the Museum's collection. Together, the works provide an opportunity to reflect on the generative potential of darkness during some of the shortest days in Wisconsin.

Profile: Lakeside at MAM

This summer, the Museum introduced the outdoor experience Lakeside at MAM. You may have seen the families, young children—individuals of all ages—gathering on the east lawn, facing Lake Michigan. You may have been there yourself. From June 17 to September 5, the entire community was invited to drop in, hang out, and participate, without charge, in activities offered during Museum hours, Thursday through Sunday.

Each week of Lakeside at MAM featured many great local performers and special guests, and a range of



offerings, including live entertainment, yoga, art making, and lawn games. Takeaway food and drink selections were available through August from the East End, and drink specials were extended to Members as an added benefit. There was truly something for everyone, and fortunately, the weather cooperated on most days.

The Kohl's Art Studio engaged young children in hands-on art projects in person for the first time since March 2020, when the Museum closed due



to the pandemic. The studio has had an active presence online, with regular offerings of new art-making videos across themes and mediums, but this outdoor activation allowed kids to interact directly with educators, away from their screens.

During the 12 weeks of Lakeside at MAM, 20,585 people participated. We consider that a success. But don't take our word for how wonderful it was to see people gathering on the Museum campus:

“This was so great my kids (4 and 6) were so excited. The staff was amazing + helpful + friendly. Thank you!”
—Participant

LEFT TOP Photo by GMCreative **LEFT BOTTOM** (L-R) Brian Bowman and Michael Salinas with Ronald “Ronnie” Preston of the San Carlos Apache Nation at Lakeside at MAM. Photo by GMCreative **ABOVE** Photo by Samer Ghani

“The day was hot and humid, but a lake breeze and the evening shade behind the Milwaukee Art Museum’s Calatrava wing felt heavenly. MAM deserves much gratitude for offering free performances here this summer.”

**—John Schneider,
 Shepherd Express**

Lakeside at MAM was made possible thanks to the support of:

KOHL'S **BMO**  **Harris Bank**

The Milwaukee Art Museum extends its sincere thanks to the 2021 Visionaries: Donna and Donald Baumgartner, Murph Burke, Joel and Caran Quadracci, Sue and Bud Selig, and Jeff and Gail Yabuki and the Yabuki Family Foundation. The Visionaries support the Museum through annual sponsorship of three critical pillars within the Strategic Direction: Art Relevant to the Community, Robust Community Programming and Expansive Hospitality.

Art in Bloom

April 7-10, 2022

Welcome the return of Art in Bloom at the Museum this April, and see spring come alive! This popular community event transforms the entire Museum for four days of art and flowers.

Bring friends and family and explore the collection galleries to see what paintings, sculptures, and other works top regional designers have interpreted. Discover their breathtaking, art-inspired arrangements, and treat yourself to the colors and aromas of spring. Past floral displays have

interpreted, for example, Nick Cave's *Soundsuit* and Jules Bastien-Lepage's painting *Le Père Jacques (The Wood Gatherer)*. The arrangement here, from the 2019 event, was inspired by Henry Vianden's *Landscape with Mountains and River*. Kids and families will have the opportunity to make their own floral-like creations in the Kohl's Art Studio. The event is one that truly all ages will enjoy!

Visit mam.org/bloom for updates and a taste of the on-site event in advance.



Member Extras

The return of in-person programming at the Museum in January 2022 was but one of the announcements that Members received first in their monthly *Member Insights* email newsletter. The newsletter is just for Members and features Museum updates, event information, new digital content, and more. Make sure that you're learning (first!) about what's happening at your Museum. Contact the membership team at membership@mam.org if you are not receiving this important Member communication.

Member Art Break

Open to all Members

This popular virtual event returns for the winter months to complement your on-site visits, keeping you informed and connected. Enjoy an art-filled presentation from a member of the Museum's team, followed by Q&A. Watch for details in your *Member Insights* email newsletter, and visit mam.org/member-resources anytime to learn more.



Jan 26: History of the Calatrava-designed Quadracci Pavilion, on the occasion of its 20th anniversary, with Amy Kirschke, director of adult, docent, and school programs

Feb 23: *An-My Lê: On Contested Terrain* with Lisa Sutcliffe, Herzfeld Curator of Photography and Media Arts

LEFT Photo by Front Room Studios; arrangement by Metro Market Downtown

ABOVE John Magnoski Photography/Milwaukee Art Museum

Museum Store

Open during Museum hours | Online 24/7 at mam.org/store

Tasting Vietnam: Flavors and Memories from My Grandmother's Kitchen

By Anne-Solenne Hatte

\$37.50/\$33.75 Member

Sunset Cotton Scarf

Fair trade and
handwoven in Vietnam

\$36.00/\$32.40 Member

Bamboo Utensil Set

Fair trade, sustainable,
and made in Vietnam

\$18.00/\$16.20 Member

Gray Dandelion Bowl

Porcelain, 4-inch bowl;
dishwasher and
microwave safe

\$8.00/\$7.20 Member



Save the Dates

The events listed here provide a brief summary of the programming you can expect in the months ahead. We continue to add virtual and in-person programs, and details are subject to change. Watch your *Member Insights* email newsletter or visit mam.org/events for the latest. Virtual programs are all central time.

Exhibition Programs

An-My Lê: On Contested Terrain

Performance and Artist Talk: Patricia Nguyen on *An-My Lê*

Sat, Jan 29, 3 p.m.

(Rescheduled from Dec 16)

This performance by artist-scholar Patricia Nguyen, PhD, is in conversation with the exhibition and explores ecologies of freedom.

Performance: Present Music *Ablaze*

Thurs, March 10, 7:30 p.m.

Experience the premiere of a new work by British composer Daniel Kidane in a program that explores themes of identity. Kidane draws on his Eritrean and Russian heritage and London upbringing, and this work features No-No Boy, the project of Vietnamese American artist Julian Saporiti that blends folk storytelling and archival imagery. Presented in partnership with the Jewish Museum Milwaukee. Ticket purchase required.

An-My Lê in Conversation with Viet Thanh Nguyen

Thurs, March 24, 6 p.m.

Welcome MacArthur Fellows An-My Lê and author Viet Thanh Nguyen for a discussion about life, art, and their work. Free with registration.

On Site: *Derrick Adams*

Amazing Faiths Projects: Faith as the Artist's Muse

Thurs, March 31, 5:30 p.m.

Come together with people of different faiths, spiritual paths, and philosophies for a conversation on art, faith, and gathering. Presented in partnership with Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee. Free with registration.

Visit mam.org/events for updates and details.

Youth and Family Programs

Visit each program page for details and at-home activities.

Stop at the ArtPack Station on-site to pick up gallery activities the whole family can enjoy.

Story Time in the Galleries: At Home

mam.org/story-time

Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.

Jan 1, Feb 5, March 5, April 2

Play Date with Art: At Home

mam.org/play-date

Ages 5 and under, with a caregiver

Fridays, 10 a.m.

Jan 14: Clever Collage

Feb 11: Sweet Swirls

March 11: Stupendous Stamping

April 15: Splat! Painting

Family Guides, Play Date with Art, and Story Time in the Galleries are sponsored by Four-Four and an anonymous donor.

Art Club: Online

mam.org/learn/classes

Ages 6–10: Thurs, Jan 20–27, Feb 3–24, 4:30–6 p.m.

Ages 11–15: Wed, Jan 19–26, Feb 2–23, 4:30–6 p.m.

Join other art-interested kids for a weekly art break. Register at least 10 days before class begins; scholarships are available.

\$225/\$150 Member

Kohl's Art Studio (Reopening!)

mam.org/art-studio

Fridays–Sundays, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Make art in the studio starting January 7. At-home activities will continue to be available online, with new creative art experiences added each month.

**Kohl's Haitian Gallery:
Virtual Performances**

mam.org/haitian-gallery

Saturdays, 1 p.m.
Feb 5, 12, 19, 26

Celebrate Haitian art and culture with special music and dance performances.

**Kohl's Family Sundays:
Over and Under**

mam.org/family-sundays

Sunday, March 20, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Explore weaving and abstract design with fiber art.

Art Studio, Haitian Gallery performances, and Family Sundays are supported by

KOHL'S



Photo by Dustin DuPree



Also on View

**American Memory: Commemoration,
Nostalgia, and Revision**

Chapter 3: Responses and Revisions

*The Godfrey American Art Wing,
Level 2, Gallery K230*

Through Jan 16, 2022

mam.org/american-memory

On Site: Derrick Adams

East End

Ongoing

mam.org/together

ABOVE Kerry James Marshall, *Memento*, 1996–97. Gift in memory of Robert D. and Eleanor A. Hesselbrock by their children, M2000.5. Photo by John R. Glembin. © Kerry James Marshall

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