

# SUMMER

2024 Member Magazine







A visitor listens to the video installation *A Memory...after Bach's cello suites* in the *Idris Khan* exhibition.





Visitors take in the sculpture *Overture* in the *Idris Khan* exhibition.





## Dear Members,

It's no secret that Milwaukee comes alive in summer, bringing countless festivals and opportunities to gather at the lake. What I cherish about this season is the invitation to linger that the warmer weather and extra hours of sunshine offer. We spend more time outdoors, chatting with our friends and neighbors, and the frenetic pace of the school year gives way to impromptu playtime with our families. In slowing down, we make lasting memories and deeper connections with the people in our lives.

This makes *Idris Khan: Repeat After Me* a perfect accompaniment to summer, as his works invite you to linger with them. Through the repetitive nature of his process, and intricate detail of each piece, Khan speaks to notions of time and memory and the way both connect us to each other.

I encourage you, too, to dedicate time exploring *Arresting Beauty: Julia Margaret Cameron*. We've paired the artist's groundbreaking photography with paintings and prints from our collection, creating juxtapositions meant to deepen your understanding of Cameron's photographs and evoke new insights into the collection.

These exhibitions exemplify how we share with you the varied stories of the artworks entrusted to our care. We are working to deepen your experience similarly through the magazine, bringing you behind the scenes and offering new ways for you to engage with the Museum from home. You will notice a QR code accompanying each article that will direct you to more information, including details on upcoming programs where I hope to see you.

Summer is here! Let's linger longer together at the Museum.

Warmly,

Marcelle Polednik, PhD  
Donna and Donald Baumgartner Director



Marcelle Polednik and Idris Khan discuss the artist's work in his London studio. Watch the film.



# “A Portrait of a Saint Is Reincarnated in Milwaukee”

— The New York Times



Read the *New York Times* article.

Francisco de Zurbarán, *Saint Francis of Assisi in His Tomb*, 1630/34. Purchase M1958.70. Photo by John R. Glembin



# KHAN'S "AFTER THE TOMB"

Idris Khan made a new series of paintings specifically for his exhibition at the Milwaukee Art Museum. Like with his early photographs, he looked at existing images and considered how to otherwise interpret them. One of the works he selected was Francisco de Zurbarán's *Saint Francis of Assisi in His Tomb* (1630/34), a painting in the Museum's collection he said, "really jumped out."



Khan reinterpreted the work by the Spanish painter as a color field, selecting hues he considered instrumental to the composition and arranging them based on where and how prominent they are. Could color alone evoke the iconic painting? "Maybe it's not an exact representation. I'm not trying to do that," he has clarified. "It's the interpretation of it bit by bit, if you like, and the energy that it brings."

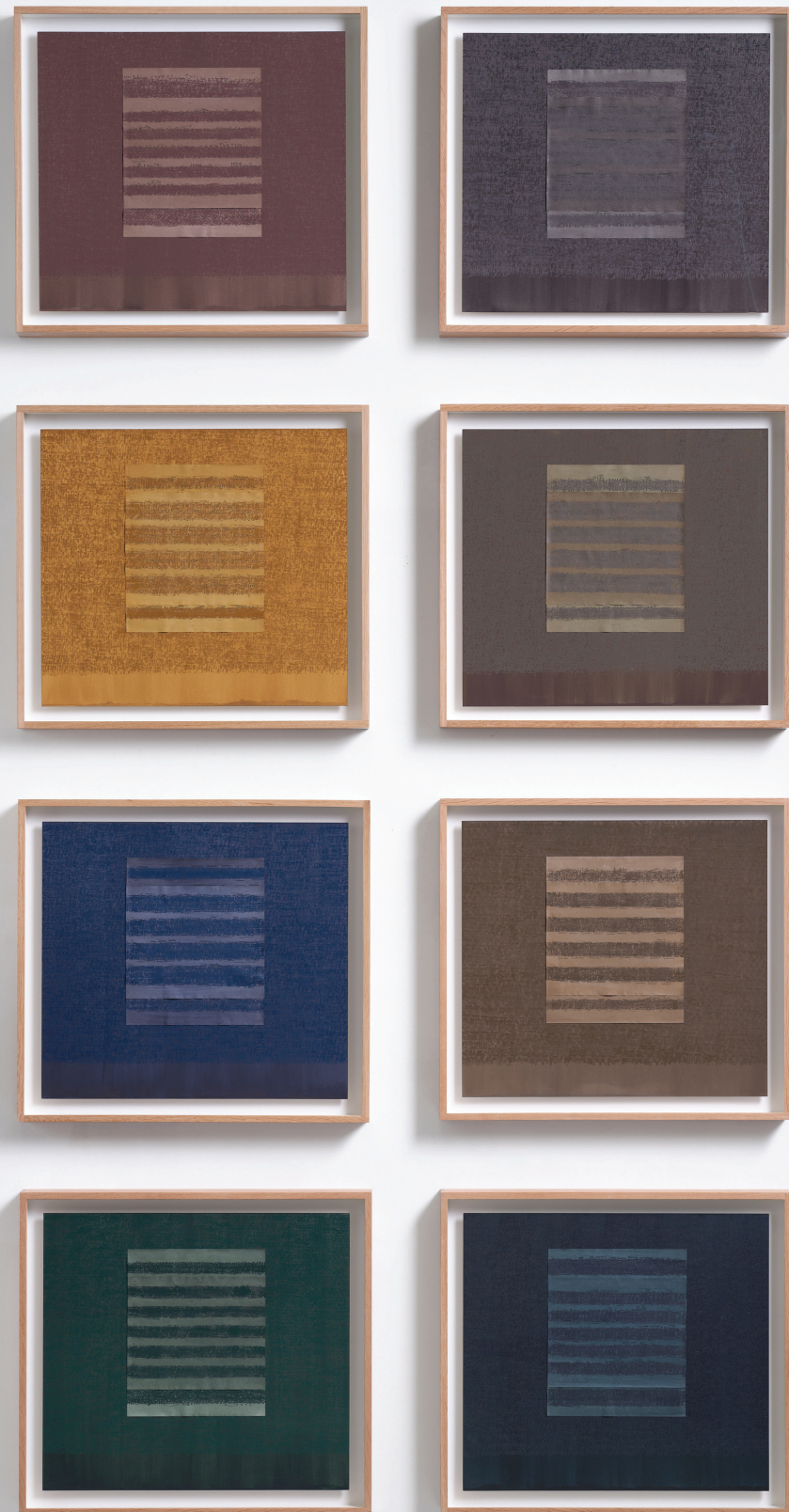
Khan's interpretation is surprising. While shades of brown, gray, and black fill Zurbarán's composition and endow the shrouded figure of Saint Francis with mystery and gravitas, Khan's *After The Tomb* (2023) broadens our perceptions of these colors. In his reappraisal of the color palette, he includes several important and less obvious hues—a purple-tinged earth tone, warm ochre, dark green, and cobalt blue. Indeed, closer inspection of the historic painting reveals the golden glow of the skull resting between Saint Francis's hands, the many permutations of shadows that shade his shoulders, and the nuances of the dark background that engulfs him.

Thanks to Khan's composition, we can further appreciate the array of colors that contribute to the compelling nature of Zurbarán's painting, from the frigid depth of the tomb that surrounds him to the gilded, otherworldly skull he contemplates.

Francisco de Zurbarán's *Saint Francis of Assisi in His Tomb* is on view in gallery S114, in the first-floor European galleries.

This exhibition is curated  
by Marcelle Polednik, PhD,  
Donna and Donald  
Baumgartner Director of  
the Milwaukee Art Museum.

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Idris Khan: Repeat After Me  
Baker/Rowland Galleries through August 11, 2024.  
Director Talk, June 27. Artist Talk, August 8.  
Learn more.



# Collection Works On The Move



In the gallery with Francisco de Zurbarán's *Saint Francis of Assisi in His Tomb*, discussed in the article on Idris Khan, are two newly installed paintings from the collection. They replace a work currently featured in *Arresting Beauty: Julia Margaret Cameron* in the Herzfeld Center for Photography and Media Arts. A European painting from the second floor has also been relocated into the exhibition.

Works of art are often on the move. The paintings in this case were transported within the Museum itself, but works from the collection are loaned to institutions around the world for exhibitions. They are also removed to be cleaned or have a rest. Several considerations go into choosing an artwork to fill a space. For example, the replacement should fit in with the other objects; in the European galleries, this means selecting a painting from the same period and with the same subject matter. Scale is also a factor: Is the object the right size to fill the space? Finally, coordinating the installation with other moves that are happening at the same time can affect which work is chosen, depending

on whether it is coming from the vault, another institution, or different galleries in the Museum.

Two paintings from about 1745 by Austrian artist Franz Christoph Janneck are now in gallery S114, on the first floor, in place of *St. Dorothy* by Antiveduto Gramatica. The paintings illustrate biblical parables and are on copper plate, an ideal smooth surface for the finely detailed compositions. They have not been on view in recent history and have undergone conservation treatment. We are eager to share them with visitors.

*At the Fountain* by Frederic Leighton, 1st Baron Leighton of Stretton, usually hangs in gallery S200, on the second floor, among paintings by artists associated with the formal art academies of Europe. In its place is *Venus and Cupid* (ca. 1808) by German artist Friedrich Rehberg, which is similar in both scale and its depiction of subject matter inspired by the ancient past. It is particularly exciting to have the Rehberg on view because it was a gift to the Museum just last year.



# CAMERON and the COLLECTION:

## The Pioneering English Photographer's Influences

The Museum's unique presentation of the internationally touring exhibition *Arresting Beauty: Julia Margaret Cameron* puts the photographer's work in dialogue with European paintings. In Milwaukee, the exhibition features artworks from the Museum's own collection to explore Cameron's response to "old master" paintings, as well as work by her contemporaries.

Julia Margaret Cameron (1815–1879) was part of intellectual and artistic circles in England that admired the detail, realism, and piety of the frescos by early Italian Renaissance artists such as Fra Angelico and Giotto. These wall paintings could not travel the world, but Cameron and others came to know them through reproductions.

American artist Timothy Cole, for example, created wood engravings of Giotto's famous Arena Chapel murals, including a biblical scene of the meeting of



the Virgin Mary and Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist, that Cameron specifically re-created in a photograph.

Cameron also looked to contemporaneous paintings for inspiration, and she influenced those artists in turn. Frederic Leighton's *At the Fountain* (probably 1891–92), which usually hangs in gallery S200, on the second floor, will be on view in *Arresting Beauty* for the duration of the exhibition. Leighton was an acquaintance of Cameron's, a close friend of her nephew's, and an attendee of the famous salons hosted by her sister, which attracted Victorian artists, intellectuals, poets, and scientists. Cameron and Leighton were both associated with the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, which rejected what they saw as the muddy palettes and mundane subjects of Realist and Impressionist paintings. Instead, these artists sought beauty and elevated, spiritual subjects in art.



*Arresting Beauty: Julia Margaret Cameron*  
Herzfeld Center for Photography and Media Arts through July 28, 2024.  
Guest Gallery Talk, June 8. Haberman Local Luminaries, July 25.  
Learn more.



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**Exhibitions in the Herzfeld  
Center for Photography and  
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Barbara Fuldner

LEFT Julia Margaret Cameron, *Mary Hillier*, 1873. © The Royal Photographic Society Collection at the V&A, acquired with the generous assistance of the National Lottery Heritage Fund and Art Fund. Museum no. RPS.617-201  
RIGHT Frederic Leighton, 1st Baron Leighton of Stretton, *At the Fountain*, probably 1891–92. Layton Art Collection, Inc., Gift of Friends of Layton Art Gallery, L1895.1



JUNE 14-16

# LAKEFRONT FESTIVAL OF ART

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Q&A WITH LFOA ARTIST

# ROSY PETRI



Milwaukee artist Rosy Petri is one of more than 100 jury-selected artists participating in this year's Lakefront Festival of Art (LFOA) at the Museum. Petri has worked in mixed media, specializing in textile arts and fabric portraiture, for more than a decade. Honored locally and nationally, she was recognized as a Winning Artist at the 2023 LFOA and is the poster artist for 2024.

**Q:** Tell us about *Tugboat on the Milwaukee River*, the work you created for this year's LFOA poster.

**A:** I thought about what things signify the city for me. I remember moving back to Milwaukee at 17 and falling in love with the river downtown. I loved seeing the Solomon Juneau tugboat gliding under the bridges unique to our city. That riverfront view at sunset is magical, and I wanted to celebrate my coming of age in this city. I recently read an article about the tugboat's owner, and in my own little way, I wanted to thank him for spreading delight.

**Q:** How has your work changed?

**A:** My work is more internal, more still, than what I showed in 2023. Last year, I had the pleasure of a two-week artist residency in Occidental, California. Being surrounded by the lushness of tropical plants and redwoods was magical. That time helped calm my heart during ongoing catastrophes, and nature is taking a more prominent place in my practice.

**Q:** What inspires you?

**A:** I am inspired by everything. I love to read and travel; both make themselves known in my work. I love colors, music, cooking, and daydreaming. I research topics of interest and look to global artisanship and traditional craft to explore material in new ways. As for contemporary influences, I love Bisa Butler, Vanessa German, Fabiola Jean-Louis, Delita Martin, and Harmonia Rosales. Locally, I love Kierston Ghaznavi, Tayla and Kaelyn Hart, Della Wells, and so many more. I am energized and inspired by my artist friends.







# Art Studio in the Community

Supported by

**KOHL'S** cares

Many Museum visitors make art on the weekends in the Kohl's Art Studio. Did you know the studio also travels to surrounding Milwaukee communities, spreading the joy that comes from making art? Since its inception in 2009, the roving program has welcomed more than 730,000 people of all ages for creative play at 1,030 events across the city.

Throughout the next three months, the studio's colorful van will visit roughly 40 gatherings, from the Juneteenth Day Festival and Mexican Fiesta to mobile pantry events coordinated by Metcalfe Park Community Bridges. Join us as we try out materials and techniques inspired by artworks in the Museum's exhibitions and collection.

Look for the Kohl's Art Studio van at your favorite summertime events!



Learn more.







## Discover our delectable new fare.

Take a leisurely lakeside lunch at the Museum Café.

Learn more.





## Member Extras

### VIP MEMBER FIRST LOOK: LFOA

Fri, June 14, 10 a.m.–noon

Open to Art Advocate level (\$250) Members and above

Invite a guest to join you for free admission to the festival. Simply show your membership card at the entrance gate, then meet the artists, shop the art, and explore the grounds.

### MEMBER MINGLES:

#### IDRIS KHAN: REPEAT AFTER ME

Thurs, June 27, 5–6 p.m. + Director Talk

Thurs, Aug 8, 5–6 p.m. + Artist Talk

Open to all Members

Enjoy a drink from the cash bar with your fellow Members before the public event. RSVP to [membership@mam.org](mailto:membership@mam.org) or 414-224-3284.

### CURATOR RECEPTION AND TOUR:

#### ARRESTING BEAUTY

Wed, July 10, 5:30–8 p.m.

Open to Patron (\$800) level Members and above

Join us after hours for a cocktail reception in Windhover Hall, followed by a private tour through *Arresting Beauty* with Kristen Gaylord, Herzfeld Curator of Photography and Media Arts. RSVP by June 26 to [rsvp@mam.org](mailto:rsvp@mam.org) or 414-224-3259.

### SUMMER PARTY

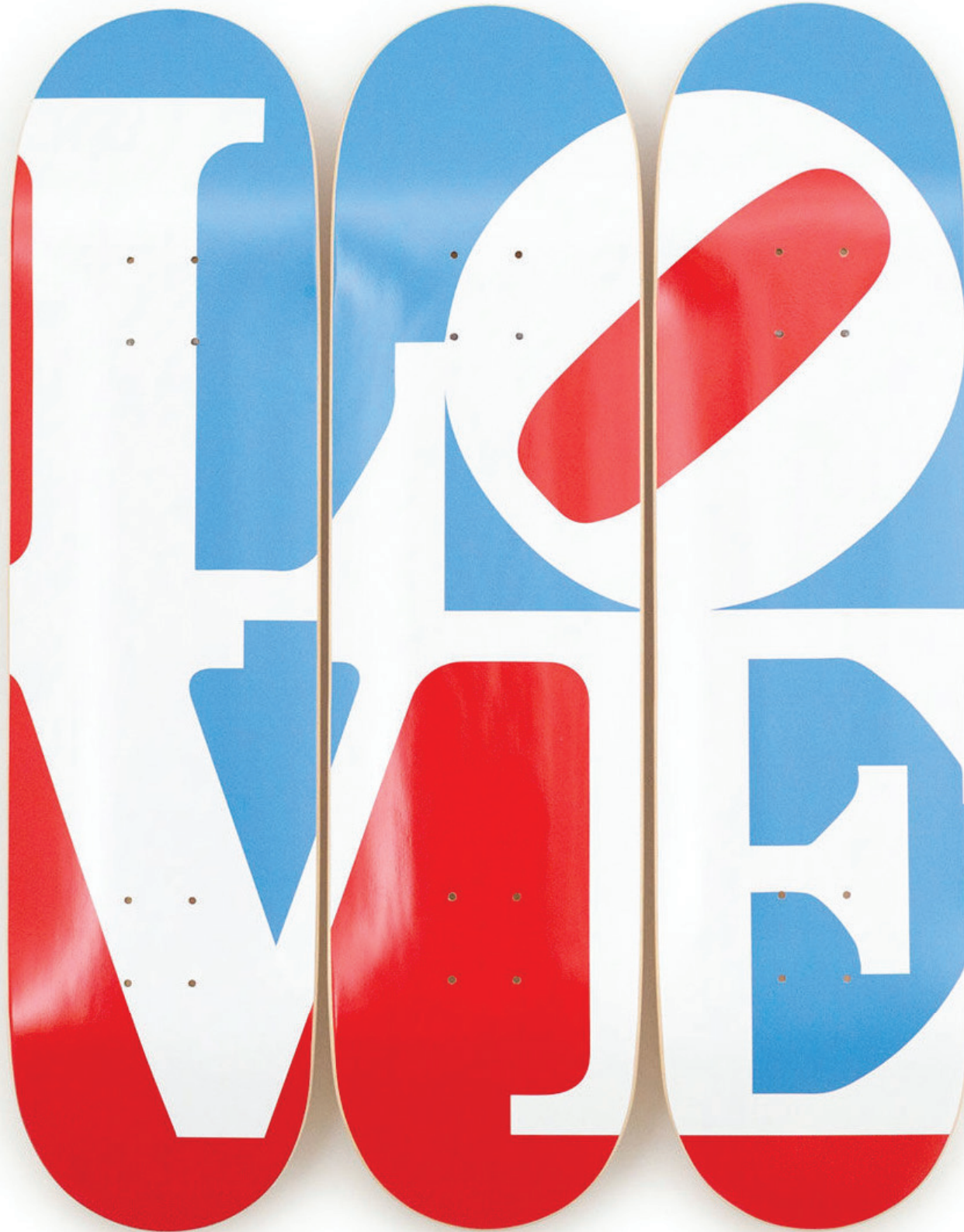
Fri, Aug 9, 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Open to Benefactor Platinum (\$5,000)

level Members and above

Marcelle Polednik, PhD, Donna and Donald Baumgartner Director, and the Trustees of the Milwaukee Art Museum invite our most generous supporters to an exclusive private reception with artist Idris Khan, celebrating the artist's first U.S. solo exhibition. RSVP by July 26 to [rsvp@mam.org](mailto:rsvp@mam.org) or 414-224-3259.

Members enjoy different benefits based on their level of membership. Upgrade your membership at any time for access to additional exclusive events. Contact the membership team at 414-224-3284, Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m., to learn more.



## Museum Store

### SPREAD LOVE.

Shop for art-inspired gifts, books, housewares, and more.

[mam.org/store](http://mam.org/store)



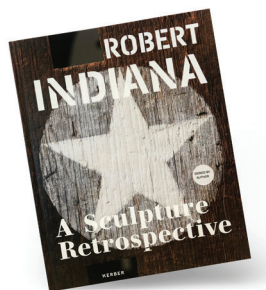
### LOVE SNOW GLOBE

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### LOVE MINI SCULPTURE

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### ROBERT INDIANA: A SCULPTURAL RETROSPECTIVE

\$65/\$57.50 Member

### BIG AMERICAN LOVE SKATE DECK TRIPTYCH

\$680/\$612 Member





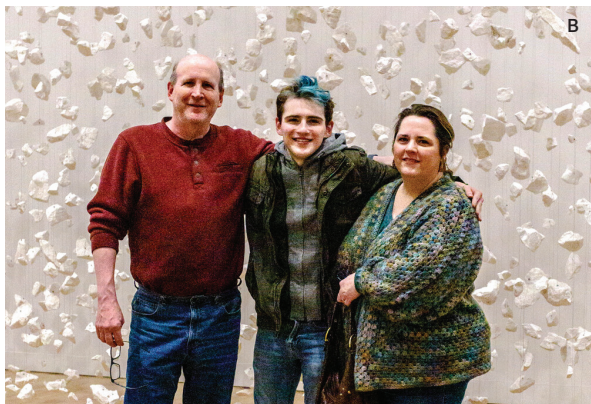
A



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## Celebrating Together



Follow us at @milwaukeeart.

A. Della Wells with her collage *Together* and African American Art Alliance members Roslynn Pedracine and Earl Arms at an event the support group held in her honor

B. Free Day at the Museum

C. Idris Khan at an opening dinner for his exhibition

D. Visitors exploring the *50 Paintings* exhibition, closing June 23

E. Visitors of all ages delighting in Art in Bloom's art-inspired floral creations

F. ASL interpreter translating a special talk in front of Derrick Adams's mural *Our Time Together*

G. Idris Khan and wife Annie Morris with Marcelle Polednik, Gail Yabuki, and Board Chair Jeff Yabuki





A model wearing a crowd-pleasing, live-flower gown from the Botanical Collective captivates Floral Fashion Party attendees during Art in Bloom.



# Select Events

💰 Payment required  
 👤 Reservations required  
 🆓 Free to the public

## Weekends

SAT 10:30–11 a.m.  
Story Time in the Galleries

SAT AND SUN 10 a.m.–4 p.m.  
Kohl's Art Studio

2–3 p.m.  
Drop-In Tours

Story Time is sponsored by Four-Four Foundation and an anonymous donor. Kohl's Art Studio is supported by **Kohl's Cares**

## June

**6** THURS  
1–2 p.m.  
Free Day + Celebration: Freedom! 🆓

6:15–7:15 p.m.  
Lecture: Valerie Cassel Oliver on Sam Gilliam

**8** SAT  
1–2 p.m.  
Guest Gallery Talk: *Arresting Beauty*

**14** FRI  
10 a.m.–noon  
VIP Member First Look: LFOA (Art Advocate level and above)

**14–16** FRI–SUN  
Lakefront Festival of Art 💰

**20** THURS  
Noon–1 p.m.  
Gallery Talk: *Arresting Beauty*

**21** FRI  
Noon–1 p.m.  
Gallery Talk: *Idris Khan: Repeat After Me*

**22** SAT  
1–2 p.m.  
Gallery Talk: *50 Paintings*

**23** SUN  
Closes: *50 Paintings*

**27** THURS  
5–7:15 p.m.  
Member Mingle + Director Talk 👤  
6:15–7:15 p.m.  
Director Talk: *Idris Khan: Repeat After Me*

## July

**10** WED  
5:30–8 p.m.  
Curator Reception and Tour: *Arresting Beauty* 👤  
(Patron level and above)

**11** THURS  
Noon–1 p.m.  
Gallery Talk: *Idris Khan: Repeat After Me*

**13** SAT  
1–2 p.m.  
Guest Gallery Talk: *Arresting Beauty*

**14** SUN  
Free Day presented by Baird 🆓

**16** TUES  
10 a.m.–5 p.m.  
Museum Open  
Free Days through July 20 presented by Baird 🆓

**25** THURS  
6:15–7:15 p.m.  
Haberman Local Luminaries: *Arresting Beauty*

**28** SUN  
Closes: *Arresting Beauty: Julia Margaret Cameron*

## August

**8** THURS  
5–7:15 p.m.  
Member Mingle + Artist Talk 👤  
6:15–7:15 p.m.  
Artist Talk: *Idris Khan: Repeat After Me*

**9** FRI  
5:30–7:30 p.m.  
Summer Party 👤  
(Benefactor Platinum level and above)

**11** SUN  
Closes: *Idris Khan: Repeat After Me*

**18** SUN  
Closes: *Life Captured in Line: 17th-Century Dutch and Flemish Prints*

### Museum Hours

WED 10 a.m.–5 p.m.  
 THURS 10 a.m.–8 p.m.  
 FRI–SUN 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

### Membership Office

414-224-3284  
 membership@mam.org

The Milwaukee Art Museum extends its sincere thanks to the Visionaries for their support of the exhibition program:

Mark and Debbie Attanasio  
 Donna and Donald Baumgartner  
 Murph Burke  
 Joel and Caran Quadracci  
 Sue and Bud Selig  
 Jeff and Gail Yabuki and the Yabuki Family Foundation

All event photos courtesy of Front Room Studios unless otherwise noted.

“We are pleased to spotlight Milwaukee as a destination, welcoming new and returning visitors to experience all the city has to offer.”

—Steve Booth, Baird Chairman and CEO



Thanks to Baird, the Museum is opening its doors with a week of free admission in July, encouraging everyone to explore its iconic architecture and world-class art.

MILWAUKEE  
ART  
MUSEUM

FREE  
DAYS

Presented by  
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JULY  
14–20\*

\*The Museum is closed July 15.



Join us for your favorite, regularly occurring programs and all our upcoming events.



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## Make This Summer Your Masterpiece

On the lakefront and in the galleries, come face to face with art that tells stories, sparks creativity, and brings you closer together.

The cover of this issue features an illustration created by Icarus Krause through the MIAD Lubar Innovation Center.