

MILWAUKEE
ART
MUSEUM

Member Magazine
Fall 2026–Winter 2027





ABOUT THE COVER

From Love Field to the Quadracci Pavilion

One of the first things you notice when you enter the Quadracci Pavilion is Alexander Calder's *Red, Black and Blue*, suspended high above you. The colorful mobile is a natural fit for this soaring space—but its connection to the building goes beyond how well the two look together. Calder's work actually has its own history of flight.

The story begins in 1968, when *Red, Black and Blue* was commissioned for the American Airlines terminal at Dallas Love Field. In 1973, it moved to Dallas–Fort Worth International Airport. Then, in 1987, Lloyd Pettit and Jane Bradley Pettit gave the work to Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport, bringing the Calder to Milwaukee.

When Santiago Calatrava was designing the Quadracci Pavilion, he specifically asked that the mobile become part of the new building. In 2000, it was placed on long-term loan to the Milwaukee Art Museum and installed in the Pavilion. Twenty years later, in 2020, Milwaukee County gifted the work to the Museum.

Today, the Calder seems perfectly at home in the Quadracci Pavilion. There is something wonderfully appropriate about a work that began in an airport now hanging in a building inspired by flight. Planes and birds move through the sky outside; Calder's colorful shapes seem to take flight inside. It is a little piece of Milwaukee history—and a fitting meeting of Calder's mobile and Calatrava's architecture.



Photo by Jovanny Hernandez, courtesy of the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*.

Member Letter: from the Director

When I first entered the Quadracci Pavilion, I was struck by how the experience changes you. The soaring height, shifting light, and expansive views of the lake create a sense of anticipation. Before you encounter a single work of art, the building invites you to look up, slow down, and become more open to discovery.

What a remarkable gift to Milwaukee.

This year, we celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Quadracci Pavilion and the extraordinary experiences it has made possible. *Built to Inspire: The Quadracci Pavilion at 25* invites you to explore the ambition behind its creation, the story of its construction, and the many ways it has become part of our shared civic life.

The celebration is not only about what happened twenty-five years ago. It is about what happens here every day: first encounters with art, family traditions, school visits, quiet moments, joyful gatherings, and memories that last a lifetime.

You are part of that story. I hope you will share your photographs, reflections, and moments large and small by tagging @Milwaukeeart for a chance to be featured during the anniversary celebration.

As we mark this milestone, we also mourn the passing of Donald Baumgartner, a steadfast advocate for the Museum and one of the visionary leaders who helped make the Quadracci Pavilion possible. His belief in Milwaukee, in art, and in the power of ambitious ideas lives on in this extraordinary place.

With gratitude,

Kim Sajet

Donna and Donald Baumgartner Director
Milwaukee Art Museum

Alexander Calder (American, 1898–1976)

Red, Black and Blue, Commissioned 1968, completed 1973

Painted metal motorized mobile

40 ft (1219.14 cm)

Gift of MKE—Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport
M2020.49

© Calder Foundation, New York / Artists Rights Society
(ARS), New York

More Than a Building

ANDY NUNEMAKER, Board Chair, reflecting on the enduring impact of the Quadracci Pavilion on Milwaukee's physical and cultural landscape

Twenty-five years ago, Milwaukee made a bold choice.

At the edge of Lake Michigan, the city invested in something that could not be measured solely in square feet, attendance figures, or construction costs. It invested in a vision.

When the Santiago Calatrava-designed Quadracci Pavilion opened in 2001, it transformed the Milwaukee Art Museum physically, expanding gallery space and creating new opportunities for exhibitions and programs. But from the beginning, the visionaries that brought the project to life aspired to create something bigger than the building itself.

Museum leaders at the time believed that great cities deserve great cultural institutions. The Pavilion was envisioned not only as an architectural landmark, but as a welcoming place where people could encounter art, connect with one another, and experience the creative energy of Milwaukee. As former Museum Director Russell Bowman wrote, the goal was to create a gathering place that would bring both extraordinary works of art and meaningful experiences to the community.

The impact was immediate. The soaring white structure quickly became a symbol of Milwaukee itself, recognized around the world and embraced at home as an expression of the city's confidence, creativity, and forward-looking spirit. Even before it opened, many saw it as a sign of what Milwaukee could become.

Today, that vision continues to unfold.

What began as an ambitious investment in Milwaukee's future has become a place where people gather, ideas take shape, and creativity thrives. As the city continues to evolve, the Pavilion stands as a reminder that a community galvanized by art and architecture can create an enduring legacy where its greatest impact is not what it has already accomplished, but what it continues to build together.

Built to inspire. Then and now. ✈️



Built to Inspire

SHOSHANA RESNIKOFF, Demmer Curator of 20th- and 21st-Century Design, on experiencing the Quadracci Pavilion anew.

A new installation invites visitors to look beyond Milwaukee's most recognizable landmark and discover the stories, ambitions, and community connections that continue to shape it today.

Most Milwaukeeans know the Quadracci Pavilion by sight.

For twenty-five years, the Pavilion has welcomed millions of visitors to the Milwaukee Art Museum. While its architecture is instantly recognizable, the story of how it came to be—and the impact it has had on Milwaukee since then—is less widely known.

Built to Inspire offers a new perspective on a place that feels familiar. Located in the Windhover Hall Rotunda, the installation invites visitors to look beyond the iconic architecture and explore how the Pavilion became a symbol of civic pride, creativity, and community. Through historic photographs, construction timelapse, an architectural model, and moments drawn from the last twenty-five years, visitors can discover the vision behind the building and reflect on what it has made possible.

At its heart, *Built to Inspire* is an invitation. Whether you remember the excitement surrounding the opening, visit regularly, or are discovering this remarkable space for the first time, we hope the installation encourages you to pause, look closely, and consider the many ways the Quadracci Pavilion has shaped our city, and continues to inspire what comes next.

Built to Inspire:

The Quadracci Pavilion at 25

Opening Aug 27, 2026

Windhover Hall

Learn more at mam.org/built-to-inspire

Discover the hidden stories behind the Pavilion and fall in love with this Milwaukee icon all over again. ✨

LEADERSHIP SPONSORS



Eileen and Barry Mandel
Milwaukee Art Museum's Friends of Art

CONTRIBUTING SPONSOR



Celebrate Beyond the Galleries

Share your Inspiration

The Quadracci Pavilion stands as a testament to what a community can build together. And this celebration belongs to all of us! Commemorate 25 years of this Milwaukee icon by sharing your favorite photo with the wings on social media and tagging @MilwaukeeArt for a chance to be featured.

See How It Began

Continue the celebration in Lubar Auditorium with two original films from 2001, offering a rare glimpse into the vision and excitement surrounding the opening of the Quadracci Pavilion. *It Started With a Dream* tells the story of the visionaries who made it possible, while *The Story of the Burke Brise Soleil* reveals the remarkable engineering behind the Pavilion's most iconic feature.

Continue the Inspiration Online

Your visit doesn't end when you leave the Museum. Continue exploring the Quadracci Pavilion through an interactive online experience featuring stories, behind-the-scenes moments, and the people who keep this Milwaukee icon inspiring at mam.org/built-to-inspire.

Photo by Front Room Studios



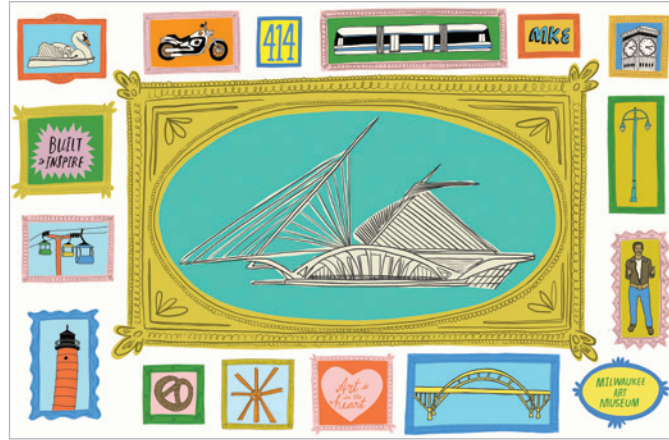
Meet the Illustrators

The Quadracci Pavilion has inspired generations of artists, photographers, and creators. To celebrate its 25th anniversary, we invited four illustrators to create original works inspired by this Milwaukee icon.

Get to know them and discover how one landmark can spark four entirely different perspectives.



James Steeno is an award-winning full-time watercolor artist based in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and is well-known for his artistic portrayals of Wisconsin's architecture, scenes and subject matter.



Laura Farahzad Mayer is an artist and educator whose work explores storytelling through bookmaking and printmaking. Laura teaches at MIAD and is proud to call Milwaukee home.



Gabriela Riveros is a Paraguayan-American illustrator based in Milwaukee. Her digitally rendered work revolves around multicultural identity, history, and mythology.



Whitney Anderson is a Milwaukee-based graphic designer and illustrator, specializing in hand lettering and bold, graphic, and often vintage-inspired designs.



Milwaukee Inspired

As part of *Built to Inspire*, we're celebrating the Quadracci Pavilion through the voices of the people who know it best: Milwaukeeans. Hear from familiar faces and members of our community as they share the memories, connections, and moments of inspiration that have made the Pavilion more than a landmark—and part of Milwaukee's identity for 25 years, and counting!

Scan to discover why Milwaukee fell in love with the Quadracci Pavilion.



Join Us All Year Long

The Milwaukee Art Museum celebrates the Quadracci Pavilion's 25th anniversary with a yearlong lineup of artist talks, performances, exhibitions, family programs, and community celebrations. Join us as we honor not only an architectural icon, but everything it has inspired over the past 25 years.



Winter Break Fun!: Built to Inspire

Sat, Dec 19, 2026–Jan. 3, 2027

Build a memorable Winter Break together at the Milwaukee Art Museum! Each day of Winter Break programming offers opportunities to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the iconic Quadracci Pavilion with fun, hands-on experiences and artmaking for all ages.

Artist Talk: The Milwaukee Ballet

Thurs, Jan 14, 6:15–7:15 p.m.

Discover how works from the Museum's collection inspired original choreography in MKE MIX: Art Moves with Milwaukee Ballet Artistic Director Michael Pink and the Milwaukee Art Museum's Dr. Kantara Souffrant.

Annual Director's Talk: Built to Inspire

Thurs, Feb 4, 6:15–7:15 p.m.

Hear from Dr. Kim Sajet about the ideas shaping the Museum's future and the role creativity plays in building community and connection.

Free Day + Celebration

Thurs, Feb 18, 10 a.m.–8 p.m.

Celebrate the Quadracci Pavilion's 25th anniversary with free Museum admission and a day honoring the creativity, community, and civic spirit that continue to shape Milwaukee.

Artist Talk: Chris Cornelius

Thurs, Mar 4, 6:15–7:15 p.m.

Award-winning architect Chris T. Cornelius (Oneida) explores how architecture can express identity, foster belonging, and strengthen the connections between people and place.

MAM After Dark: Turn of the Millennium

Fri, May 21, 7–11 p.m.

Experience the Quadracci Pavilion after hours with an evening of music, performances, art, and architecture-inspired experiences.

Quadracci Pavilion Block Party

Sat, Jul 31

Everyone is invited to celebrate 25 years of the Quadracci Pavilion with art, music, hands-on activities, and community-wide festivities.



Art:Forward Gala

Celebrating 25 years of the Quadracci Pavilion | Saturday, September 19 | 6 p.m.–midnight

This year, we celebrate 25 years of the Quadracci Pavilion at the Milwaukee Art Museum. Designed by Santiago Calatrava, the soaring icon has become both a symbol of our city and a catalyst for creativity, connection, and civic pride.

Celebrate with us at the Museum's only annual fundraising event. This special evening brings together Milwaukee's cultural, business, philanthropic, and civic leaders to honor the vision and drive that brought the Quadracci Pavilion to life—and to champion what comes next. Proceeds from the Gala support the artistic, educational, and community-driven programs that inspire us today and will continue to spark creativity for generations to come.

Learn more at mam.org/art-forward

Up Close

Facilities Director **DAN SOMERS** takes us behind the scenes of the Quadracci Pavilion, revealing hidden spaces, remarkable systems, and surprising details that keep the Quadracci Pavilion in motion.



“

Today, I'm going to take you on a behind-the-scenes tour of the Museum so you can see things that nobody ever gets to see.”

- DAN SOMERS



The tour starts here.
Scan to go behind the scenes with Dan.

Member Extras

Your membership does more than support the Museum—it opens the door to deeper connections with art, ideas, and the people who make them possible. While all Members enjoy free Museum admission throughout the year, additional benefits and exclusive experiences are available at select membership levels. Upgrade yours at any time for access to exclusive events.

Visit mam.org/membership or contact the membership team at 414-224-3284, Mon–Fri, 9 a.m.–5 p.m.



Member Mingle + Expert Series: *Seeking Revelation: German Romantic Prints and Drawings*

Thurs, Oct 15, 5–7:15 p.m. | Open to all Members

Gather with fellow Members and enjoy a drink before the Expert Series at 6:15 p.m. in Lubar Auditorium. Art Advocate Members and above receive complimentary drinks at mingles.

RSVP AT MAM.ORG/RESERVATIONS OR 414-224-3284.

Members' Annual Meeting and Reception

Thurs, Oct 22, 5–7:15 p.m. | Open to all Members

Celebrate a year of accomplishments and enjoy a special introduction to *Beneath the Surface* with Kristen Gaylord, Herzfeld Curator of Photography and Media Art. Watch your email for your invitation.

Members' Holiday Shopping Preview

Tues, Nov 10, 4–7 p.m. | Open to all Members

Enjoy early access to a festive evening of holiday shopping featuring specialty vendors and unique art and design inspired gifts. Be among the first to shop this year's annual ornament, designed by Isabel Castro, and meet the artist for a special signing. Members receive double their usual discount, plus complimentary gift wrap.

RSVP AT MAM.ORG/RESERVATIONS OR 414-224-3284.

Curator Tour + Reception

Wed, Dec 16, 5:30–7:30 p.m.

Open to Patron level and above

Patron Members and above enjoy exclusive opportunities to connect more deeply with art and ideas. Join a private reception, then choose a curator-led tour of *Beneath the Surface: Mining and American Photography* or *The Shakers: A World in the Making*.

RSVP BY DEC 2 AT RSVP@MAM.ORG OR 414-224-3259

Discover more about your membership at
mam.org/for-members



Honoring a Legacy

Donald W. Baumgartner, 1930–2026

Donald Baumgartner believed Milwaukee deserved nothing short of the extraordinary. His vision and leadership helped make the Quadracci Pavilion possible and shaped the Museum—and the city—for generations to come.

For nearly four decades, Donald W. Baumgartner shaped the Milwaukee Art Museum as a Trustee, Board Chair, Life Trustee, trusted advisor, and steadfast advocate. He believed deeply that great communities are built through great cultural institutions, and he brought that conviction to every aspect of his leadership.

More than 30 years ago, Donald saw in the proposed Santiago Calatrava-designed Quadracci Pavilion an opportunity to do far more than expand the Museum. The building would welcome new audiences, strengthen Milwaukee's cultural life, and give visible form to the city's confidence in its future. He was instrumental in moving that vision forward, helping bring trustees, civic leaders, and donors together around an idea that was bold, complex, and far from assured.

In December 1997, Donald stood alongside other Museum and civic leaders to break ground. When the Quadracci Pavilion opened in 2001, he was serving as the Chair of

the Museum's Board of Trustees, a position he held through 2003. The building transformed Milwaukee's skyline, strengthened the Museum, and gave lasting form to the civic confidence Donald championed throughout his life.

Donald's impact extended far beyond the Quadracci Pavilion. Together with his wife, Donna, he helped acquire works of art for the collection, supported special exhibitions, and endowed the Donna and Donald Baumgartner Director position, ensuring exceptional leadership for generations to come.

Donald pursued ambitious ideas not for recognition, but because he believed in what they could make possible for others. As we celebrate 25 years of the Quadracci Pavilion, we honor his vision, generosity, and enduring faith in this Museum and this city. His legacy lives on in the art we care for, the experiences we create, and the community we serve.



Ground-breaking for the Santiago Calatrava-designed Quadracci Pavilion, December 1997

Frank J. Pelisek, F. Thomas Ament, Harry V. Quadracci, Betty Quadracci, Russell Bowman, Donald W. Baumgartner, John O. Norquist, Kenneth Szallai, Karen M. Ordinans, Christopher Goldsmith, and P. Michael Mahoney.

Photo credit: Warren James



The Shakers: A World in the Making

SHOSHANA RESNIKOFF, Demmer Curator of 20th- and 21st-Century Design, on the lasting impact of the Shakers' vision.

How do we make a better world? This is the question at the core of the exhibition *The Shakers: A World in the Making*, which explores the material world of the Shakers and their continuing influence on contemporary art and design.

A Christian community founded in the late 18th century on the values of communal living and celibacy, the Shakers became widely known in the following decades for their beautifully made furniture—particularly chairs—and other domestic and commercial objects. Streamlined and simple, these designs seem to presage modernism, but they come out of a religious belief in modesty, simplicity, and radical equality.

The Shakers: A World in the Making puts the work of eight contemporary artists and designers in conversation with historic objects and architecture from the collection of the Shaker Museum to highlight philosophies and concerns that transcend centuries. Shaker objects and contemporary art and design overlap in the exhibition, which touches on issues of ethical design, healthcare and aging, and relationships to tradition and change, to name just a few. From a full-scale recreation of a Shaker meetinghouse executed in cardboard and paper to dance performances that imagine Black Shaker worship, the exhibition invites a new way to look at the Shakers and what they can offer us today.

The Shakers: A World in the Making is the largest traveling exhibition of Shaker objects in decades and the result of a landmark partnership between Vitra Design Museum in Germany, the Wüstenrot Foundation, Institute of Contemporary Art, Philadelphia, and Milwaukee Art Museum, with the essential collaboration of the Shaker Museum in Chatham, New York. ✧

The Shakers: A World in the Making

Opening Fri, Sept 25, 2026

Baker/Rowland Galleries

Learn more at mam.org/the-shakers

President's Circle Preview Celebration:

The Shakers: A World in the Making

Wed, Sept 23, 5:30–8:30 p.m.

Open to Partner level and above

Join us for a festive evening among friends with cocktails, artful bites, and live music as we celebrate this landmark exhibition that explores the enduring influence of one of America's most significant design traditions.

RSVP BY SEPT 9 AT RSVP@MAM.ORG OR 414-224-3259.

Member Preview Day + Celebration:

The Shakers: A World in the Making

Thurs, Sept 24, 10 a.m.–8 p.m. | Open to all Members

Enjoy exclusive first access to the exhibition before it opens to the public. Join us in the evening for a cash bar, live music, and a special opening talk with Shoshana Resnikoff, Demmer Curator of 20th- and 21st-Century Design. RSVP AT MAM.ORG/RESERVATIONS OR 414-224-3284.

Continue exploring the enduring influence of Shaker design with the exhibition catalogue, available at the Museum Store. \$85/\$76.50 Member

Side Chair with Tape Seat,

NY, c. 1840–60.

Photo: © Vitra Design Museum

Alex Lesage, courtesy Shaker Museum, Chatham, New York

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Collectors' Corner, Inc.



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Christopher and Sally Candee

Milwaukee Art Museum's American Arts Society

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

Debbie and Mark Attanasio

Donna and Donald Baumgartner

Murph Burke

Bill and Sandy Haack

Chris Harned and Elizabeth Quadracci Harned

The Helmerich Trust

Kenneth and Alice Kayser

Joan Lubar and John Crouch

Jeff and Gail Yabuki



Shaking Things Up!

The Shakers: A World in the Making features more than 150 Shaker objects and an additional range of installations from contemporary artists and designers from around the world. Despite the international scope of the exhibition, there are surprising regional connections that make the exhibition a special opportunity to celebrate artists and designers born and raised in Wisconsin and northern Illinois.

Amie Cunat,
2nd Meetinghouse, 2025.
Installation view from *The Shakers: A World in the Making*. © Vitra Design Museum. Photo: Bernhard Strauss

Amie Cunat

Born and raised in McHenry, Illinois, artist Amie Cunat has long been familiar with Milwaukee Art Museum. Now a Brooklynite, her contribution to the exhibition is a recreation of a Shaker meetinghouse built from cardboard and brightly colored paper—an immersive experience that invites visitors to consider their own role in building community.

Studio Gorm (John and Wonhee Arndt)

John (born and raised near Oconomowoc) and Wonhee Arndt are partners in work and life who collaborate under the name Studio Gorm. As part of the design collective Furnishing Utopia, Studio Gorm have made a number of designs directly inspired by the Shakers' culture of simplified production. Their rocking chair and baskets are on view in the exhibition alongside other objects from Furnishing Utopia designers.

Reggie Wilson

Reggie Wilson is an internationally acclaimed choreographer, producer, and dancer. A graduate of Rufus King High School in Milwaukee, Wilson has maintained deep roots in the city, collaborating with Lynden Sculpture Garden in an annual residency. His work in the exhibition, *POWER* with his dance company Fist & Heel is an exploration of Black Shaker dance traditions.



See It Before It Closes: Seeking Revelation

During periods of social and political uncertainty, people often turn to art, nature, and spirituality in search of meaning. *Seeking Revelation: German Romantic Prints and Drawings* explores this enduring impulse through works from the Museum's German Romantic collection, one of the strongest in the country. Created during a time of profound change, these prints and drawings reveal how artists sought to understand their place in a rapidly shifting world. Thoughtful, atmospheric, and deeply human, the exhibition invites visitors to slow down, look closely, and reflect on the questions that continue to shape our lives today.

Seeking Revelation:
German Romantic Prints and Drawings
Through Nov 1, 2026
Bradley Family Gallery

Learn more at mam.org/seeking-revelation

Special Edition Slow Art: Seeking Revelation
Fri, Oct 16, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

Continue your journey through *Seeking Revelation* with the exhibition catalogue, available at the Museum Store. \$39.95/\$35.96 Member.

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Katharine and Sandy Mallin
Milwaukee Art Museum's Print Forum

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY

IFPDA FOUNDATION

Drs. Peter Drescher and Karin Madsen Drescher

Beneath the Surface: Mining and American Photography

KRISTEN GAYLORD, Herzfeld Curator of Photography and Media Arts, on the entangled relationship of photography and resource extraction.



Carleton E. Watkins,
Malakoff Diggins, North Bloomfield,
Nevada County [California], 1871.
Albumen print. Amon Carter Museum
of American Art, Fort Worth, Texas.

While early Gold Rush prospectors panned for gold in riverbeds, by the time of this picture companies worked on an industrial scale, employing high-pressure hoses to erode the land in search of gold. Although faster, hydraulic mining also required much more infrastructure, and so in 1871 North Bloomfield Mining and Gravel Co. needed marketing images to solicit foreign investment. The company commissioned Carleton Watkins, one of the era's preeminent landscape photographers, to capture their largest hydraulic gold-mining operation, at Malakoff Diggins.

Watkins composed his photographs to highlight the company's technological abilities and encourage financial confidence. Here, a water pipe rakes across the foreground near remnants of tree stumps and branches, reminders that this land was once forested. In the middle ground, water cannons with arcing jets sit below the cliffs they have carved out of the earth. Behind them, land as yet untouched by the mining industry rises to a hilltop, implying limitless nature that might similarly be converted into profit.

These pictures were praised by the industry as proof that photography was helpful to engineers and mining companies. Yet a few years later, photographs by John Todd were used against hydraulic mining, as part of a lawsuit brought by farmers whose downstream properties had been ruined by chemicals, debris, and sediment from Malakoff Diggins. The judge ruled in their favor, widely considered the first environmental law in California, revealing that pictures could be used both for and against the industry.

Every one of the 140 artworks in *Beneath the Surface* contains a story like this one. Together, they expose photography's central role in shaping our understanding of resource extraction from the 19th century until today. ✦

Beneath the Surface: Mining and American Photography

Opening Fri, Oct 23, 2026

Herzfeld Center for Photography and Media Arts

Learn more at mam.org/beneath-the-surface

Member Preview Day + Celebration:

Beneath the Surface: Mining and American Photography

Thurs, Oct 22, 10 a.m.–8 p.m. | Open to all Members

Enjoy early access to the exhibition, followed by a special celebration featuring live music and a cash bar in Windhover Hall before hearing a preview of the exhibition at 6:15 p.m. in Lubar Auditorium at the Members' Annual Meeting (see page 13 for details).

RSVP AT [MAM.ORG/RESERVATIONS](https://mam.org/reservations) OR 414-224-3284.

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In memory of Christina L. Balk

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Dr. Shaheda Govani and Neil DeKarske
Milwaukee Art Museum's Photography Council
Christopher E. Olofson
The Ruttenberg '52 Collection

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



Josephine Paddock's *Blue Feather*: A New Perspective on American Modernism

By **THOMAS BUSCIGLIO-RITTER**, Abert Family Associate Curator of American Art

In the early 20th century, American artists looked for new ways to depict modern life, drawing inspiration both from European movements and the bustling streets of U.S. cities. Among them was Josephine Paddock (1885–1964). A New York painter, Paddock trained at Barnard College and the Art Students League before becoming a student of two influential artists: William Merritt Chase and Robert Henri. Chase was a leading American Impressionist interested in color and light, while Henri helped develop the Ashcan School, a group whose artists focused on everyday subjects using expressive brushwork to create a sense of immediacy.

Paddock brought these approaches together in *Blue Feather*. She painted the figure with the loose, gestural technique and darker palette associated with Ashcan. Dramatic light seems to fall across the sitter, whose gaze commands attention. At the same time, the painter surrounded her with a detailed floral pattern, possibly a tablecloth positioned vertically. Such contrast between figure and background allowed Paddock to explore motifs, light, and surface effects while portraying a resolutely modern subject.

Paddock fully contributed to New York's emerging independent art scene. In 1910, she participated in the Exhibition of Independent Artists organized by Henri and fellow Ashcan School painter John Sloan. The exhibition included many women, among them Paddock's own sister, Ethel. Paddock later exhibited three watercolors at the landmark Armory Show of 1913 and five paintings at the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco. *Blue Feather* was one of them, alongside *Youth*, *Two Girls*, *Black Cap*, and *Miss M. and a Parrot*. Of these paintings, only *Miss M. and a Parrot*, now in the Dayton Art Institute, and *Blue Feather* have been located.

Acquiring *Blue Feather* has helped expand the Milwaukee Art Museum's representation of the group of painters known as The Eight and of the larger Ashcan School, two established strengths of its American art collection. The painting has also offered an opportunity to broaden the story of American Modernism by bringing attention to the women who participated in and helped shape New York's art world in an era of rapid transformations.

See the work in person by visiting gallery K219.

Josephine Paddock (American, 1885–1964)

Blue Feather, ca. 1914

Oil on canvas, 26 1/8 × 22 1/8 in.

Purchase, Andrew A. Ziegler Fund

M2025.35



Conversations That Go Deeper

The Expert Series brings together artists, scholars, and cultural thinkers for dynamic conversations that offer new perspectives on the exhibitions on view. Through these engaging panel-style discussions, guests explore how art shapes our world, reflects lived experiences, and connects to broader cultural, historical, and social conversations. These discussions strengthen visitors' connections to the themes and ideas behind the artworks. Leave with fresh insights, deeper connections, and a richer understanding of the art on view.

Expert Series: *Seeking Revelation: German Romantic Prints and Drawings*

Thurs, Oct 15, 6:15–7:15 p.m.

Discover how religious beliefs, forest management, and travel shaped how the German Romantics viewed their national identity and their relationship to the divine.

Expert Series: *Beneath the Surface: Mining and American Photography*

Thurs, Oct 29, 6:15–7:15 p.m.

Join photographers Will Wilson, Cara Romero, and Dakota Mace as they discuss how images influence public perception, serving as tools of documentation, promotion, and critique.

SPONSORED BY

Milwaukee Art Museum's Contemporary Art Society
Milwaukee Art Museum's Photography Council

Photos by Front Room Studios



Fist & Heel Performance Group, *POWER*, 2024
© Photo: Johanna Austin

Artist Spotlight: Reggie Wilson

For more than three decades, choreographer Reggie Wilson has explored how movement carries memory, belief, and cultural identity across generations. As founder and artistic director of the Brooklyn-based Fist & Heel Performance Group, he has developed an internationally recognized practice that blends African diasporic traditions with contemporary dance in what he describes as “post-African/ Neo-HooDoo Modern” performance.

His latest work, *POWER*, continues that exploration by turning to an often-overlooked chapter of American history: the experiences of Black Shakers. Part lecture and part performance, the evening-length work draws on years of research into African diasporic spiritual traditions, ring shouts, and Shaker worship to imagine what Black Shaker worship might have looked like. Through movement, music, and ritual, Wilson invites audiences to reconsider history while expanding conversations about faith, community, and belonging.

A Milwaukee native and graduate of New York University’s Tisch School of the Arts, Wilson has presented his work at leading venues across the United States, Africa, and Europe, earning recognition as one of the foremost voices in contemporary dance.

Artist Talk + Performance:
Reggie Wilson/Fist & Heel Performance Group: *POWER*
Thurs, Oct 1, 6:15–7:15 p.m.

Join us for the Milwaukee Art Museum debut of *POWER*, the acclaimed dance performance by Reggie Wilson/Fist & Heel Performance Group. Through movement, music, and conversation, this unique program brings new attention to the overlooked history of Black Shakers while exploring the intersections of faith, community, and cultural identity. Experience an evening where history and contemporary choreography come together in powerful new ways.

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What's On

One Museum. Endless possibilities. Discover our extended Día de los Muertos ofrenda, celebrate on Free Day, join Bilingual Story Time in the Galleries, and explore everything happening at the Museum this season.

Scan to explore what's on and find your next reason to visit at mam.org/whats-on



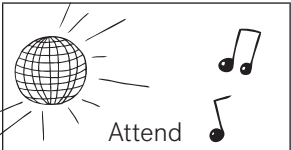
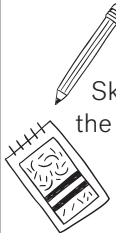
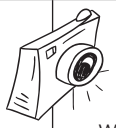
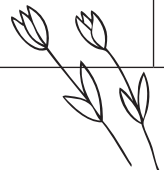
Photo by Front Room Studios

Member Bingo

There's so much to experience at MAM that we've created a bingo card to help you discover all the ways the Museum can entertain, inspire, and surprise you! Make the most of your membership by visiting often throughout the year, exploring something new, revisiting your favorite work, and getting to know your Museum even better.

Playing is simple: Complete five spaces in a row—horizontally, vertically, or diagonally—and return your completed card to the Museum Store to receive a free gift.

Gift offer valid until Aug 31, 2027, or while supplies last.

 Attend MAM After Dark	See an exhibition on Member Preview Day	 Listen to a guided audio tour at mam.org/guide	Take a yoga class in Windhover Hall	Shop the Museum Store on Double Discount Day 
 Sketch in the galleries	Count the number of Georgia O'Keeffe works in the Bradley Wing	 Dive deep into an artwork at Slow Art Saturday	 Join a drop-in tour led by a Museum docent	Ask a gallery guard about their favorite collection work
 Enjoy a bite in the Lakeshore Café	Purchase an artwork at Lakefront Festival of Art	FREE ★	Attend Story Time in the Galleries with a young explorer	Gift a membership
 See the "wings" open	Join us for a Member Mingle	 Take a photo with your favorite work and share it with us @Milwaukeeart	 Attend an Artist Talk or Expert Series	 Snag an exhibition catalogue
 Make a project in the Art Studio	Visit the Día de los Muertos ofrenda	 Bring a friend to MAM	 Vote for your favorite floral installation at Art in Bloom	Attend a curator-led Gallery Talk



Presented by North Shore Bank

MAM

after dark

When the sun goes down, the Milwaukee Art Museum transforms. MAM After Dark invites you to experience the Museum in a different light, where art becomes a backdrop for connection, exploration, and community. Through music, performances, cocktails, dancing, art making, and after-hours gallery access, these themed evenings bring together culture and entertainment in unexpected ways. Join us and experience the Museum as a vibrant gathering place where art, ideas, and people come together.

Halloween Bash

Fri, Oct 23 | 7-11 p.m.

Dress to impress for one of Milwaukee's most creative Halloween parties. MAM After Dark: Halloween Bash transforms the Museum into a night of costumes, cocktails, music, dancing, and after-hours surprises. Show off your look, explore the galleries late into the night, and celebrate Halloween beneath the wings.

Sparkle + Shine

Fri, Dec 11 | 7-11 p.m.

Celebrate the season at one of Milwaukee's most festive holiday gatherings. Sparkle + Shine fills the Museum with music, dancing, seasonal cocktails, and after-hours gallery access, creating a glamorous holiday celebration at one of Milwaukee's most iconic landmarks.

Learn more at mam.org/after-dark

Members enjoy discounted tickets and access to a private lounge!

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Photo by Front Room Studios

Donor Spotlight:

Joe and Ellen Checota

Joe and Ellen Checota have built their philanthropy around a simple idea: one gift can inspire many more.

In 2025, the longtime Museum supporters made a transformational commitment to Milwaukee’s cultural community, awarding a \$5 million challenge gift to the endowment of three institutions, including the Milwaukee Art Museum.

ANDRÉ ALLAIRE, the Museum’s chief development officer, recently sat down with Joe and Ellen to discuss what inspired their generosity and what they hope their support will make possible.

What role do cultural institutions like the Milwaukee Art Museum play in our community?

Joe:
The Museum enriches our lives and has enriched the lives of countless people throughout greater Milwaukee. I believe the Museum offers more to our community than many art museums in cities of the same size and even some cities that are much larger.

Ellen:
The Museum has a wonderful ability to bring people together and create a powerful sense of community. It also inspires young people to strive for excellence and achievement in artistic pursuits that make life better for all of us.

What inspires you to invest in the Museum’s future?

Joe:
The arts opened up a world of enjoyment for us. Along the way, we met many wonderful people who chose to share their financial success with charitable organizations throughout greater Milwaukee. Our goal is to inspire the next generation to pay it forward.

All of our charitable gifts—to the Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, and our scholarship program for trade and technical students at Milwaukee Area Technical College—are challenge gifts that require matching support from other donors. We like to see the money we contribute grow, and we want to inspire more people to get into the habit of giving.

Ellen:
People. The Milwaukee Art Museum and our other outstanding cultural institutions are here because people chose to invest in them and pass them along to us. People like the late Bill and Nici Teweles became close friends and inspired us to support the arts in Milwaukee.

As we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Quadracci Pavilion, what do you hope the next 25 years will look like for the Museum?

Joe:
The Milwaukee Art Museum has become one of the great art museums in the United States. We hope it will continue to acquire and exhibit the exceptional art that has characterized the Museum since Peg Bradley donated her remarkable collection more than 50 years ago.

Our wish for the Museum, and for Milwaukee, is that more people will share experiences Ellen and I have enjoyed, and that the legacy previous donors passed on to us will be embraced by a new generation of supporters.

Multiply your impact! Learn how your gift may be matched through the Checota Challenge Gift by contacting Alma Kneisel at alma.kneisel@mam.org or 414-224-3863.



“The Milwaukee Art Museum and our other outstanding cultural institutions are here because people chose to invest in them and pass them along to us.” - ELLEN CHECOTA

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