

Canton Museum of Art

Fall 2018



Arden Riddle

Master of Mid-Century Design



Canton
Museum
of Art



Event Snapshot

5.19.18



Departments

2
Event Snapshot

4
Director's Spotlight

5
Featured Events

6
Events Calendar

9
School of Art
Classes & More!

16
News from the Collection
Updates from Our American Art Collection

18
Upcoming Exhibitions

19
Get Involved!
CMA Volunteer & Museum Groups

Join Us! Museum Membership



10
Arden Riddle
Master of Mid-Century Design

12
The Art and Sole
Lisa Sorrell's Art of Cowboy Boots

13
Our Separated Selves
Watercolors by Darius Steward

14
Everyday People
Faces from the CMA Collection

(Cover) Mid-Century Modern furniture designed by Arden Riddle, from the collection of the Arden Riddle Foundation and private collectors.

(This Page) *M*, (one of four in the *MORE?* series), 2018. Darius Steward (American). Watercolor on Yupo paper.

Canton Museum of Art appreciates the operating, exhibition, and programming support in part from ...



Ohio Historical
Decorative Arts
Association



The Hoover
Foundation

The Arden Riddle
Foundation





The Canton Museum of Art (CMA) is one of Ohio's premier museums for an exceptional visual arts experience. CMA is recognized for its artistic excellence in original and touring exhibitions focused on American art and its influences; an acclaimed permanent collection of American watercolors and contemporary ceramics; and innovative education and outreach programs. CMA is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.



CANTON MUSEUM OF ART STAFF

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Max R. Barton II

FINANCE DIRECTOR
Kristina Belliveau

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR
Eliza Williams

MARKETING & EVENTS DIRECTOR
Danielle Attar

CHIEF CURATOR
Lynnda Arrasmith

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR & CURATORIAL ASSISTANT
Kaleigh Pisani-Paige

EDUCATION MANAGER
Erica Emerson

MUSEUM TO GO COORDINATOR
Rachel Smith

ART FOR HEALTH & HEALING COORDINATOR
Amy Hope — MA, PC-CR, AT

ARTISAN BOUTIQUE COORDINATOR
Cindee Aronhalt

CANTON FINE ARTS PROGRAM COORDINATOR
Marcie Shaw

GALLERY INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE
George Samay

PATRON SERVICES
Ben Ankrum, Lynette Farrar, Scott Kunkel, Jonathan Ott, Fred Pisani



Director's Spotlight

Museum To Go Inspires in the Classroom

As we open an exciting 2018-19 season here at the Canton Museum of Art, I want to take this spot to praise and recognize the impact of CMA's Museum To Go (MTG) program. Starting its third year, Museum to Go is bridging the gap between the classroom and the Museum—creating a robust educational experience for Stark County 4th graders at a critical time of cognitive development and state testing programs.

Free to schools, MTG lessons are designed to fit into one class session. The lesson includes: 1) a virtual walk-through of an exhibition using a Google Tour; 2) discussion of a specific artwork within the exhibition; and 3) a hands-on art experience aligned to classroom plans.

Works of art provide students with opportunities for inquiry-based learning. The Ohio Common Core standards-aligned lessons in MTG focus on individual themes and ideas across visual arts, language arts, math, science, and social studies—fueling creativity, critical thinking, problem solving, language skills, and innovation as students interact.

Sponsored in part by Ohio Arts Council, KeyBank Foundation, the Hoover Foundation, and Arts In Stark, this past year Museum To Go visited 52 fourth grade classrooms in 13 schools in Stark County; worked with 39 general education teachers; and reached more than 1,100 students. Those students

received three different lessons throughout the year, for a total of 3,300 lesson impressions.

This multi-visit structure with the same students created a more meaningful curriculum experience and strengthened relationships with educators. According to pre- and post-assessments, MTG inspired creativity and improved critical thinking and teamwork among the students and contributed to overall class enjoyment.

An educator packet was created for each lesson and made accessible through the CMA website. This included the lesson plan and enrichment activities to extend student learning. Following the MTG visit, teachers were encouraged to schedule a field trip to CMA. MTG is not meant to replace a visit to the Museum, rather encourage children and families to consider CMA as a resource to explore learning through art.

The activities of Museum To Go advance the Museum's mission of arts education to inspire and create learning opportunities for all ages through the visual arts. Because . . . *art really does change lives.*

Sincerely,

Max R. Barton II
Executive Director

Board of Trustees Canton Museum of Art

PRESIDENT
Joseph Feltes

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
Jeff Strayer

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
Lindsay Zimmerman

SECRETARY
Kay Seeberger

TREASURER
Mark Belgya

Dan Chrzanowski
Alex Fisher
Vicki Haines
Christian Harwell
Adam Luntz
Meleah Kinlow
Tiffany Marsh
Nancy Stewart Matin

Canton Fine Arts Associates
Teresa Golden-McClelland
Amanda Morena
Canton Artists League

Christine Peterson
Carrie Sibila
Mark Spaner
Vicky Sterling
Dr. Paul Turgeon
Dr. Walter Wagor
Cindy Winick

Featured Events



Art Harvest Free Trick-or-Treat & Family Art Event

Bring your little gal or ghoul to the Canton Museum of Art for the **4th Annual Art Harvest Trick-or-Treat First Friday Family Art Event!** What better way to kick-off the change of seasons?

Kids should arrive in their favorite Halloween costume and Trick-Or-Treat in the Museum for candies and other goodies. Also, enjoy Halloween themed make-and-take art projects and classic carnival games. This event is free for all ages and open to the public!



10.5.18 // 5pm-7pm

Put on your spookiest, most creative costume, and come party with friends at the Massillon Museum! The **3rd Annual Art After Dark Costume Party** features a non-stop dance floor, roaming entertainment, and spooky surprises. Explore Halloween-inspired cocktails, craft beer, tarot card readers, photo booth, and much more. This event is presented in part with the Canton Museum of Art.

This is not your typical soirée! A costume contest will ensue with cool prizes for "Overall Best Costume" and "Best Art History Inspired Costume." All proceeds benefit the Massillon Museum and Canton Museum of Art. **Tickets: \$20 – price includes entertainment, snacks, and entry into the costume contest, galleries, and dance party.**

Cash Bar. Raffle tickets & Tarot Card Readings sold separately. Museum Members receive complimentary drink tickets. **Note: This Event is for Ages 18+.**

10.20.18 // 7pm-11pm
Massillon Museum

Events Calendar



More details @ www.cantonart.org

First Friday: Americana Night 9.7.18 // 5pm-8pm

1 Join us for an extra special First Friday as we celebrate all things Americana. View a display of artwork created by Military Veterans in our Art for Health & Healing program, enjoy **Live Music by Marc Lee Shannon**, and grab some dinner at the **Swenson's Food Truck!** Art . . . LIVE Music . . . Cash Bar . . . FREE!

Art Harvest - Free 10.5.18 // 5pm-7pm

2 Bring your little gal or ghoul to the Canton Museum of Art for the **4th Annual Art Harvest Trick-or-Treat First Friday Family Art Event!** Kids should arrive in their favorite Halloween costume and Trick-Or-Treat in the Museum for candies and other goodies. Also, enjoy Halloween themed make-and-take art projects and classic carnival games. This event is FREE for all ages and open to the public!

Columbus Day - Free 10.8.18 // 10am-5pm

3 Join us for **FREE Admission this Columbus Day** to explore the galleries and stories within the exhibitions! Kids (and families) of all ages will enjoy a variety of make-and-take art activities at the Education Station in the Museum Lobby, plus an art Scavenger Hunt in the galleries for prizes.



**Canton Arts District All-Stars –
One Night Only!**
11.2.18 // 5pm-8pm

4 Canton Arts District All-Stars returns! Don't miss this one night art event where you get to VOTE on your favorite artwork. **With so many talented artists in the Canton Arts District this is a chance for YOU to crown one of them as the 2018 Arts District All-Star winner.** Vote between 5-7:00pm and the winner is announced by 7:30pm. Cash bar . . . LIVE Music . . . FREE!

47TH ANNUAL



Christkindl Markt

2018

JURIED FINE ARTS
& CRAFTS SHOW



NOVEMBER 9, 10, & 11

CULTURAL CENTER FOR THE ARTS
1001 MARKET AVE N, CANTON, OH 44702



HOLIDAY SHOPPING WITH OVER 100 ARTISANS

Discover... Jewelry, Ceramics, Photography, Textiles, Holiday Items & More! // Art Demos // Entertainment // The Sweet Shoppe with Homemade Candy Galore // Raffles // Book Sale // Visits from Santa Claus // Bistro & Cafe (with beer & wine bar)

ADMISSION: \$7

AGES 12 & UNDER: FREE

FRI-SAT, NOV 9 & 10 10AM-6PM

SUN, NOV 11 11AM-4PM







CANTON
SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA
GERHARDT ZIMMERMANN
MUSIC DIRECTOR

Enjoy a preview of our 2018-2019 season!



On Opening Night, Dan Boye, baritone and Ellie Jarrett Shattles, mezzo join the CSO on stage for a staged performance of *Trouble in Tahiti*

October 6, 2018 at 7:30pm

Mark Kosower, principal cellist of The Cleveland Orchestra, joins the CSO to delight the audience with his interpretation of two masterworks for the cello.

October 27, 2018 at 7:30pm



Spencer Myer returns to the stage for a concert of composers "for the people". Enjoy Gershwin's *Piano Concerto in F* and Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake Suite*.

November 18, 2018 at 7:30pm

Don't forget our pops concerts, featuring audience favorite Jeans 'N Classics, the CSO performing with the silent movie "The Freshman", and our popular Holiday Pops!

Ticket at cantonsymphony.org
or 330.452.2094

2018-2019

Cassandra Crowley

Artistic & Executive Director

CANTON BALLET

.COM

CELEBRATE *Dance!* 10/12 & 13

Sponsored by The Canton Repository

The Nutcracker 12/7, 8 & 9

Sponsored by Kenan Advantage Group

THE LITTLE *Mermaid* 4/13 & 14 2019

Sponsored by Canton Ballet Barre Association

Studio 7 Photography



18 19 SEASON PG THEATRE

THE FULL MONTY

Disney **NEWSIES** THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

ELTON JOHN & TIM RICE'S **AIDA** THE TIMELESS LOVE STORY

A Christmas Carol THE NEW MUSICAL

THE LION THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE

next to normal

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR

TITANIC THE MUSICAL

PLAYERS GUILD THEATRE .COM
BOX OFFICE: 330.453.7617



BERNSTEIN AT 100 OCTOBER 14, 3:00 P.M.
CHRISTMAS AT THE MOVIES DEC 9, 3:00 P.M. & DEC 11, 7:00 P.M.
THE VOYAGE MAY 12, 3:00 P.M.



1001 MARKET AVE N. CANTON, OH 44702
WWW.VOICESOFCANTON.ORG | BOX OFFICE 330.452.4098



School of Art

Now Enrolling – Fall / Winter Classes & Workshops



Digital Photography



Classic Oil Painting



Ceramics



Watercolor Painting

Each year, CMA offers more than 150 studio art classes and workshops, with courses available Fall, Winter, and Spring in a wide range of media – including ceramics, photography, drawing, painting, and more! Classes meet weekdays and weekends, with both day and evening hours, so there's a class to fit every schedule, budget, and interest! Courses are available for adults, plus children and teens (including a Summer Art Camp). Our classes are taught by professional artists and educators who will help spark your imagination, creativity, and artistic vision. **For the complete Fall / Winter class listing and to register, visit www.cantonart.org/school – members save 20%!**

FEATURED NEW Adult Classes

- **Digital Photography** – 6 Tuesday Class Sessions
9/18 - 10/23/18, 6 - 8pm, \$110/person (Members: \$88)
- **Classic Watercolor Painting** – 6 Sunday Class Sessions
9/23 - 10/28/18, 1:30 - 3:30pm, \$108/person (Members: \$86)
- **Mid Century Modern Wall Art** – Workshop
9/26/18, 6 - 8pm, \$28/person (Members: \$23)

FEATURED NEW Children's Classes

- **Pumpkin Painting & Cider** – All Ages!
10/11/18, 6 - 8pm, \$15/person (Members: \$12)
- **Art Play Date: Creepy Creatures** – Toddlers 1 - 4
10/18/18, 10:30 - 11:30am, \$15/person (Members: \$12)
- **Character Illustration** – Grades 5 - 8
6 Thursday Class Sessions
9/20 - 10/25/18, 6 - 8pm, \$55/person (Members: \$44)

See complete Fall / Winter classes listed online and register today!

www.cantonart.org/school



Join us for our monthly **UnCorked Relax and Paint events!** Bring your family and friends, enjoy some wine and other refreshments, and paint your own masterpiece! Our instructor will guide you through creating your version of works inspired by classic European and American artworks, as well as contemporary favorites – while you learn more about the story behind the art! **For the monthly schedule to register, visit www.cantonart.org/CMAUncorked** NOTE: Must be 21 or older to register.

Become
A Museum
Member
& Save!

On average
members save 20%
on classes. Join online
as you register.

Exhibitions

ON VIEW THROUGH OCTOBER 28



Arden Riddle Master of Mid-Century Design

Mid-Century Modern furniture is simple and timeless, and provided an emotional rebellion from the ornamentation of the past. It gave us clean lines, gentle organic curves, a love for different materials, and designers that are idolized even today.

The Mid-Century Modern movement occurred from the mid-1930s to mid-1960s, with emphasis on the 1950s. It included architecture as well as industrial, interior, and graphic design. Designers such as Charles and Ray Eames, Harry Bertoia, Arne Jacobsen, George Nelson, and Arden Riddle created iconic furniture and lighting that are still highly coveted. As the saying goes, “what goes around comes around,” and it is with a love for fine craftsmanship and simple yet elegant furnishings

that Mid-Century Modern style has never really left our lives. And true artisans like Arden Riddle show us why beautifully crafted, simple furnishings endure.

Arden Riddle (1921 – 2011) was born in Calhoun County, West Virginia. He grew up on a farm with his six brothers and sisters. After graduating high school, Riddle volunteered for the U.S. Army, achieving the rank of Master Sergeant while serving in the European Theatre during World War II, primarily in France and Germany. Riddle fought in the Battle of the Bulge and earned the Bronze Star among other military awards. After the war, Riddle apprenticed with a furniture manufacturer, building furniture during the day and learning drafting skills at night. He enrolled in



“Abundant to all the needs of man. How poor the world would be without wood.”

the prestigious Kendall College of Art and Design and the Gilbert School of Advanced Design in Michigan, graduating in 1948. There he learned the fine art of furniture design and the craft of creating quality furniture.

Not wanting to work for a “big furniture manufacturer,” this led Riddle to open his own furniture business in 1950 in Copley, Ohio – and it was a family business. His father worked with him for several years after his retirement from Goodyear Aircraft. Riddle’s brother, Paul, executed the upholstery work, while sisters Pauline and Geneva sewed and created cushions. Riddle never married, and his profession largely consumed his life.

Riddle’s Mid-Century Modern furniture utilized clean lines and smooth surfaces, providing for a “fuss free” design. As a true artisan, Riddle worked long hours to achieve precise execution of his designs.

If asked, he would come to your home and design furniture for your space. Each piece was made specifically for the buyer – a months-long process that involved conversations, sketches, and laborious handcrafting. In the process, he often developed close relationships with customers. When a piece was finished, typically Riddle would deliver it.

Today, Riddle’s work is found in homes of Mid-Century Modern collectors and friends here in Ohio, from coast-to-coast, and around the world. This exhibition honors the art of a craftsman who spent his life enriching the lives of others.

His Soul is in Wood

The words at the left are Arden Riddle’s, and they sum up his feeling about the material he obviously loved.

Riddle was a man with an appreciation for many of the finer things in life – natural materials, art, architecture, and design. When he would talk with customers and others about his designs and craft, his eyes would light up. As he would sand a piece of wood, his hands would dance across the surface checking to make sure it was smoother than smooth.

“I try to avoid fads, fashions, and current styles like the plague,” Riddle said. “I try to get as much timelessness as possible out of my pieces, to design for people today.

“Furniture should be made for people, and I design it with people in mind. When you sit in a chair, you should be able to relax and let the chair contain you. The angle of the seat and back are very important.”

Riddle selected all of his own wood for his designs, working mostly in cherry and walnut. Each joint, every curve, was hand-crafted for smooth lines. Indeed, some pieces may appear to have been crafted from a single piece of wood. Other natural materials come together to form his pieces: hand-woven wools imported from Ireland, genuine leather, and travertine – a porous limestone imported from Italy, used in some table tops. The fabrics for his upholstered pieces were cut and sewn at his second workshop in West Virginia.

In many ways, Riddle was a man ahead of his time. Decades later, however, his pieces are as timeless as ever – and in great demand.

“Mid-Century pieces are simply well-designed objects, with a timeless look. They sit very well in contemporary homes and interiors – they still feel fresh today.”

- Joshua Holdeman
20th-Century Design – Sotheby’s

The Art and Sole

Lisa Sorrell's Art of Cowboy Boots

Lisa Sorrell's dedication to learning the craft of bootmaking and her flair for design has established her as a master bootmaker. Her work offers fresh ways to examine the art of the cowboy boot within the context of heritage and tradition. She creates dialog through interplay of color, texture, and technique, preserving tradition and keeping consistent with pioneers of the craft by interpreting vintage designs in contemporary and modern ways.

She was raised in southwest Missouri in a conservative little church where the women all wore long hair and long dresses. Her mother began teaching her to sew when she was 12, and by age 15 she was making dresses for ladies in her church. She married in 1990 and moved to Oklahoma, where she answered an ad in the local newspaper looking for someone to "stitch boot tops." Although she had absolutely no idea what that meant at the time, within a few weeks of discovering the craft of cowboy boot making, she realized she'd found her calling.

Lisa has won many awards for her work at competitions throughout the United States, as well as Germany and the Netherlands. In 2011 she was a featured artist on the PBS series "Craft in America." She's been featured in multiple magazines, from "Cowboys and Indians" to "American Craft," and her work is in Tyler Beard's books "The Art of the Boot" and "Cowboy Boots," and Jennifer June's book "Cowboy Boots: The Art and Sole."

Sorrell is also the author of the first book ever written that documents the way art is traditionally created on cowboy boot tops. "The Art of Leather Inlay and Overlay" is published by Schiffer Publishing and was released in June of 2016.

All cowboy boots are made by Sorrell in her shop, using hand tools and vintage machinery. Every pair of boots is custom made especially for each client. Prices begin at \$5,000, and designs can be chosen from her extensive portfolio or created from customer ideas.



*If Heartaches Had Wings, 2016. Lisa Sorrell (American).
Image courtesy of the artist.*

In the words of the artist –

"As I imagine designs, select colors, and begin cutting the leather that forms a cowboy boot, I'm constrained by the requirements of function, guided by my 26 years of experience, and influenced by the history and traditions of the craft of cowboy boot making.

"My work is characterized by intricate inlay and overlay—delicate shapes cut into the leather, and held in place with stitching done on an old single-needle Singer sewing machine. Using vintage tools, I stretch, shape, and mold the leather parts and pieces to build a beautiful, functional piece of art."



Photo by Bryan Terry, *The Oklahoman*.

Our Separated Selves

Watercolors by Darius Steward



*E, (one of four in the MORE? series), 2018. Darius Steward (American).
Watercolor on Yupo paper.*

Cleveland native Darius Steward has been an artist since his youth and is using his talents to spread positive messages of hope and perseverance in the community.

Steward is known for his figurative works of symbolic imagery on paper and for his public outreach through masterful multi-story murals. Steward's watercolors challenge the viewer to tackle current issues, as well as to confront their own pasts, prejudices, and shared experiences – symbolically and literally – across and against racial, economic, and cultural lines. By extension, portraying his family, friends, neighbors, and members of the community Steward affords us a glimpse into his personal history.

Steward outlived the East Cleveland neighborhood he grew up in. He isn't one for nostalgia, but rather the power of the present. As a young child, he began honing his craft and artistic career, drawing the popular TV Series' Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles and Mortal Kombat. As the world changed on 9/11, so did it for Steward. Growing up in a rough neighborhood he learned the power of imagery and laments that life had little shock value left. With the events of that day his perception of popular culture and current reality, specifically the intrinsic entertainment-based value of the media, further evolved.

In 11th grade at the Cleveland School of the Arts, he began exploring his voice and addressing social based issues and the impact of popular culture and the media. Steward

completed his Bachelor of Fine Arts at the Cleveland Institute of Art in 2008 with a concentration in Drawing and Painting, and he earned a Master of Fine Arts at the University of Delaware in 2010. An instructor at CIA and former fine arts teacher at Saint Ignatius High School in Cleveland, he is currently the Scholar Squad Manager at the Cleveland Museum of Art.

Works by Steward are in the collections of The Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, Cleveland Clinic Hospital, Metro Health Hospital, The Presidents Council, University of Delaware, and the Canton Museum of Art. He was the Artist in Residence for Zygote Press in 2016 and was also awarded the Creative Workforce Fellowship during the same year. Most recently, his work was exhibited at the prestigious FRONT International and CAN Triennial shows in Cleveland.

“Life, life would have to be my biggest inspiration. . . . I want (my art) to talk about hope, progress, and things that can come . . . and what’s happening today.”

- Darius Steward, 2018

Everyday People

Faces from the CMA Collection



Marsh at the Whitney (detail), 1955. Clyde Singer (American, 1908 - 1955). Oil on canvas, 32 x 37 in. CMA Collection.

What would life be like in 1850 without a good pair of Levi's, a strong horse, and a can of beans for sustenance? How would you feel after a long day aboard a lobster boat off the coast of Maine . . . or working in a steel plant? What are those young ladies thinking as they stroll through the Whitney Museum of American Art?

As featured artist Dean Mitchell once said, "I have always considered my art to reflect the journey of my life; each painting revealing a personal perception of the things, places and people who have touched my life." Artists such as Mitchell were focused on capturing the everyday people around him, and the activities he saw them do daily. "Quincy Factory Worker," the watercolor by Dean Mitchell displayed in this exhibit, portrays a man named Rags who worked at the Barnes Ice Plant Company, a plant that has since been shut down.

Each piece of art in "Everyday People" features the artist's idea of what traits make up everyday life and the everyday person, and how daily life can be translated onto a canvas.

Throughout this exhibit, we will ask ourselves—what is daily life like for other people? What was everyday life like in the past and what would life have been like without the common objects that we use today? The daily lives of ordinary men and women are constantly changing, but they are the everyday people . . . often overlooked and yet extraordinary in what they accomplish.

Inside this exhibition, you will notice that instead of writing about the individual artists, with all the dates, biographic information, and more . . . we wrote about what the images and works might inspire you to think about—from all walks of life. We shared the stories that we see within the art. Now, we hope you are inspired to create your own.

An array of acclaimed artists from our CMA Collection are featured in "Everyday People," including George Bellows, Thomas Hart Benton, Ferdinand Brader, Winslow Homer, Edward Potthast, Frederick Remington, Clyde Singer, and many more. We hope you enjoy this look inside.



new **jobs** smarter **kids** healthier **communities**



ArtsinStark 900 Cleveland Avenue NW, Canton
330-453-1075 • ARTSINSTARK.COM



6 GAMES EVERY FRIDAY

LIVE

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

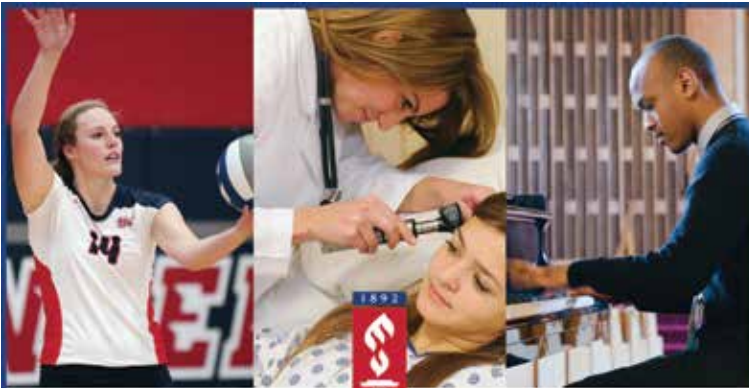
Q92
TODAY'S HIT MUSIC
WBJQ

EVERY WEEK!

**TJ DOWNING
JIM BALLARD
MARK MILANO**

WWW.Q92RADIOSPORTS.COM

LOCAL



MALONE UNIVERSITY
CHRIST'S KINGDOM FIRST

We are Pioneers!

Malone University offers students a nationally respected academic environment with more than 50 programs which lead to careers in all fields. Malone faculty are committed to the development of students' intellectual, spiritual, and social growth. It's a transformational experience which enables graduates to become leaders in their professions, communities, and churches.

Graduate programs in business, education, and nursing are among the most highly regarded in Northeast Ohio and offered online, on campus, or in a blended format. Have some college credit? Earn your bachelor's degree through Malone's degree completion program in as little as 12 months.

Learn more about Malone by visiting www.malone.edu.

Check out our virtual tour www.malone.edu/virtualtour

THE CANTON
REPOSITORY
CantonRep.com

More than a Newspaper.

Delivering news and information to the community through a full range of media products.

The **Independent** IndeOnline.com **THE REVIEW**
the Suburbanite **About** **JACKSON**
Suburbanite

News from the Collection

The Art of Merv Corning Comes Home to Canton



Frenchy and the Pastry Chef, 2001. Merv Corning (American, 1926 - 2006). Watercolor on paper, 13 x 12 in. CMA Collection.



Kellen Winslow, San Diego Chargers, 1996. Merv Corning (American, 1926 - 2006). Watercolor on paper, 15 ¼ x 12 ¾ in. CMA Collection.

Once in a great while, working in the world of art and artists, someone in my position as director of a museum comes in contact with a singular soul that stirs the senses and emotions—an artistic spirit whose story moves both your mind and heart. For me, that gentle, talented soul is Merv Corning.

Each year, former players and others from the National Football League are inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame here in Canton. In fact, when finalists are told that they have been selected it is with a “you’re going to Canton” greeting from the Hall’s President and CEO David Baker.

So it is with great pleasure that I share with you that Merv Corning’s creative legacy is “going to Canton”—and it will be preserved and honored right here at the Canton Museum of Art. Within his vast body of art, including landscapes, architecture, aviation, and more . . . Merv was known for his portraits of football players, Hall of Famers, and Super Bowls, and he counted many owners and others throughout the league as major collectors of his work. In fact, the NFL first contacted Corning in 1966-67 for watercolor illustration work; their relationship would

span 30 years, with Corning becoming the official National Football League Super Bowl artist in 1977. Merv had a solo exhibition here at CMA in 1989. “Game Day”, as it was titled, opened to much acclaim.

Around this time in late summer 2017, our Chief Curator Lynnda Arrasmith and I flew out to Santa Barbara / Solvang CA, at the request of Merv’s lovely wife, Tula. She wanted to make a gift to the Museum, but needed to meet with us. When we arrived, Tula said:

“Canton is where Merv felt right at home, so welcomed for the exhibition. That’s where I want his work to be because it was a special place for both of us.”

That is such a great honor—there are many museums between here and the California, but Tula (and Merv) chose Canton. And so, during our three-day trip, we catalogued hundreds of Merv’s watercolors, oils, and illustrations,

The Seventh Street Gang, artist self portrait, 2000. Merv Corning (American, 1926 - 2006). Watercolor on paper, 13 x 12 in. CMA Collection.



Lionel 400 E Blue Comet, 1989. Merv Corning (American, 1926 - 2006). Watercolor on paper, 28 x 40 ½ in. CMA Collection.

everything from his majestic countrysides to the WWI aviation studies to his NFL works, and even unfinished works that tell stories through their starts and stops. We prepared these pieces to come “home” to Canton. Before we left, I had a moment to sit in the artist’s studio, in his chair, at his drawing table, left as it was with an unfinished sketch, pencils, and Merv’s glasses, all touched days before his passing in 2006. It was an honor, and I sensed his approval for the new home for so many of his works and his legacy. Corning once said, “My interest is so broad that my art, as a body of work, defies categorization...I have a desire to explore, a curiosity to do different things.” And now we get to share his creative stories with all.

There is much underway to honor both the artistic achievement and the beautiful love story of Merv and his muse, Tula. **As you are receiving this, a new book has been published about his life and his work. “Merv Corning: An American Artist”** is a labor of love from Tula, and it will give you a very special look into the creative and personal life of this talented, humorous, spiritual artist.

In the Spring of 2020, the Canton Museum of Art will present a major retrospective exhibition of the same name honoring Merv Corning’s importance as an American master of art—particularly watercolor. This exhibition will showcase the range of the artist’s methods and subjects, alongside stories that will bring each to life. And it will include a re-creation of Merv’s studio—just as it was when I sat in it last year. Yes, that too has come home to Canton.

We will be showcasing not only works from our collection, but also the private collections and museums around the country that hold many of Merv’s most treasured pieces—

including the Smithsonian’s National Portrait Gallery, Pro Football Hall of Fame, and numerous others.

This exhibition will premiere in the new **“Merv Corning Gallery”** at the Canton Museum of Art, which will be permanently named and dedicated at the opening of the exhibition. It will honor of the Cornings’ shared love of the Museum, its commitment to connect art to life, and to make art accessible to all. We are blessed to be honored by Merv and Tula in such an amazing way, and in return to honor them for their sharing of beautiful works of art and a vision that makes the world just a little brighter.

- Max Barton
Executive Director

- Lynnda Arrasmith
Chief Curator



The Bath - Hollywood Park, (study) c. 1980s. Merv Corning (American, 1926 - 2006). Watercolor on paper, 19 ¾ x 25 ¾ in. CMA Collection.

**Ohio
Handmade
Gifts**



**Inside
The CMA
Lobby**

**Open During
Regular
Museum Hours**



Upcoming Exhibitions



CONTINUUM
ART OF THE CLEVELAND
SCHOOL AND BEYOND

On View November 21, 2018 - March 3, 2019



DRAFTING DIMENSIONS
EXPLORING CONTEMPORARY
MIDWEST CERAMICS

On View May 3 - July 21, 2019

Get Involved @ CMA

Volunteer & Museum Groups



CANTON ARTISTS LEAGUE

Founded in 1996, the mission of the Canton Artists League is to provide enriched opportunities and encouragement for professional, semi-professional and amateur visual artists and individuals with a sincere interest in supporting art. www.cantonartistsleague.org



CANTON CERAMIC ARTISTS GUILD

The Canton Ceramic Artists Guild is a volunteer organization of professional local artists who support the Museum's ceramic education programs and pottery studio.



CANTON FINE ARTS ASSOCIATES

Known for organizing the annual *Christkindl Markt*, (second weekend of November), Fine Arts enjoys monthly luncheon presentations and sponsors exhibits and other Museum activities. Visit cantonart.org for more details about programs. Contact Marcie Shaw at 330.453.7666 ext.105.



GALLERY TOUR GUIDES

Gallery Tour Guides (Docents) are a vital part of the day-to-day activities at our Museum. These volunteer tour guides receive special training in art, art history and on each of our exhibitions. Contact Erica Emerson at 330.453.7666 ext. 108 to learn more.



VOLUNTEER ANGELS

These generous women support the arts and promote the Museum's artistic excellence through donations that provide vital, unrestricted operating funds for exhibits and education programs. Their annual luncheon and special events provide a behind-the-scenes look into the Museum exhibitions and collections.



CANTON HEART GUILD

Dynamic young professionals and leaders in the Canton and Stark County community are among the newest volunteers to support CMA through the newly-formed Canton HeART Guild. Members are dedicated to promoting participation in CMA events and exhibit programs. The HeART Guild's signature event is the annual gARTen fundraiser, held each summer.



EVENT VOLUNTEERS

Looking for a fun way to meet friends and make a difference in your community? Volunteer with the Canton Museum of Art! By joining our volunteer team, you will help support CMA's educational, community, and special events programming while meeting friends and getting an insider's look into the Museum.

Volunteer Today! www.cantonart.org/volunteer

JOIN CANTON MUSEUM OF ART MEMBERSHIP
FREE ADMISSION + DISCOUNTS + SPECIAL EVENTS

WHERE ART MEETS LIFE

Canton Museum of Art

JOIN ONLINE >>>> WWW.CANTONART.ORG <<<<

The advertisement features a collage of four people's faces (two men and two women) in the background. The text is overlaid in white and pink boxes on a dark purple background.



NON-PROFIT ORG.
U S POSTAGE
PAID
CLEVELAND OH
PERMIT NO 1702

1001 Market Avenue North
Canton, OH 44702
330.453.7666
www.cantonart.org



Canton Museum is the official magazine of the Canton Museum of Art. It is published for and distributed to members, exhibit attendees and friends of the Canton Museum of Art. All materials are © Canton Museum of Art, unless otherwise noted, and may not be reproduced without the written permission of the Museum and/or copyright owner.

Love Art? We Love Volunteers! www.cantonart.org/volunteer



Arden Riddle

Master of Mid-Century Design

Fall 2018

Museum Hours & Admission

More details at www.cantonart.org

Tuesday - Thursday: 10 am – 8 pm
Friday - Saturday: 10 am – 5 pm; Sunday: 1 – 5 pm
Closed Mondays and major holidays

Regular Admission: Adults, \$8; Seniors (60+) & Students (with ID), \$6;
Children 12 & under, Free; Museum Members, Free.
PNC Free Thursdays – Sponsored by PNC Foundation



Free Admission.
Every Thursday.