

# ARTHfacts

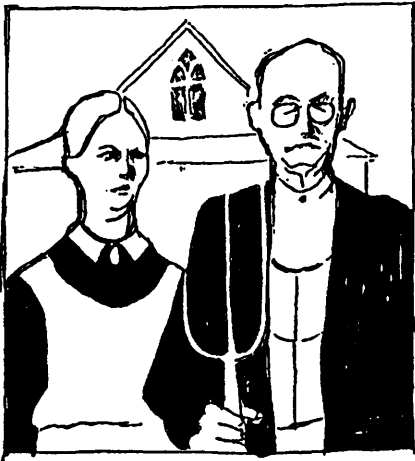
ART HISTORY DEPARTMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS

## Annual Chicago Art Tour

The art tour to Chicago will take place **April 3-5**. The tour includes the current featured exhibits at the Art Institute of Chicago, an optional tour of the Frank Lloyd Wright homes in Oak Park, and a tour of the Native American Collection at the Natural History Museum.

The permanent collection at the Art Institute includes Georges Seurat's *Sunday Afternoon at La Grande Jatte*, Grant Wood's *American Gothic* – whose dour-faced figures grace numerous contemporary advertisements, from toothpaste to corn flakes; and an excellent collection of modern European and American painting and sculpture as well as decorative arts.

Approximate cost to students for the trip is \$85, which consists of a \$25 fee for the van ride (deposit to be paid by March 17th), and \$50-\$60 for weekend hotel accommodations.



### **Current Exhibits at the Art Institute of Chicago**

**Men in America, photographs by Tom Arndt**  
Approximately 70 black and white photographs which give a personal and poignant view of contemporary American men.

### **Metaphors of Biological Structure/ Architectural Construction**

Explores several themes in the broad subject of anthropomorphism in architecture.

**Imaging the Body: From Fragment to Total Display**  
Thought-provoking print drawings and photographs that range from the 16th through 20th centuries, and explores the relationship between the biological sciences and the visual art.

### **Nils Ole-Lund: Collage Architecture**

Approximately 100 clever photo-montages and collages that comment on trends and personalities in architecture.

### **Kimonos in the Art Institute of Chicago**

Approximately 25 of the Art Institute's Japanese robes will be shown as a distinct collection for the first time.

Please call ext. 5989 for more information on the Chicago art tour, or to make a reservation.

## Faculty Grants

St. Thomas art history faculty consistently apply for and receive grants to further their research, which in turn creates new areas of interest within their discipline and their class lectures. For example, **Dr. Eileen Michels** received an NEH Summer Seminar grant to study Greek Byzantine architecture at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, Greece in the summer of 1980, immediately using this seminar when she returned to teach the Medieval Art History class for the first time in St. Thomas' new curriculum. **Mark Stansbury-O'Donnell** received a faculty development grant from the University of St. Thomas to research and write an article on the early classical painting of Polygnotos this last summer. In continuing this area of research he may be attending a conference in Athens this summer on Lakonian Sculpture.

**Claire Selkurt** and **Mary Swanson** received separate American Scandinavian Foundation grants last spring to begin research in Finland for an exhibition on the fine and applied arts of Finnish women. This exhibition will be shown in the new Frank Gehry-designed University Art Museum in the fall of 1995. The exhibition will highlight the painting and design of Finnish women from the late nineteenth through twentieth centuries. The sixty works featured in the exhibition – paintings,

*(continued on page 3)*

# STUDENT NEWS

**Marcia Henry's** ('93) abstract, *Gabrielle d'Estrees and One of Her Sisters*, was selected for submission to the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (UCUR).

"Planning and research for *Gabrielle d'Estrees and One of Her Sisters* commenced in September, 1991 and was completed December 1, 1991 as a requirement for my Renaissance and Baroque Art History Class. The goal of my paper was to answer questions raised by a relatively familiar, provocative painting about which little has been written. When my research commenced, the subject matter of the painting seemed peculiar and obscure, the iconography incomprehensible, and the style overly refined. To achieve my objective it was necessary to do a comparative study with a known artist's work which exhibited stylistically similar characteristics. Additionally, I looked to painters whose work was not linked stylistically to this painting, but rather, influenced this work through poses and compositional devices. I studied the iconography contained in the painting. It was necessary for me to research Mannerism and the School of Fontainebleau. In order to learn about the patron and sitter, I studied the kingship of Francis I and his successors through Henry IV of France. I traced the introduction of the erotic nude to French art. It was necessary for me to consult with a French professor, for interpretation of subtleties in translation of French to English, as well as for references on historical, political, and sociological questions. The results of my research are interesting, surprising, and satisfy a curiosity for those who have seen this painting and wondered about it, but could find nothing published on it. This paper would have been a challenge to write 400 years ago because of the nature of the painting. More importantly, the process I went through, of uncovering facts, following up on leads, making suppositions, and drawing conclusions, is precisely what Art History is."

**Margaret Bernal**, '90, is completing her masters degree in Art History at Tufts in Boston. She has worked at private galleries in Cambridge, Mass., and is specializing in early 20th century art.

**Amy Cuadrado**, '93, will develop an exhibition in conjunction with Dr. Pamela Nice of Faculty Development, on "Images of Gender" for the Aquinas Scholars program during January term. Amy selected prints from fine arts posters, normally displayed in Brady Center's classrooms.

**Kelly Donovan**, ARTH major, '91, is presently studying theology in the Masters program at Boston

College. She is enjoying the opportunities of B.C., Boston, and the neighboring universities. She recently visited the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, and the MFA's exhibition of the Cone Collection both of which were wonderful!! Kelly took an internship at the MIA her senior year, and wrote a slide presentation on religious art for the MIA education department.

**Marcia Henry**, '93, received an internship for spring semester to work in the Public Relations and Audience Development area of the Walker Art Center. She will be working approximately three days a week at the museum, and as a part of her internship will be interviewing personnel about their education and career paths.

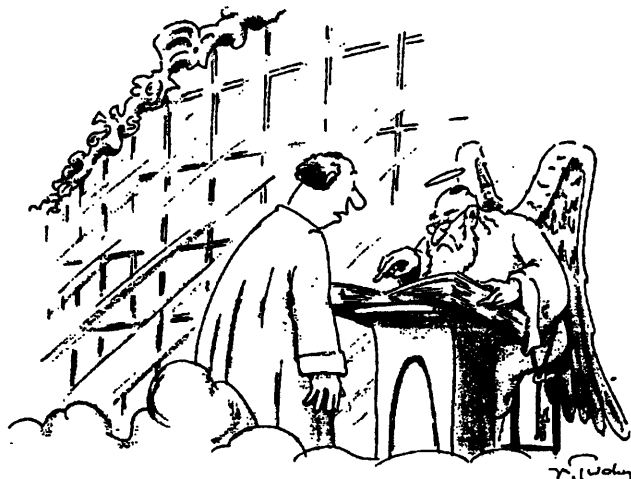
**Mary Moen** has an internship at "For Arts Sake Gallery of Gifts". The gallery is part of the Burnsville Area Society for the Arts (BASA).

**Katie Nelson**, '92, will serve an internship at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts spring semester under the prints and drawings division. Katie also interned at the Two Rivers Gallery of the American Indian Center during the fall semester.

**Eve Selim**, '94, led a tour of Egyptian antiquities for the docents at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts over January term.

**Sandra Soucheray**, '92, interning at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts under internship director Sheila McGuire, is working with the "Art Smart" program for talented high school students. Her internship, which began in November, will continue through March.

**Susan Sohkaki**, '94, received an internship at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts for January term to work with the Education Department on curriculum materials and to do research for a slide packet on the MIA holdings.



"You're kidding! You count S.A.T.?"

## Rembrandt Exhibit – Amsterdam

What does a photo safari in Kenya and Tangiers have in common with a visit to the major Rembrandt exhibit in Amsterdam?

Happily I was able to enjoy the two experiences during the recent J-Term.

The Rembrandt exhibit titled "The Master and His Workshop" consisted of 50 paintings selected from museums from around the world, including the private collection of Queen Elizabeth of England. They were hung in a chronological order so one could appreciate Rembrandt's development as an artist. His genius was apparent in his earliest painting in the show. I was surprised at the number of paintings with a religious theme. It was a thrill to see up close the brush technique that he used to give the rich fabric texture and realism to his works. The colors and beautiful lighting can truly be appreciated even more in person.

The second section of the exhibit focused on the workshop of Rembrandt and the works of his pupils. Eleven of these paintings done by his students were at one time attributed to Rembrandt. At the end of the exhibit was an impressive educational display of the scientific techniques that art historians are now using to prove whether a painting is an authentic Rembrandt, or just a good copy or work by his pupils.

*- Heather Reusse, Sophomore  
Art History Major*

## Sacred Arts Festival - April 1-15

As part of the Sacred Arts Festival there will be an exhibition entitled "Words and Pictures: The Book of Kells and Medieval Manuscripts." The exhibit will take place in the Frey-O'Shaugnessy Library Center, and will run from April 1 to April 15th. The exhibit seeks to trace the relationship of words, images, and decoration in the Middle Ages and the particular contributions of Irish and Anglo-Saxon artists and scribes to Medieval painting. The library's facsimile of the Book of Kells will be the featured object, and will be supplemented by facsimiles and reproductions from other manuscripts in the libraries of St. Thomas and possibly from St. John's as well. The exhibit is being organized by **Mark Stansbury-O'Donnell** and **Kathleen Keeler**.

## Summer School

Arth will offer one class this summer:

ARTH III Introduction to Art History  
5:30-7:30 p.m., Mon.-Thurs.  
Session I

This class fulfills the fine arts requirement.

## Faculty Grants

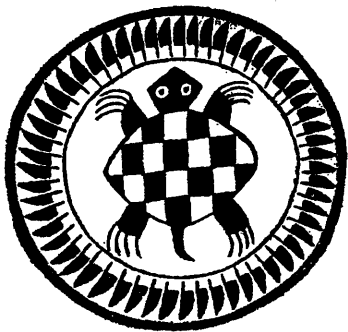
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prints, ceramics, glass, and textiles – will show that women were seminal in the development of modern Finnish design as the primary carriers of a centuries-old domestic peasant culture that shaped Finnish fine and applied art.

Interviews were conducted in Finland during May and June of this last summer with directors of the Atheneum; the Museum of Applied Arts; the National Museum of Finland, the Art Museum of Turku, and the Helsinki City Museum in preparation for the exhibition. Preliminary research was also done in the Helsinki University Art Library, the library of the Atheneum and the Museum of Applied Arts. When they returned, the researchers spent the next six months writing and editing a grant proposal to the National Endowment for the Humanities. The proposal, consisting of 35 pages of the project's description and exhibition rationale, also contained an additional 40 pages of letters of support and resumes from Finnish museum directors and American scholars who specialize in ethnic issues. This planning grant is the initial grant for a larger implementation grant, which will fund the final exhibition. Dates for the exhibition are placed several years in advance because of time needed to process loan forms for the works of art, shipping, research, and the likelihood that one or more of the grants will be resubmitted for further clarification.

## MIA Internship

Deadlines for an internship at the MIA are March 1 for summer, and May 1 for fall. Call **Ginger Moraczewski** ext. 5469 for information on internship opportunities.



## Pow Wow Reflections

When I visited the University of St. Thomas Pow Wow in December, I had mixed feelings. My first response was how strange it was to have an American Indian Pow Wow in the gymnasium of a Catholic university. This ceremony seemed like it should be sacred and out in nature, not on public display in a field house. The part I was most moved by though was their dance and music. To watch Native Americans dancing and singing to their loud drumming music was powerful. You can see how this ritual could be purifying, or at least relieving—maybe even a brilliant stress relieving exercise in today's world.

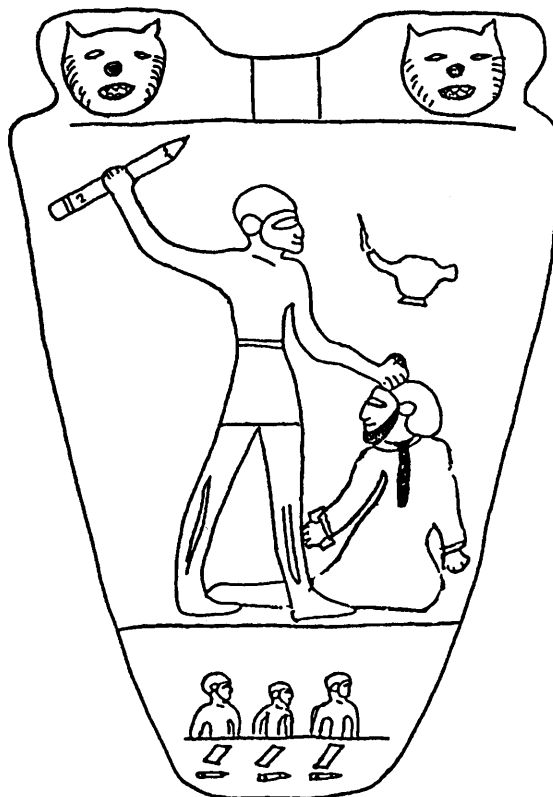
I was initially surprised not to find many costumes which were purely indigenous to Native Americans, i.e. there was little quilling or leather. Fittingly, it was the moccasin that was most commonly representative of the kind of clothing Native Americans would have worn during contact time. Most of the costumes were cloth, with tuna-can lid bells. There was also a lot of yarn and neon colors, and I noted that it was mostly the younger generation who wore the more modern costumes. After overcoming my first reaction, I began to appreciate the assimilation of modern trends—although personally I think the former, more primitive, styles are most beautiful.

The overall tone of the Pow Wow seemed somewhat solemn. Like I would expect, the Native Americans seemed very calm, and almost unexcited about the event. I wonder if this is just their demeanor or if seeing the Pow Wow marketed for the public and in a gymnasium is somewhat disillusioning for their culture. Yet, there was this strong sense of community that the American Indians had. Maybe it was just because I was an outsider, but it was inspiring to see such a large group of people come together (especially in such an urban area) to revisit their history and recreate it in the present.

—Jody Neyens, '92

*Jody Neyens was a student in Arth 391, American Indian Art. She designed the turtle for a Mimbres pot.*

## The Victory Palette of Gregor



Feeling that his intellectual curiosity was being destroyed by weekly slide quizzes, Gregor does the Art History Professor in with his Trusty, as the professor clings to his remote control. The Tommy tigers look over the scene as the lantern of knowledge burns stronger with the professor's demise. Gregor's fellow classmates witness this most tragic of deeds.

—Andy Cripe

*"The Death of the Art History Professor" is the assignment Mark Stansbury-O'Donnell gives his Arth III class. The students are asked to base their cartoons on 5 different periods of art history. Andy Cripe is the artist of this cartoon.*

# FACULTY NEWS

**Dr. Eileen Michels** will retire from full time teaching in the spring, and will continue to teach one architecture class a year. Dr. Michels founded the UST Art History Department in 1978, and as its only faculty member organized the original curriculum and major as well as taught all of its courses for the first two years.

Dr. Michels, whose career is documented in the *Dictionary of American Scholars* as well as *The World of Who's Who of Women*, received her BA, MA, and Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She also studied at the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University; received a Fulbright to study the work of Hector Guimard in Paris from 1956-1957; and received a National Endowment for the Humanities summer seminar grant to study Greek Byzantine architecture at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, Greece in 1980.

She served as Associate Director of the Minnesota Museum from 1973-1974; Curator of Architecture at the MMA from 1971-1974; secretary of the Society of Architectural Historians from 1982-1986; and was a member of the St. Paul Heritage Preservation Commission from 1982-1986 and the State Review Board of the Minnesota Historical Society from 1976 to 1990. In retirement Dr. Michels will be working on a monograph on the architecture of Harvey Ellis.

A new full time professor of Renaissance-Baroque Art will be hired this spring. Members of the search committee are chairperson **Dr. Mark Stansbury-O'Donnell**, **Dr. Mary Swanson**, **Dr. Eileen Michels** and **Dr. Merritt Nequette**. Candidates will be interviewed at the CAA conference in Chicago in February, and the finalists will come here in March for further interviewing. Students will be asked to participate and assist the search committee in March.

## *Faculty Give Papers*

**Mark Stansbury-O'Donnell** delivered a paper on the relationship of the tragedy of Aeschylus to the early classical painting of Polygnotos for the national conference of the American Institute of Archaeology in Chicago in December.

**Mary Swanson** will give a paper on "Landscape as a Theme in the Fine and Applied Arts of Finnish Women" for the national conference of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies at the University of Minnesota in April.

# College Art Association

The College Art Association will be holding their annual meeting in Chicago on February 12-14 in conjunction with the VRA conference. **Eileen Michels**, **Mary Swanson**, and **Mark Stansbury-O'Donnell** will be in attendance. The College Art Association gives art historians and studio artists the opportunity to present papers and discuss their current areas of research.

In addition, there are special events and tours scheduled at area galleries and museums. Participants will have the opportunity to see the world-renowned performance artist Laurie Anderson perform. Among some of the museums that are available for tour are the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Du Sable Museum of African-American History, the College of Architecture and Institute of Design, the Mexican Fine Arts Center, and the Art Institute of Chicago.

Our slide librarian, **Ginger Moraczewski**, will be attending the 10th annual conference of the Visual Resources Association February 12-14 at the Congress Hotel in Chicago. The newly renovated Congress Hotel originally opened in 1893 for the World's Columbian Exposition, still retains some of its Gay 90's ambience and is located two blocks from the Art Institute and within view of Lake Michigan.

Beside attending VRA conference sessions related to image collections and round table discussion groups, there will be a New Technology Roundup which will feature the latest in equipment, software and supplies. There will also be opportunities for participants to tour area museums, the Rosenthal Art Slides Company, the Playboy Enterprises corporate art collection, the Superior Street gallery area, and view downtown Chicago architecture.

## Let's Do Lunch

In an effort to get to know each other better, the Art History faculty will be inviting each major and minor individually to lunch during spring semester.

*Please mail your "ARTHfacts" contributions to Sue Focke, mail #4001, or call x5989 with your comments and ideas.*

## Art Around Town

### American Swedish Institute

"Hot Glass From Swedish Forests: Treasures From the American Swedish Institute Collection" - through April 26.

### Minneapolis Institute of Arts

"Italian Old Master Drawings From the Collection of Jeffrey E. Horvitz" - through Feb. 16. "The Intelligence of Forms: An Artists Collects African Art" (sculpture from the collection of Jean Willy Mestach) - through March 22. "Surrealism: Beyond the Printed Word" - through April 5. "Master of the Mask: The Art of Ogura Soei" (Japanese Noh masks)- Sat., March 29. "Rembrandt's Lucretias" - Sat., May 3.

### Minnesota Museum of Art

"American Art: The Fifties Through the Seventies" - through March 15.

### University Art Museum

"Presswork: The Art of Women Printmakers" - through March 14.

### Walker Art Center

"Interrogating Identity" (paintings, sculpture and photographs by artists of African, Caribbean, Hispanic and Asian descent) through Feb. 23. "Portraits, Plots and Places: The Permanent Collection Revisited" - ongoing.

### Hennepin County Historical Society

"Dark Times, Bright Visions: Objects From the Hands of Dakota and Ojibway People" - ongoing.

### Lowertown Gallery

"Perennial Cycle, Spring" by Rose Marie Felsheim - ongoing

### Thomas Barry Fine Arts

New paintings by Barbara Kreft - through Feb. 15.

**T**homas Barry, owner of Thomas Barry Fine Arts, was our guest at the ARTHoliday party. Everyone was interested in Tom's insights into arranging exhibits, and gallery operation. Thomas, very well known and respected within the art community, directs the gallery in the Twin Cities that consistently displays the most avant garde works of art. The afternoon benefited everyone. We look forward to inviting Tom back again as well as visiting his gallery in downtown Minneapolis. **Jim Waters**, vice president of production and operations of Vee Corporation was our guest in Sept. for our Career Seminar. Vee Corporation was the associated producers of the Super Bowl half time show starring Dorothy Hamill, Gloria Esteban, and Brian Boitano. Vee Corporation was responsible for all art and technical direction, and production management of the show.

## ARTH Start in the High Schools

**A**rea high school students now have an opportunity to be exposed to our Art History curriculum in their classroom. Ten high schools were contacted with an invitation from us to come into their school, and make a slide presentation to their class - English, Humanities, Art or Foreign Language. The Art History Department is the largest within the Minnesota private college system, and also offers the most extensive curriculum. We offer a total of 15 courses, annual special topic courses, 3 full time PHD faculty members, and 1 part time faculty member, a slide library containing over 20,000 slides, and approximately 6,200 library holdings in Art History.

Dr. Swanson visited **Burnsville Senior High** on December 17th, and presented "Images of Advent" to Ms. Karen Osieth's art class. The students enjoyed the presentation and felt it was very worthwhile. Our faculty will continue the high school visits, and contact with the schools this semester.

### *Cookie Wednesdays!*

*Please drop by the Slide Library on Wednesdays for homemade cookies and coffee.*

## Fall 1992 – Art History

### *Monday/Wednesday/Friday Schedule*

8:15-9:20 MWF Arth 391, Native-American Art, Swanson  
9:35-10:40 MWF Arth 340, Renaissance Art, Staff  
10:55-12:00 MWF Arth392, American Art, Swanson  
12:15-1:20 MWF Arth 111-01, Intro. to Art History, Staff  
1:35-2:40 MWF Arth 111-41, Honors Intro. to Art History, Swanson  
2:55-4:35 MW Arth 111-03, Intro. to Art History, Staff  
5:30-7:10 MW Arth 111-04, Intro. to Art History, Selkurt

### *Tuesday/Thursday Schedule*

9:55-11:35 TR Arth 310, The Art of Rome, Stansbury-O'Donnell  
1:30-3:10 TR Arth 111-05, Intro. to Art History, Stansbury-O'Donnell  
3:25-5:00 TR Arth 111-06, Intro. to Art History, Stansbury-O'Donnell