

UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS
ART HISTORY

VOL. 8, NO. 2

MAY 2000

NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ART HISTORY AND THE GRADUATE PROGRAM IN ART HISTORY

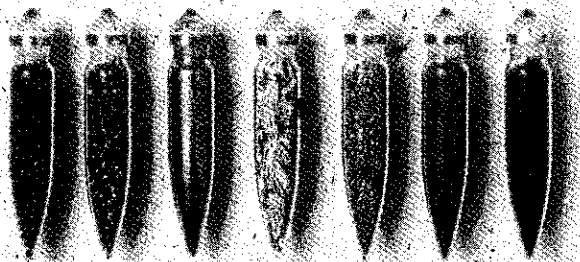
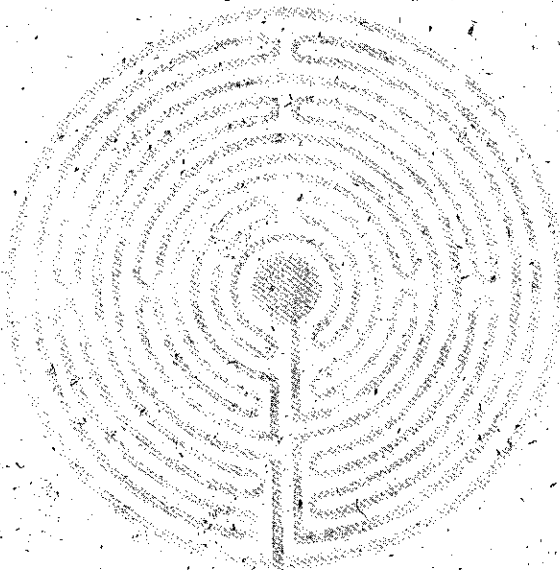
Harriet Bart's *Elements* Provides Visual Identity for Department

The Art History Department has just purchased a work titled *Elements* by local artist Harriet Bart. Ms. Bart, who was commissioned to create an artwork for the Summit Avenue exterior of the Science and Engineering Center, also is working on a second commission that explores women's contributions to the liberal arts and humanities for the renovated Albertus Magnus Hall.

For 1999-2000, Ms. Bart received a MCAD/McKnight Foundation Fellowship for Visual Artists. The award has the purpose of identifying and rewarding outstanding Minnesota artists who are at a mid-level stage in their careers and have an established record of artistic success. Recipients of the award currently have an exhibit of their work at MCAD. Ms. Bart also has exhibited at the Weisman Museum and other museums and galleries, and has just received a Bush Fellowship for 2000-01.

Ms. Bart's work is noted for its subtlety, focus and elegance. Frequently there is an interplay of words and images in her work as she explores the naming and meaning of ideas, history and stories. Texture, material and color are carefully interwoven to create a contemplative environment, one in which an object is defined through its interactions and contrast with other objects and the surrounding space. Symbol and metaphor are at the core of her work.

The work *Elements* juxtaposes a graphite rendering of the labyrinth at Chartres Cathedral with vials containing "elements" such as iron, lead, pollen and poetry. The sense of visual and intellectual history in the work, as well as the "alchemy" of art's historical methodology, serves well as a metaphor for the department and its programs. We hope Ms. Bart's work will create a visual identity for the department's programs in the coming years.



Springtime 2001 in Paris

The Paris semester abroad begins at the same time as spring semester 2001. Students must have sophomore or junior status. They will take a French course (112 to 212), an art history course (19th century), a theology course, and a history course. In this way, all courses will meet general requirements. Students will live and study in a dormitory-like setting in the center of Paris, within walking distance of parks and museums. The art history course will be taught without slides - instead, visits to museums as well as study trips to the countryside to view scenes painters worked on, such as Monet's Gardens at Giverny, will be used. The priority deadline was April 10 - the final deadline for remaining spaces is Oct. 1, 2000. For more information on this class, call the International Education Center, (651) 962-6450.

Undergraduate Course Offerings

Summer 2000

- ARTH 151 Intro to Art History I - 1st session
- ARTH 152 Intro to Art History II - 2nd session

Fall 2000

- ARTH 151 - Intro to Art History I
- ARTH 152 - Intro to Art History II
- ARTH 211 - Methods, Approaches, Problems
- ARTH 285 - Art of Africa and the Diaspora
- ARTH 345 - Baroque and Rococo Art
- ARTH 350 - 19th Century Art

J-Term 2001

- ARTH 159 - Principles of Art History

Welcome

Cynthia Becker
and Victoria Young

Cynthia will teach African and women's art. She is an assistant professor specializing in African art with a minor concentration in African history and anthropology. She received her B.A. in anthropology from the University of New Orleans, and her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Victoria will take over Mary Swanson's classes while she is on sabbatical. She received her B.A. in architectural history from New York University and her M.A. in architectural history from the University of Virginia. She is working on her dissertation in architectural history at the University of Virginia.

Misc.

Video Series

The theme of the spring video series was *Renaissance and Baroque art*. *Artists' worlds* will be the topic of the fall series.

More Room for Art

The Art History Department has been allocated three rooms (vacated by the Geography Department) on the second floor of Loras Hall. Two rooms will be offices and the third room will be a multipurpose media and conference room.

Read Any Good Books Lately?

The undergraduate and graduate departments have acquired more than 2,500 new art-related books for the library since 1991.

Department News – Faculty and Staff

Billie Follensbee presented two papers in April: *Problemizing Gender in Olmec Art and Archaeology* at the College Art Association national conference in New York City, and *Over 200 Men but Only One Woman? Reanalyzing Gender in Olmec Sculpture*, to the Minnesota Maya Society. Billie has accepted an assistant professor position in the Department of Art and Design at Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield, Mo., where she will teach Art of Africa, Oceania, and the Americas; Art Appreciation; the Western Survey; and upper-level courses in Pre-Columbian, Africa, and Gender. We wish Billie all the best as she begins her new position!

Ginger Moraczewski is enjoying retirement. In honor of Women's History Month, she gave a quilt lecture, *Quilts Talk*, at US West Dex.

Shelly Nordtorp-Madson attended the International Conference on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo, Mich., in May, and presented *The Herjolfsnes "Shrouds" and the Burial Practices of the Greenland Norse*. Her article, *The Cultural Identity of the Late Greenland Norse in Identities and Cultural Contracts in the Arctic*, was published this year in Copenhagen. Shelly is teaching a senior citizen class this spring, *Four Cultures – One God: Sacred and Secular Art and Architecture of the Middle Ages*, and taught adult workshops this fall and winter at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts (MIA).

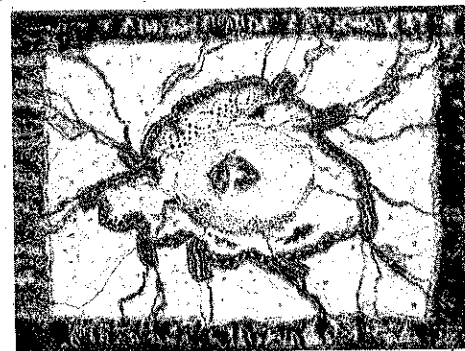
Mary Swanson will be on sabbatical fall semester and will direct St. Thomas' liberal arts semester in Paris next spring. In April, Mary presented *Austerity Brings Beauty* as part of the Think St. Paul lecture series titled, "Get a Life – a Good Life." Mary presented a paper in May at the University of Wisconsin-Madison for the Society of Scandinavian Studies titled, *A Tangled Web: Swedish-American Patronage Systems*. Mary's Scandinavian and graduate students were treated to a lecture by Leena Ahtola-Moorhouse on *Finnish Women Artists and the Impact of Paris*. Ahtola-Moorhouse is the curator of the Atheneum, the Finnish National Museum, and the Nancy and David Speer professor at the U of M.

Mark Stansbury-O'Donnell has resigned as department chair, effective July 1. He taught winter and spring adult workshops at the MIA. Mark's Methodology class curated *Pottery Across a World* exhibited at Longfellow School in November. He currently is chairing the Art Acquisition Committee and selecting art for the renovated Albertus Magnus Hall and will become Director of Graduate Studies this summer.

Susan Webster received a grant for her summer research on art in Ecuador from the board of governors of the Aquinas Foundation. A University Scholars Grant will provide support for Susan's research and travel during a three-year period to study confraternities, art and ritual in the Colonial Americas. The American Society of Hispanic Art Historical Studies presented Susan with the Eleanor Tufts Book Award for *Art and Ritual in Golden-Age Spain* at the College Art Association conference in February. This award recognizes the best scholarly, English-language publication in the area of Spanish or Portuguese visual cultures published in the past three years. Susan was the keynote speaker at a symposium, *Religious Ritual in Europe and the Americas*, American Bible Society, New York, in April. She presented two papers in May: *Corpus Christi in the Andean Highlands: Colonial Accounts and Native Participation*, at the International Congress on Medieval Studies at Kalamazoo, and *The Reciprocal Image: Sculpture in Spanish Holy Week Processions* at Carleton College. Susan will be chair of the Art History Department for a two-year term beginning July 1.

Congratulations!
Congratulations to
Mary Swanson for
being a finalist for
University of
St. Thomas
Professor of the
Year!

"Rooting," textile, by
Beth Barron, 1999.



Student News

Oh, the Places You Will Go! Congratulations to December graduates Leisl AuVante, Megan Moe and Emily Rush. Emily graduated *summa cum laude*. Graduating in May are Heidi Anhalt, Eileen Armstrong, Megan Emery, Sarah Goble, Stacy Hegg, Margaret Kogan, Kelly McGivern and Ryan Torkelson. Eileen, Megan and Sarah are graduating *cum laude*.

Please welcome these new art history students: Nadar Ailabouni, Rebecca Kroona, Joanna Reiling, Noelle Smoley and Ryan Torkelson, who are new minors; Christina Kaufman is a new art history major.

Emily Rush '99 received a full-tuition Century Scholarship from the University of Chicago to attend its Ph.D. program in art history. Emily will concentrate on classical art.

Congratulations to the recipient of the 1999-2000 Outstanding Research and Scholarship Award, Eileen Armstrong, for her paper, "Contemporary British Artist Sam Taylor Wood." Eileen is applying to a program in London that holds lectures at the Tate Museum.

Stacy Hegg will intern at the MIA in its Education Department and help with research that includes the different interactive computer learning aides that are located throughout the museum.

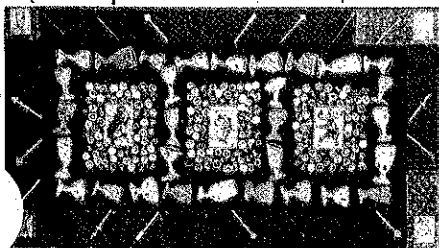
Jill Deedrick, Megan Emery and Stacy Hegg are the officers of Art Attack, the student-run art history club.

Students in Mark Stansbury-O'Donnell's Methodology class curated an exhibition, *Pottery Across the World*, for the students at Longfellow School. Didactic labels and catalog copy for a brochure were written by students Eileen Armstrong, Mary-Bell, Dan Bodin, Caroline Churchill, Laura Dadd, Rita Kogan and Joe Selinski.

Caroline Churchill, Brooke Geyen and Stacy Hegg are assisting Christy Prestegard with slide collection development and maintenance, and helping Shelly Nordtorp-Madson with exhibitions and collections.

Joanna Reiling, Nicole Sirek and Stacy Hegg spent J-Term in Paris and Florence with Maty Swanson. Marilyn Olson, graduate student, was in the Yucatan with Susan Webster in January.

Helen Stidger of Art Spectrum is curating exhibitions of contemporary artists in businesses in Minneapolis.



"Drunkard's Path,"
textile, by Pam Schloff.

Alumni Update

John Jarpe '97 donated one of his paintings, *Long, Cold Road*, to the School of Continuing Studies. The Elyne Gallery in St. Louis Park currently has an exhibit of his works.

Jennifer Jacobs '96 was awarded a Young Scholar's Summer Fellowship. Her research topic is "Utilizing Multiwavelet Transforms on EEG Data to Detect the Onset of Epileptic Seizures."

Alicia Fedorczak '96 is living in Kalamazoo, Mich., and free-lancing for MSP Magazine as well as other publications. She is engaged to Peter Bartz (also a Tommy) who is doing his residency in pediatrics and internal medicine in Kalamazoo.

Sarah Crawford Parker '93 received a University of Kansas Graduate School Summer Fellowship and will spend four weeks this summer in the Netherlands doing dissertation research. Next fall she will teach the West African course at KU. Sarah curated an exhibit of UST's permanent collection of African art.

Cynthia Bland '95 is in the graduate program at Iowa State specializing in Renaissance and Baroque art.

Patty Michalski '95 is working in Washington, D.C., for USA Today On Line. This fall she plans to take art history graduate courses at George Washington University.

Jean Ehling '98 is representing Second Story Gallery and the family of Alonzo Hauser (1909-1988) in conjunction with an upcoming exhibition to be held at Macalester College, Nov. 17-Dec. 17, 2000. Hauser founded the Macalester Art Department in 1945. One of Hauser's more prominent sculptures, *The Promise of Youth*, located on the State Capitol grounds, currently is being refurbished and has provided the impetus for rediscovering Hauser's talents. Jean curated a show at Taracino Coffee House under the tutelage of Helen Stidger and Art Spectrum.

ACTC Art Crawl

Art Crawl Returns Next Fall

Augsburg, Macalester, the College of St. Catherine and the University of St. Thomas hosted art crawls for the university community on March 16 and May 11. Sculptures, drawings, paintings, digital forms, and contemporary cast iron sculptures were on display.

Art Crawl will be held again during fall semester.

Art Attack

Members of Art Attack, a UST student club, volunteered at Longfellow School, helping art students make pots to go along with the pottery exhibit, *Pottery Across the World*, as part of their service project. In addition, they helped take down the exhibit and volunteered their time to assist with Longfellow's annual fundraiser. At the end of spring semester Art Attack will host a group dinner for art history students and faculty. For more information call (651) 962-5560.

ART HISTORY GRADUATE PAGE

Graduate Students Present Papers at National and International Venues

Congratulations to graduate students who will present papers this spring and summer at five national conferences and one international venue!

Vanessa Rousseau presented her paper, *Foreign Influence on Byzantine Crowns*, at the Midwest Art History Society Conference in Tulsa, Okla., on April 8 (Shelly Nordtorp-Madson, adviser).

Kelly Denzer presented *Ben Shahn and John Steuart Curry: Urban and Rural Imagery of American Life in Art of the 1930s* at the American Culture Association Conference 2000 in New Orleans, on April 20 (Mary Swanson, adviser).

Cathy Oström Peters presented her paper, *Medieval Metallurgy: The Eastern-Bridge to Birka?*, at the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, on May 5 (Shelly Nordtorp-Madson, adviser).

Laura Miller's paper, *Garden Images in the Fifteenth Century*, was selected for presentation at the annual meeting of the International Society for Phenomenology, the Fine Arts and Aesthetics, at Harvard Divinity School in Boston, on May 13 (Shelly Nordtorp-Madson, adviser).

Kelly Gage presented her paper, *What is She Wearing? Costume of the Virgin of the Rosary in Eighteenth-Century Peru*, at the Gallery of the American Bible Society, for the symposium "Religious Rituals in Europe and the Americas," held in New York on April 7 (Susan Webster, adviser). (The paper also was accepted for the Midwest Art History Society Conference held at the same time.) In addition, Kelly will present her paper, *Butterflies, Horns and Hennins: The Influence of Trade and Crusades on the Development of Aristocratic Women's Headdresses in the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries in France*, at the Arts Textrina Conference in Leeds, England, in late June (Shelly Nordtorp-Madson, adviser).

February 'Life After School' Symposium Proves Valuable

by Vanessa Rousseau, Graduate Student

In February, the Graduate Art History Program hosted its second symposium on career opportunities in the arts. We were fortunate to welcome five panelists with diverse backgrounds and a wide variety of job experiences: Craig Farmer is a high school art history teacher and an assistant in the Research, Assessment and Curriculum Division at the Perpich Center for Arts Education; Gloria Kittleson is an independent art appraiser and an adjunct instructor in art history at the college level; Stephanie Krusemark is a Program and Communications Associate with the Minneapolis Arts Commission; Laura MacLennan is Vice President of Sotheby's International Art Auction House, Twin Cities office; and Claire Selkurt is an art consultant with Deaton Museum Services and adjunct instructor at the college level.

The panelists were candid with their advice for both general and specific areas of interest. One of the most common suggestions was to attend as many exhibitions and community events as possible, both at home and while traveling. This is a way to keep current with trends in the field as well as network and become part of the local arts community. Informational interviews were another suggestion for building contacts and getting advice about specific career paths. The panelists also outlined the skills beyond knowledge of art and art history that they have found most valuable. These include computer literacy, organization, the ability to communicate clearly verbally and in writing, creative problem solving and excellent interpersonal and diplomatic skills.

Graduate Internships

Spring semester finds some of our graduate students gaining valuable hands-on experience while interning at local Twin Cities museums:

Charlotte Wright is working in the Paintings and Prints Department at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts.

Kelly Teske Denzer is interning at the American Swedish Institute, Minneapolis, for spring semester.

Kelly Gage is interning at the Goldstein Gallery, Minneapolis.

Good News Travels Fast!

The good news of the success of the Art History graduate program and the high caliber of our students is out! March 1 marked the application deadline for graduate admissions for the 2000-2001 academic year.

The number of applicants for our third program year was double that for last year's admissions cycle. In turn, the number of applicants admitted to the program beginning next fall is twice the number from previous years.

For more program information call the grad office, (651) 962-5640.

Graduate Internship Available

Interested in a Summer Internship?

Work with Gallery Director Kathy Daniels on research and development for the exhibit "Santos: Saints and Sacred Art from New Mexico."

For more information, contact Susan Webster, (651) 962-5563, or Barb Kocik, (651) 962-5640.

ART HISTORY GRADUATE PAGE

Farewell from your Grad Rep ...

The beautiful weather we are having as I write this makes it difficult to concentrate on research but research we must as the end of the semester draws near! I find this time exciting as readings lighten (somewhat!) and I am able to concentrate on my own research.

It is especially exciting as I clear hurdle after hurdle, moving ever closer to May 20! I survived (and truly enjoyed) writing my Qualifying Paper and passed my Oral Exam last week. It has been difficult at times being the first to go through the program, but I hope my endeavors will make your journey that much smoother. My post-graduation plans include many hours of relaxing! I will take a year off from school and explore Ph.D. options. I have faith that the incredible education I have received at UST will serve me well, whatever direction I pursue.

My time as graduate representative is nearing its end as well. Thank you for your support and patience in the development of this new position. I hope the groundwork I have started this year will provide a base on which to grow the post. Details of grad rep responsibilities are forthcoming, with assistantship postings for next year. If you will be a degree-seeking student in the fall and have completed four seminars, please consider the position!

It has been my pleasure serving as graduate representative!

— Kelly

Note: This month Kelly Mohs Gagè will be the first graduate of the Master of Arts in Art History program at the University of St. Thomas.

Featured faculty - Mary Towley Swanson

The Graduate Program congratulates Mary Towley-Swanson for her many recent accomplishments!

Mary was a finalist for UST's Professor of the Year award, was granted a sabbatical for fall 2000, and was named the first director of UST's Liberal Arts Semester in Paris. In spring, 2001, Mary will direct the program, teach one course, and find time to enjoy springtime in Paris with her son, Phil, who currently resides there. Mary's daughter, Gillian, will enter Northwestern University's master's program in journalism this fall.

Among Mary's many recent academic achievements, she was awarded a Research Assistance Grant from UST this year to complete research on a manuscript on patronage issues in Swedish-American art. She also published several studies, including work on Swedish-American artists, and two exhibition catalogs, *From China to Landscape: Paintings by Hilda Lotber Sell*, for the American Swedish Institute, and *With Two Voices: Selections of Western and American Indian Art From the Harmsen Collection* for UST.

We wish Mary all the best in the coming year!

Graduate Course Offerings for Fall 2000

- ARHS 500: Methodology and Greek Vase Painting
- ARHS 510: Barbarians at the Gates: Art and Culture in Northern Europe from the Migration Age through the Medieval Period
- ARHS 515: Art for the Masses: Popular Religion and Artistic Patronage in Europe and the Americas, 1500-1800
- ARHS 570: Museum Studies: A Practical Guide to Organizing Exhibitions (pre-requisite or permission required)

Graduate Calendar

May 12

Graduate Student Forum
3-5 p.m., Room 101
Brady Educational Center

May 20

Graduate Commencement

June 1

Graduate summer course begins
at MIA

June 15

Priority registration deadline for
degree students

August 31

Graduate Orientation (for new
students)

6 p.m., BEC 101

Sept. 6

Fall semester begins

Oct. 26

Graduate Program Information
Session (open to the public)

6:30 p.m., BEC 101

Grant Workshop

Art History graduate students attended a workshop on Feb. 17 featuring Dr. Michael Stoughton, professor of Art History at the U of M, and Dr. Elaine Lilly, Director of Research Programs for UST.

Professor Stoughton talked about what an admissions committee looks for in applicants to a graduate program. Dr. Lilly gave ideas about grant possibilities in cyberspace as well as the immediate content area that might be applicable to UST graduate students.

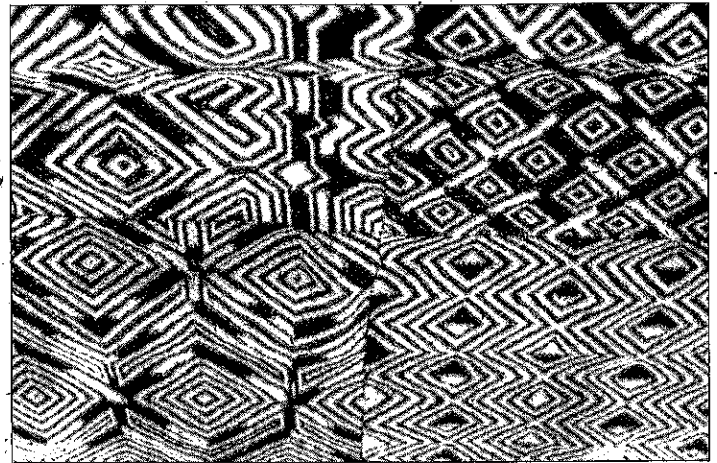
Attention, Students!

Think seriously about membership in the College Art Association (CAA). Learn about fellowship opportunities, grants, calls for papers, student concerns, and conference information as well as other services and benefits. Visit www.collegeart.org or pick up a membership form in the graduate office.

Exhibits

After one of his extensive travels, Hans Christian Andersen remarked, "It's too bad that America is so far away." That distance was bridged in a traveling exhibition organized by the H.C. Andersen Museum and Center in Odense, Denmark, and brought to the United States by the Royal Danish Embassy in Washington, D.C. *Hans Christian Andersen: His Life, His Works and Travels in the 19th Century* was on exhibit Dec. 1-Jan. 4 in the O'Shaughnessy-Frey Library Center.

Earth Process: Paintings and Digital-Forms by Frank W. Schreiber can be viewed in the O'Shaughnessy-Frey Library Center through May 20. Schreiber uses modern technology to produce art that derives from ancient or natural elements. He begins with visual ideas about nature, works with computer images and photo composites to generate "digital ideas," and then uses artistic media to produce the resulting watercolors, acrylic paintings, drawings, etchings and prints.



Raffia textile panel, Kuba. *Approaching African Art* Exhibit

An exhibition of fiber arts, *Private Investigations*, was exhibited in the second-floor art space of Terrence Murphy Hall on the downtown Minneapolis campus through April 26. This exhibit showcased the work of 11 local artists, Beth Barron, Jane Bassuk, Cindy Long, Deanie Pass, Mary Rose, Pamela Schloff, Rhesa Schwartz, Sandy Swirnoff, Stephanie Torbert, Frances Willey and Fern Wolf. Included in the show were hooked rugs, beaded fabric collage, quilted collage, graphic design, jewelry and other examples of fiber artwork. The exhibition invitation was designed by Mary Rose.

Lorna Rockey, Beth Barron and Harriet Bart each have one of their works displayed at the MIA in the *Foot in the Door* Exhibition. Lorna had a photography exhibit at UST in 1998 titled, *Terrestrial Solidarity; an Introspection*. Beth is one of 11 textile artists in the *Private Investigations* exhibit at the Minneapolis campus. Harriet designed the sculpture on Summit Avenue in front the O'Shaughnessy Science Center, and we have purchased one of her her works, *Elements*, for the marketing campaign for the Graduate Program in Art History.

Approaching African Art, an exhibition of 16 African artworks, curated by Sarah Crawford Parker '93, is on display through December in the Murray-Herrick Campus Center's first-floor rotunda. They illustrate the range of different materials employed by male and female artists, and the diverse functions they served. Most traditional artforms produced in Africa are intimately linked to systems of belief, social organization and daily life. A few items included in this exhibit are a Nupe waterpot, a Dogon ritual figure, an initiation mask of the Sande society and paired brass figures known as Edan from the Yoruba.



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