

American Arts Sampler Sharing Session

Access MIA flickr images for this set and all others at

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/minneapolisinstituteofarts/collections/72157616792245193/>

2nd Floor

Lost Boy Mountain 2nd Floor Atrium

- Fits well with AAS, PTE and most other tours
- Where would you prefer to be in this landscape? Why?
- What materials were used?
- Relate to Soth's photos of hermits and loners

Adaptation II G281

<https://collections.artsmia.org/index.php?page=detail&id=115749>

MPG object file exists

- Appealing to adults, shoes designed by Christian Louboutin,
- J. Okuma's Pinterest page, <https://www.pinterest.com/Fmoore10/artist-jamie-okuma/>
- Compare with quill moccasins
- Good way to talk about adapting culture to modern times, as well as continuity of culture

Platform Rocking Chair G281

<http://www.artconnected.org/resource/5566/7/platform-rocking-chair>

<https://collections.artsmia.org/index.php?page=detail&id=3286>

- Does this represent exploitation of animals (PETA) or use of resources?
- Very American idea of the hunt. Teddy Roosevelt had lots of it in his Long Island home.

View of Fort Snelling G279

Teaching the Arts feature: <http://new.artsmia.org/teaching-the-arts/view-of-fort-snelling/>

- Edward Thomas was self-taught at the fort.
- Shows St. Paul, confluence of rivers which is a sacred spot - BDOE- to the Dakota.
- Good intro to American history with the blending/clashing of Native and European cultures.
- Children enjoy details and perspective.

The Four Seasons series G263

Spring, <https://collections.artsmia.org/index.php?page=detail&id=115817>

Fall, <https://collections.artsmia.org/index.php?page=detail&id=115815>

Summer, <https://collections.artsmia.org/index.php?page=detail&id=115818>

Winter, <https://collections.artsmia.org/index.php?page=detail&id=115816>

Shared our confusion over her message and concluded that she was using irony to point out the falsification of most museum dioramas as they portray native cultures.

- What appears real? Fake? All the scenery and props are fake. Wendy and her attire and pipe bag are the only authentically real objects.

Note Steinkamp's **Hurdy Gurdy Man (Chrysanthemums)**,

<http://www.artconnected.org/resource/124747/1/hurdy-gurdy-man-chrysanthemums>, in same room (G263).

Compare with her popular asteroids, **6EQUJ5**.

Bench G263, <https://collections.artsmia.org/?page=detail&id=120151>

Made from salvaged wood. The tree was impacted by Dutch Elm Disease.

Winter Count G261

Teaching the Arts feature: <http://new.artsmia.org/teaching-the-arts/lakota-winter-count/>

MPG write up in AAS *Tour Resources* folder.

- Looked at pictographs to compare with Whiteman, shirts.
- Noted that women used abstract/geometric patterns on their work while men used pictographs.
- These were made to note important historical events and later for trade. Think of it as a community's diary.
- Each figure represents a different year.
- History-teaching tool for children

Also looked at the new **Ledger Book** pages (G260) and learned about how they were from Fort Marion and represented the journey of 72 warriors exiled from OK to Fort Marion, FL involving 22 days of travel. The philosophy of the removal was "Kill the Indian, save the man." The books will show different pages throughout their display period. Good info from the training sent by Kathleen Steiger and on MGP website.

Collage IX: Landscape G261a <http://www.artconnected.org/resource/290/11/collage-ix-landscape>

MPG Object Files exist

Vessel, Martinez G259

Surrounded by Beauty: http://archive.artsmia.org/surrounded-by-beauty/southwest/martinez_home.html

Noted difficulty seeing it and suggested that other pottery could be used as well.

Rendezvous G259 <https://collections.artsmia.org/?page=detail&id=180>

- Alan Hauser was descendant of Geronimo.
- His work appears at St. Capital and on official license plates and documents in OK.
- Noted the serene purposefulness of his sculpture and the effective use of simple lines to denote strength and beauty.
- Where is she going? What is she doing?

Adornment, Iconic Perceptions G259 <https://collections.artsmia.org/index.php?page=detail&id=120378>

Seemed small and not of particular interest to children.

3rd Floor

Billboard G375

- Represents speed, noise.
- To encourage close looking "Imagine you're a mouse entering a (given) corner of this image – What would you find?"
- Took a month to complete.
- Complementary colors
- Relate to collages children have likely made.

Untitled (Delaney) G375

Teaching the Arts feature: <http://new.artsmia.org/teaching-the-arts/beauford-delaneys-untitled/>

- Delaney was very poor while living in Paris. He used an old coat and we can see the pockets on the back.
- He did figurative work as well and we have one in the Kunin galleries, **Untitled (Washington Square Park)** G360.
- Can see brush work.
- Next to it looked at **Ball Game on the Beach**, David Parks and **Hangover Club**, Elmer Bishchoff (Noted perspective, color, emotion, strong imagery and slice-of-life of American Scene in the 50's).

9 panels by Cy Thao, G374 , # 1: <https://collections.artsmia.org/index.php?page=detail&id=89555>

- Disagreement regarding whether it is good for children (due to violent imagery).
- Portrays immigrant experience with child-like imagery to soften horror of war.
- Good for Hmong children and others to learn about history. Compare to ledger books and Native American experience.
- Cy Thao is an important St. Paul artist and activist (State Senator), great role model.

Soundsuit G374

Nick Cave is always popular and this could be compared with the feeling and mood of **Billboard** - each being noisy and representing the city.

City Night G367

Part of *American Scenes* Teaching the Arts feature: <http://new.artsmia.org/teaching-the-arts/american-scenes/>

- Reductionism! Compared to Hartigan the mood is spare and serene with the imagery relying on the strength of shape and color to convey a place and a feeling.
 - Next to it is Biederman's **Relief, New York**, which simplifies the same scene even more. <http://www.artconnected.org/resource/801/3/relief-new-york-1936>
- Compare to Abbott – vantage point, day/night, mood, populated/ not?

Folk Musicians, Romare Bearden, G360

Great option for VTS!

Paul Revere's Tea Service G350

Teaching the Arts feature: <http://new.artsmia.org/teaching-the-arts/paul-revere-tea-service/>

American Period Rooms

Teaching the Arts feature: <http://new.artsmia.org/teaching-the-arts/american-period-rooms/>

The MacFarlane Room and others are great for helping children imagine another time or place.

Odd Fellows Lodge Ceremonial Objects (Outside of Connecticut Room)

- Good example of American values of community, hard work, cooperation, strong religious and moral identity.
- Example of people working together for mutual benefit and strong images which appeal to children and are easy for them to interpret.

Connecticut Room G331, <http://www.artsconnected.org/resource/6014/connecticut-room>

- Some find it claustrophobic
- Children sometimes think it's luxurious due to drapes on bed
- Portraits can be used to show clothing and talk about itinerant painters since there was no photography.
- Learn more about why this home, and the Jonathon Rose House (mentioned in the gallery label) were razed. Includes interior and exterior images of our room's contemporaries/neighbors (including the Rose house, whose green paneled dining room was installed in the Yale Art Galley)

http://www.totokethistoricalociety.org/uploads/3/1/8/1/31818087/constructing_the_north_branford_dam.pdf

Portrait of George Washington G333

Teaching the Arts feature: <http://new.artsmia.org/teaching-the-arts/portrait-of-george-washington/>

Works well with the *Artful Thinking* technique of making a claim: "GW was a very important person in American history." Children have to find evidence to support the claim. Symbolism works well and children like to find the meanings of the objects.

Portrait of Captain Samuel Chester Reid G333

<http://www.artsconnected.org/resource/3122/2/portrait-of-captain-samuel-chester-reid-1783-1861>

Interest in his role in War of 1812 and the fact that he re-designed the American flag to its current configuration (unlike the one in the painting). He was a privateer who proved useful to the military.

Reminiscences of 1865 G323

- Samuel Chase on currency founded Chase Manhattan Bank which might interest adults on tour.
- Door resembles the wall in the Connecticut Room.
- Learned that Lincoln created Yosemite (painting across Gallery) and the land grant program, which provided for national parks and universities. Could mention the recent successful ascent of El Capitan.

Tahkt-I-Sulayman Variation II G100

<http://www.artsconnected.org/resource/10029/1/tahkt-i-sulayman-variation-ii>

Most of us don't use it even when standing at the top of the stairs which face it (turn back on weathervanes and look up). He says it is a pure geometric creation, part of a series using a protractor and nothing more should be read into it. "What can be seen there is there."

Writing Desk, 3rd floor landing, G304, <http://www.artsmia.org/viewer/detail.php?v=12&id=113926>.

- MPG Object file exists, as well as photo of its interior.
- We all use it and find it a good example of making do with what you have, using skills and ingenuity, The American Way.



Weathervanes

Part of *Weather or Not* Teaching the Arts feature: <http://new.artsmia.org/teaching-the-arts/weather-or-not/>

Ram, Edmondson, 2013.56, G304

- <https://collections.artsmia.org/index.php?page=detail&id=118808>
- <http://new.artsmia.org/stories/god-give-me-this-thing-a-new-acquisition-and-the-art-of-divine-intervention/>
- <http://new.artsmia.org/third-AV/#/recent-acquisitions>

Mill Pond at Minneapolis G303

The Mill Stream G322 <http://www.artconnected.org/resource/12083/10/the-mill-stream-montclair-new-jersey>

Has a similar nature+industry harmony

Good MIA birthday tie-ins: G302

Douglas Volk, painter of *After the Reception*, was the first director of the Mpls Society of Fine Arts, precursor to the MIA and MCAD

<http://www.artconnected.org/resource/961/after-the-reception>

Marriage was included in the first collection of paintings donated to the museum for its new home. Also, the collection was in honor of a man who was instrumental in raising funds for the new museum. <http://www.artconnected.org/resource/2742/marriage>

All were familiar with these works and use them on tours including *Rainy Day*. The **model of the MIA** and any chance to point out the beauty and grandeur of the building as a temple is a good tie-in. Shows how important art is to American culture, as well.

Cleota Collins 2011.64, G302

<https://collections.artsmia.org/?page=detail&id=113114>

Buffalo Hunt, P.86.37.13, G301

<https://collections.artsmia.org/?page=detail&id=3162>