

Columbia Museum of Art in Columbia, SC, Offers Traveling Works That Have Come Home

The Columbia Museum of Art in Columbia, SC, announces the featured fall exhibition *European Splendors: Highlights from the Kress Collection*, on view from Oct. 1 through Jan. 1, 2023. The exhibition offers an occasion to reconsider Renaissance art through the lens of the CMA's remarkable holdings - largely off view since 2017 - in a luxurious new way. With a focus on the Italian schools, it reveals the artistic innovations in Europe from the late 13th century through the Baroque period.

"From the early years of the museum's history, these important Renaissance and Baroque artworks formed the core of our collection," says CMA Curator Michael Neumeister. "We are thrilled to present them anew in the context of a thematic exhibition, offering a fresh way to see old favorites."

During the 1950s, the Kress Foundation donated some 700 works of European art to museums in 18 American cities. The largest portion of Samuel H. Kress' personal collection went to the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC. Thanks to a series of gifts from his foundation, the second largest repository came to the CMA, forming the basis of its collection.

Since the museum's gallery transformation in 2017, Kress holdings have been largely off view at the CMA. In collaboration with the Kress Foundation, the museum took the opportunity to organize a traveling exhibition of these works, *European Splendors*, which has been on an extraordinary national tour aimed at making these art-historical treasures accessible to new audiences. The works are being shown in museums including the Albany Museum of Art, BYU Museum of Art, and the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts until they return home in 2024. This exhibition gives Midlands viewers an opportunity to see them in the midst of their travels.

European Splendors explores the renewed emphasis on the human condition as realism and individuality re-emerged out of the more abstract and symbolic religious subjects that had defined the European Middle Ages for centuries. This growing appreciation of the everyday is evident in the exhibition's exciting arc of Italian painting shown alongside apothecary mortars and furniture pieces as well as stunning examples of Dutch portraiture and still life. Italian landscapes by Francesco Guardi and Giovanni Paolo Pannini illustrate the impulse to bring a piece of history home from one's Grand Tour as well as the 18th-century mania for Greco-Roman ruins.

European Splendors offers a chance to experience these art historical works, often only known from books or digital images, in full living color. Notable artists include Botticelli, François Boucher, Canaletto, Pieter Claesz, and Tintoretto. Organized thematically, the exhibition invites viewers



Venetian Workshop, possibly that of Michele Giambono (Italian, active mid-15th century). "The Virgin and Four Saints", c. 1450-1460. Tempera painting on fruitwood panel. Gift of the Samuel H. Kress Foundation.

to reflect on the connections and divergences in art across this pivotal period.

The exhibit was organized by the Columbia Museum of Art, South Carolina, with support from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, New York.

European Splendors: Highlights from the Kress Collection is presented through the support of our generous sponsors and grantors. Supporting Sponsors: Joyce and George Hill; Hannah and Ron Rogers. Contributing Sponsors: Suzanne and Robert Clawson. Friend Sponsors: ReNewell, Inc. Fine Art Conservation; Pete and Vickie Neighbour. Grantors: City of Columbia; Richland County Government; South Carolina Arts Commission; South Carolina Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism.

The Columbia Museum of Art is a charitable nonprofit organization dedicated to lifelong learning and community enrichment for all. Located in the heart of downtown Columbia, S.C., the CMA ranks among the leading art institutions in the country and is distinguished by its innovative exhibitions and creative educational programs. At the heart of the CMA and its programs is its collection, which encompasses 7,000 works and spans 5,000 years of art history. Established in 1950, the CMA now welcomes more than 150,000 visitors annually and is a catalyst for community creativity and education, engaging people of all ages and backgrounds. It is the recipient of a National Medal from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a National Art Education Association award for its contributions to arts education, a National Park Foundation Award, and two Governor's Awards for the Arts for outstanding contributions to the arts in South Carolina. In order to serve even more audiences, the CMA underwent a transformation. Funded by a successful capital campaign, the two-year renovation project garnered new collection galleries with a progressive thematic layout, new studios for artmaking, cutting-edge program and event spaces, and an entrance on Main Street. Overall, more than 15,000 square feet of functional space were added to the building's existing footprint.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings or visit (www.columbiamuseum.org).

Columbia Museum of Art in Columbia, SC, Features Three New Exhibits From Collections

The Columbia Museum of Art in Columbia, SC, will present two new exhibits including: *The Art of Elizabeth Catlett: From the Collection of Samella Lewis*, on view from Oct. 15 through Jan. 22, 2023 and *Forward Together: African American Art from the Judy and Patrick Diamond Collection*, on view from Oct. 19 through Apr. 2, 2023.

The Art of Elizabeth Catlett: From the Collection of Samella Lewis exhibition featuring 30 prints and sculptures celebrates artist Elizabeth Catlett and honors a half-century of her artistic activism in support of women, African Americans, and Mexican laborers. Using a stylized Modernist approach to figurative works, Catlett addresses themes including Black identity, motherhood, civil rights, and labor in this exhibition - issues she tackled with more freedom by emigrating permanently to Mexico in 1947.

Drawn from the personal collection of artist and art historian Dr. Samella Lewis, the exhibition also includes works by Lewis, for whom Catlett was a friend and mentor, and Catlett's husband, Francisco Mora, with whom she worked at the famed communal graphics workshop Taller de Gráfica Popular in Mexico City.

The exhibit was organized by Landau Traveling Exhibitions, Los Angeles, CA.

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The exhibition, *Forward Together: African American Art from the Judy and Patrick Diamond Collection*, highlights a selection of works by African American artists,

continued above on next column to the right



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drawn from the esteemed collection of Judy and Patrick Diamond.

Diamond was born in the community of Frogtown, a historically segregated neighborhood in Columbia, SC. He attended Saint Martin de Porres Elementary School before moving north with his family. While a student at Boston University, he met his future wife, Judy, and their mutual interest in art blossomed.

For more than 40 years, the Diamonds

have shared a passion for collecting some of the most significant African American artists of the 20th century. The works on view here - by artists such as Benny Andrews, Romare Bearden, and Jacob Lawrence - touch on a variety of themes relating to African American life, history, and humanity.

For further information check our SC Institutional Gallery listings, call the Museum at 803/799-2810 or visit (www.columbiamuseum.org).

Stormwater Studios in Columbia, SC, Features Works by Patrick Parise

Stormwater Studios in Columbia, SC, will present *A Few Thoughts*, a solo exhibition by Patrick Parise, on view from Oct. 19 - 30, 2022. A reception will be held on Oct. 20, from 5:30-8:30pm. An Artist Talk: *A Few Thoughts - the Method and Madness* will be offered on Oct. 26, from 5:30-7pm. Join the artist for a light and fun talk about his latest works in the show, including inspirations, techniques, and a Q & A session while enjoying some wine and cheese. A second reception will be held on Oct. 29, from 5:30-8:30pm. The gallery will be open daily during this exhibit, from 11am-4pm.

Over 45 years of making art, Patrick Parise has realized many works started with a single visual "thought." Whether of a landscape, real or imagined, an abstract form, or a three-dimensional shape, that single thought inspires what is to come. Then the hard part - building upon that very thought, executing the component parts, and transforming them into a piece of work that satisfies the artist's vision.

This show represents some of Parise's thoughts over the past few years; ruminations about nature and beauty, love and sorrow, war and peace, and COVID (of course), transformed into works he hopes will be pleasing to view and spur the viewer's thoughts.

Born in Brooklyn, New York in 1952, Parise has lived in Columbia, SC, for over 50 years. In his youth his artistic endeavors were much influenced by his mother,



Work by Patrick Parise

a painter and art historian. Parise's formal training began at Bethany College, a school of fine arts in Salina, KS, where he studied painting under Raymond Kaymeyer, and continued at the University of South Carolina in Columbia, where he became interested in printmaking under the tutelage of the art department's distinguished professor, Boyd Saunders. After finishing his studio art courses at the university, rather than pursuing graduate studies, Parise purchased a Charles Brandt etching press and opened his own etching studio where he started