American University Museum

Annual Report for the Fiscal Year May 1, 2016 – April 30, 2017

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Letter from the Director and Curator

This Annual Report was compiled by Associate Director Kristi-Anne Caisse, with the assistance of the Museum's staff. It shows the American University Museum, now in its twelfth year, has continued to receive critical acclaim for its exhibitions and programming, and increased its financial support from friends and institutional supporters. It also shows that the Museum is maturing in significant ways:

• The museum has begun to increase the length of its exhibitions, thereby decreasing the number of exhibitions it presents each year. Less frequent turnover of exhibitions will allow more time to develop and execute high quality programs and educational publications.

• With the acquisition of over 7,000 works of art from the former Corcoran Gallery of Art, more financial and staff resources must be devoted to the collection's care, research, and accessibility. Closer collaboration with the University’s College of Arts and Sciences and Office of Development as it prepares to enter a Capital Campaign means the Museum will be better able to meet its growing financial responsibilities.

Thanks to our excellent and dedicated staff, and to all who have helped the American University Museum flourish in this great city of museums. We look forward to another year of growth and positive impact on the University and the community.

Jack Rasmussen
CORCORAN LEGACY COLLECTION

We are pleased to announce that we will receive over 7,000 works of art from the Corcoran Gallery of Art, valued at over $40 million. This new acquisition will more than double the size of the museum’s permanent collection and will further elevate our prominence among the art institutions of Washington, DC. The works acquired will expand upon the museum’s collection of Washington art, allowing us to present a more comprehensive history, add an important collection of nineteenth- and twentieth-century American Art, create an outstanding collection of photography, and greatly expand our collection of esteemed female American artists and artists of color, advancing the gender and racial equality of the AU Museum collection.

In order to properly steward what will be known as the Corcoran Legacy Collection, the Museum has drafted a new collections management policy, a history and mission statement, and a three-year strategic plan that outlines our fundraising objectives and necessary operational adjustments needed to properly care for the collection. In addition, the Museum has planned the expansion and improvement of its storage spaces to accommodate the collection and make it accessible to the public. We look forward to sharing these plans with our patrons as they are finalized over the next year.
EXHIBITIONS

Summer 2016
June 18 – August 14

CONTEMPORARY NORTH KOREAN ART: THE EVOLUTION OF SOCIALIST REALISM
The forms and structure of contemporary North Korean art, a central and highly developed dimension of the national culture, are largely unknown to the outside world. This exhibition, the first of its kind in the U.S., sought to broaden understanding of North Korean art beyond stereotypes of propaganda and kitsch, to show sophisticated and nuanced expressive achievements.
It investigated previously unrevealed evidence of North Korean artistic experimentation and the evolution of Socialist Realism within this culturally homogeneous context. The works in the exhibition focused on the development of Chosonhwa, North Korea's predominant painting medium which is revered as the nation's most refined. The exhibition is curated by BG Muhn, artist and Professor at Georgetown University.

Women of Nam-gang Village, 1970. Painting on rice paper

SOUTH KOREAN ART: EXAMINING LIFE THROUGH SOCIAL REALITY
Examining Life Through Social Reality documented and examined life and the social realities of people living on the Korean peninsula through the Realist paintings of ten South Korean contemporary artists. As explained by exhibition curator GimChoe Eun-yeong, definitions of Realism have changed over time, but the Realism of South Korea closely approximates 19th century French Realist painter Gustave Courbet's use of the term: to manifest artists' perspectives of the world through expressive techniques and methods.

ART CART: HONORING THE LEGACY
ART CART: HONORING THE LEGACY ties together two cities— Washington, DC and New York City— in an inter-generational, inter-disciplinary project. Professional visual artists aged 62 and older were matched with students of art, healthcare, and aging to document and preserve their artistic legacy. The exhibition included painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, and installation by ART CART artists that highlighted turning points in the artists' lives including the Civil Rights and Women's Movements.

ART CART: SAVING THE LEGACY is a DC and New York based project that helps older professional artists and provides mentorships to students. ART CART: HONORING THE LEGACY featured Alonzo
Bandits & Heroes, Poets & Saints: Popular Art of the Northeast of Brazil

Bandits & Heroes, Poets & Saints explored how the ancient cultures of Africa blended with indigenous and colonial Portuguese traditions to form the vibrant and complex cultural mosaic of modern Brazil. This eclectic collection of popular art—photography, sculptures, paintings, religious objects, and books of poetry—depicted the vibrant culture of the Northeast of Brazil and the Nordestinos. The exhibition explored the coming together of diverse traditions of the region through work by historical and contemporary artists.

This exhibition was made possible through NEH on the Road, a special initiative of the National Endowment for the Humanities. It was brought to AU by Mid-America Arts Alliance. Bandits & Heroes, Poets & Saints: Popular Art of the Northeast of Brazil was organized by Con/Vida—Popular Arts of the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, Detroit, MI.

Borges Senhora Aparecida, 2007

The Looking Glass: Artist Immigrants of Washington

*Description under Alper Initiative for Washington Art

Early Fall 2016
September 6 – October 23

Hung Liu: Daughter of China, Resident Alien

A solo-exhibition of work by Hung Liu reflected upon refugees and heroines, themes that are politically topical and deeply woven into the artist's experience as a Chinese émigré, as an America citizen, and as a woman. Liu's painting style is rooted in Socialist Realism which she learned in China in the 1970s prior to coming to America in the mid-80s, where she has since created a stripped down Socialist Realism, removing the propaganda and creating a catalog of her history.

Silos

As a microcosm of our society, the art world maintains a system of marginalization based on racial and cultural difference. Artists identified as “other” function in silos, just as they do in society. This exhibition presented eight artists who examine these silos, otherness, and the cultural and social ramifications of marginalization based on one's identity, whether self-defined or inscribed. Bearing witness, as these artists do, not only identifies the pressing issues of our time but also challenges the norm of marginalization, and exclusion. Through the work of Wanda Raimundi-Ortiz, Duron Jackson, Yaw Aygeman, Wesley Clark, Wilmer Wilson IV, Stacy-Lynn Waddell, Ellington Robinson and Nathaniel Donnett, Silos gave voice to the silence(d).

Updraft America

In her installation, Updraft America, Washington, DC sculptor (and prior Senate aide) Suzanne Brennan Firstenberg manifested Americans’ frustration with gridlocked partisan politics by taking an entire year of the official proceedings of the U.S. Congress, as documented in the Congressional Record, and folding each page into a paper airplane. From this mass of over 10,000 airplanes,
striped red or blue to connote the political divide, the uppermost planes rose into the air, as if taking flight. Their hues combined to become purple—the color of hope for bridging the political divide.

**TODAS LAS MANOS**
This exhibition was an interdisciplinary public art project that celebrated human rights and global justice, commemorating the 40th Anniversary of the deaths of former Chilean Ambassador Orlando Letelier and co-worker Ronni Karpen Moffitt in Washington, DC on September 21, 1976.

Muralist Francisco Letelier, son of Orlando Letelier, worked in collaboration with youth participants from the Latin American Youth Center (LAYC) to create a large-scale mural in the Museum’s sculpture garden. Todas Las Manos encompassed the participation of youth and adult collaborators in a month-long exchange that included academics, researchers, visual artists, and poets.

**IT TAKES A NATION: ART FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE WITH EMORY DOUGLAS, AND THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY, AFRICOBRA, AND CONTEMPORARY WASHINGTON ARTISTS**
*Description under Alper Initiative for Washington Art*

*Late Fall 2016*
November 12 – December 18

**ALEX KATZ: BLACK AND WHITE**
*Alex Katz: Black and White* explored the artist’s lifelong interest in stripping color out of his prints, and his attempt to replace sensual pleasure with intellectual design. Design versus color has been an artistic debate that goes back to the Renaissance. Similar to the art of Renaissance Florence, Katz’s prints are all about design, and are based on drawing, ideas, and the structure of things.

![Alex Katz, Ariel](image)

**SYLVIA SNOWDEN: THE FEEL OF PAINT**
The Feel of Paint was an exhibition of large-scale, highly impastoed mixed media paintings by one of Washington’s most original artists, Sylvia Snowden. Snowden explained: “I want viewers to look at my work and see if they can become the paint. If they can become the valleys and the hills, if they can feel it. If they can see the feelings that we have, that all of us have. That is the way to look at it, to put yourself into the painting, and say: ‘Now, how would I feel if I was that paint?’ To me, that is the only way you can understand it.”
**MARTHA WILSON & FRANKLIN FURNACE**
This exhibition explored the artistic career of pioneering feminist artist, Martha Wilson, and her work as Founder and Director of Franklin Furnace, a New York based non-profit arts organization that has been supporting avant-garde art since 1976. It was the fourth and final exhibition in Transformer’s four-part *Do You Know Where Your Art Comes From?* series, presented at AU over the past two years, a collaboration between Tim Doud, Associate Professor of Art and coordinator of the Visiting Artist Program at American University, and Victoria Reis, Executive and Artistic Director of Transformer. *Do You Know Where Your Art Comes From?* investigated current and future models of art by highlighting various contemporary platforms, artists, and arts organizations.

**SQUEAK CARNWATH: CRAZY PAPERS AND SISTER OBJECTS**
While Squeak Carnwath is primarily known as a painter, she has worked across many media. This exhibition highlighted the unique surfaces and textures that each medium affords, while sharing the artist’s distinct visual language of symbols, phrases, and colors. Works on view in *Crazy Papers and Sister Objects* span over 30 years of the artist’s exploration in painting, drawing, and printmaking.

**SPECIAL EXHIBITS IN THE KREEGER LOBBY: HIGH STAKES OF MACEDONIA’S “COLORFUL REVOLUTION”**
Curated by Aneta Georgievska-Shine *The High Stakes of Macedonia’s “Colorful Revolution”* was an exhibition of photographs documenting the protest and vandalism of a controversial and hugely expensive “urban renewal” by the government of the Republic of Macedonia in the capital city, Skopje. Photography by Robert Atanasovski, Kire Galevski and Vancho Dzambaski.

**MELISSA ICHIUJI: MAKE YOU LOVE ME**
*Description under Alper Initiative for Washington Art

*Winter 2017*
January 28 – March 12

**MIKE SHAFFER: TOWERS AND MONUMENTS**
*Towers and Monuments* presented sculptures and paintings that incorporated the artist’s career-long fascination with grid-patterning and perpendicular stacking techniques, selected from a body of work created by the artist beginning in the early 1970s to the present. This exhibition highlighted Shaffer’s inventive combination of styles of Minimalism, Pop and Conceptual art rooted in an empirical scientific method.

**JULIE WOLFE: QUEST FOR A THIRD PARADISE**
What if we could better understand our own human social systems — the means by which we communicate with each other, the patterns that govern our interdependence, and the minutiae that form those larger structures? And what if we could appreciate the infinitely more complex systems that thrive in our natural world? Perhaps we, as humans, could then see how we fit into a larger universal system housed by nature: an ecological world in which our relationship to nature is not adversarial, but one of peaceful coexistence. Such was the vision of Washington, DC based artist, Julie Wolfe, in her exhibition of paintings and drawings, *Quest for a Third Paradise.*
NEW RUINS
*New Ruins* explored the tactile, perceptual, and temporal dimensions of surface and form among a resonant grouping of abstract works. Physical processes such as rubbing, layering, building, wearing away and, on occasion, obliterating, combined to offer an alternative to the traditional painter’s mark, altering perception of time and presence. Materials such as bronze, marble, plaster, stone, metal, clay, and wood were used to expand the language of painting and its traditional viewing modes. *New Ruins* featured works by N. Dash, Jessica Dickinson, Donald Moffett, Sam Moyer, Nathlie Provosty, and Brie Ruais. This exhibition was presented in conjunction with the AU Studio Art Department.

MEHRING / WELLSPRING: THE EARLY COLOR FIELD PAINTINGS OF HOWARD MEHRING
This exhibition presented a survey sample of the early Color Field paintings of Howard Mehring (1931-1978). Building on the late 1950s breakthrough stain paintings of Morris Louis and Ken Noland, Mehring was prominent amongst the artists of the loosely-defined Washington Color School. These initial Color Field pictures were made of continuous area with dappled zones of subtle colors; in the mid-1960, he changed his abstract style to one of geometric patterns using bolder colors, and by the end of the decade, Mehring had quit painting, and died prematurely in 1978 at age 47. The exhibition was accompanied by a catalogue with a guest essay by art historian E. A. Carmean, Jr.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS IN THE KREEGER LOBBY: COCO CHANEL: A NEW PORTRAIT BY MARION PIKE, PARIS 1967-71
Organized by the Washington Winter Show, this exhibition explored the profound friendship between California artist Marion Pike and legendary designer Coco Chanel. The show featured five large-scale portraits of Chanel, painted by Pike, and several haute couture pieces styled by Chanel for Marion and her daughter, Jeffie Pike Durham, who generously loaned all of the pieces for the collection. Curated by Amy de la Haye, London College of Fashion, this was the collection’s North America debut.

JOE CAMERON: TOUCHING AIR
*Description under Alper Initiative for Washington Art

Spring 2017
April 1 – May 28

SHARON WOLPOFF AND TAMMRA SIGLER: GEOMETRY AND OTHER MYTHS
At first glance the art of Sharon Wolpoff has little in common with the art of Tammra Sigler. Wolpoff is a painter of carefully composed scenes from life, suffused with light and heightened color. Sigler is an expressionist artist who is known for improvisation and bravura brushwork. However, similarities and contrasts emerge in their work as they engage with three different paths to knowledge of the world: geometry, psychology, and spirituality. Sigler’s work starts with geometry as a foundation and moves away from it towards the emotional, while Wolpoff’s work begins with an emotional response and moves towards the underlying geometry. Both artists have beautifully structured artwork, and their uses of structure have psychological and spiritual functions as well.
GREEN MACHINE: THE ART OF CARLOS LUNA

*Green Machine* featured the latest work of one of Cuba’s leading contemporary artists, Carlos Luna. In this exhibition painting, sculpture, and installation become one to portray Cuban stories and fables. While using culturally-specific imagery, Luna demonstrated all that we have in common: “Ever since the first people were around, our problems have been about ourselves, what we are doing, our existence...but people even from different backgrounds can relate to human problems.” Luna brought his viewers into the darkness and returns them to the light, both physically and psychologically.

TIME STANDS STILL: ELZBIETA SIKORSKA

No matter how we reflect on time, it is a contemplative and complicated subject. Time affects everything: people, animals, woodlands, earth, stone, and artifacts. These are the elements that Elzbieta Sikorska uses in her large scale, multimedia drawings, conceived as loose pictorial narratives whose common thread is the continuity of being. Rather than offering definitive conclusions, these works were intended to lead us into a deeper and more intimate consideration of our own relationship to time – our constant companion.

MASTER OF FINE ART FIRST YEAR AND THESIS EXHIBITIONS

AU’s Department of Art presented the work of current first and second year MFA candidates in a two-part exhibition showcasing an exciting range of emerging artists’ work in painting, sculpture, collage and material studies, photography, and new media. From April 1 – April 19, *Year One* showcased the work of Holly Trout, Tim Magenta, Tiffany Raquel, Fallon Chase, Ban Alwehaibi, Michelle Gagliano, Michelle Tangires, and Paige Stewart. The MFA Thesis exhibition, *Alternative Views*, ran from April 29 – May 28, featuring the work of Zarina Z., Sarah O’Donoghue, Sarah Norman, Jen Noone, Yaroslav Koporulin, Aaron Eckstein, and Mills Brown.

ESCAPE: FOON SHAM

Foon Sham, a master of wood sculpture, created two monumental, horizontal and vertical tunnels for the American University Museum. The site-specific work *Escape* was meant to be entered and experienced phenomenologically. An immigrant himself, Sham built *Escape* in response to the hotly-contested issues of immigration and the plight of the refugee. It provided concealment and beacons of light.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS IN THE KREEGER LOBBY: FRIDA LARIOS: MAYA ALPHABET OF MODERN TIMES

*Maya Alphabet of Modern Times* was intended to re-codify a small part of the Maya mythic narrative, giving the artistic tradition new graphic form. In the *Maya Alphabet of Modern Times*, Frida Larios, a native of El Salvador, borrowed directly from the logo-graphic language of the ancestral Maya scribes, but spoke to and for the Indigenous Maya of today. These new artifacts carry through the Pre-Columbian heritage to a contemporary audience of every age, thus intending that the Mesoamerican script is preserved to see a new generation.

SUMMERFORD LEGACY

*Description under Alper Initiative for Washington Art*
Events & Programs

RECURRING PROGRAMS

YOGA IN THE GALLERIES
Certified Kripalu yoga instructor Eva Bluting teaches a rejuvenating class in the peaceful surroundings of art every Wednesday at 10 a.m. in the museum. Cost is $10 per class and $5 for members. Museum members at the Associate’s Level and above may attend for free.

WEEKLY TOURS
Each Friday at 11:30 a.m. all are welcome to explore the galleries with our knowledgeable docents. Tours highlight the current exhibitions and cover a new subject every week. Tours are free and open to the public.

KIDS@KATZEN
The Kids@Katzen Family Day program offers children from ages 5-12 and their parents a unique opportunity to engage with current exhibitions and to each create their own works of art in a hands-on experience. The program is offered 2 times per semester.

CULTURE@KATZEN
Our newest program, designed to bring community members into the space for a focused look and stimulating discussion on works from a current exhibition. This free program is offered 1-2 times per semester.

MUSIC IN THE MUSEUM
Through our partnership with INTERFERENCE Intermedia, we continue to bring new music and new media to Washington, DC. Formed in 2015 by composer Steven Antosca and AU faculty members William Brent and Nancy Jo Snider, INTERFERENCE is the Ensemble-in-Residence for the Connected series, focusing on the use of technology in composition and performance. Concerts are presented in partnership with the Cultural Services of the Embassy of France.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

LATE SPRING 2016

Kevin MacDonald Gallery Talk by Robin Moore
Guests were treated to a tour of *Kevin MacDonald: The Tension of a Suspended Moment* with the artist’s widow Robin Moore.

ENCORE of Short Mean Fiction
BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND, William Dunlap gave an ENCORE reading from his book *Short Mean Fiction - Words and Pictures* surrounded by his work in *Look At It - Think About It*, on view through May 29.
**Gallery Talk on Kevin MacDonald: The Tension of a Suspended Moment**
Lee Fleming, Ben Forgey, and Jack Rasmussen invited friends and fans of Kevin MacDonald to join them in a discussion of one of Washington's most important, critically acclaimed artists. The talk was followed by a jam session featuring special guest artists.

**SUMMER 2016**

**Gallery Talk with BG Muhn**
Georgetown professor, artist, and curator BG Muhn gave a tour of two exhibitions of North and South Korean contemporary art and led a discussion on the impact of culture on the artistic style of each republic.

![Image of a gallery talk with BG Muhn]

**Members’ Preview**
Director and Curator Jack Rasmussen invited members to preview the Summer exhibitions early, which included a tour with *Bandits & Heroes, Poets & Saints* curators Marion E. Jackson, Ph.D. and Barbara Cervenka, O.P., Curators.

**Summer Opening Reception**
Artists, curators and museum patrons mingled at the opening reception. This event was free and open to the public.

**Art Cart Panel Discussions**
Moderated by art and health faculty teaching in the ART CART: SAVING THE LEGACY program, these panels addressed questions about the turning points in participants’ careers, their development as artists, the socio-economic challenges of being an artist, the importance of documenting their artistic legacy, and how continuing their artistic practice relates to their overall health and well-being.

**Young Patron’s Reception**
Young professionals and AU Alumni were invited to a Brazilian themed reception in the AU Museum. Patrons enjoyed Brazilian food and drink, catered by The Grill from Ipanema, and art from the Northeast of Brazil in *Bandits & Heroes, Poets & Saints*, on view through August 14th. The event cost $10 per person and was free for museum members.

**Creative Story Time**
Children and their families were invited to explore Brazilian culture through the exhibition *Bandits & Heroes, Poets & Saints*. The afternoon included book readings and a create-your-own workshop based on the exhibition.

**Closing Reception**
The evening included Korean snacks, a discussion of contemporary North Korean art in the exhibition with Curator B.G. Muhn, followed by a tour of the concurrent exhibition of South Korean art. A talk on *Examining Life through Social Realities*, curated by GimChoe Eunyeong, was given by independent curator Hannah Joo.
EARLY FALL 2016

Members’ Preview
Director and Curator Jack Rasmussen invited members to a first look at the Early Fall Exhibitions, including a tour of Silos with curator Jeffreen Hayes, Ph.D.

Gallery Talk: Daughter of China, Resident Alien
Chinese-born American artist Hung Liu spoke about two timely themes reflected in her current body of work: refugees and heroines.

Early Fall Opening Reception
Artists, curators and museum patrons mingled at the opening reception. This event was free and open to the public.

Todas Las Manos at the Kay Spiritual Center
In conjunction with the Todas Las Manos installation, this cultural forum celebrated the enduring practices in art, music, and poetry that emerged in Chile after the fall of General Augusto Pinochet, whose 17-year dictatorial regime lead to abuse, imprisonment, and execution of Chilean people.

Updraft America
Cokie Roberts, Rebecca Cooper, fellow media representatives, and members of the Bridge Alliance discussed bridging the political divide in order to move America forward. Guests were invited to create their own paper airplanes! Free and open to all.

Fotograf / Photographer
Directed by Irena Pavlásková, Fotograf is a film freely inspired by the life and work of Jan Saudek, who is arguably the most internationally recognized Czech photographer. This vivid portrayal of one of the Czech Republic’s most renowned artist is "one of the best mainstream Czech movies in years". Free and open to the public. This film was presented in conjunction with the Embassy of the Czech Republic.

Director Level Members Event: Artist’s Studio Tour
Director Jack Rasmussen invited Director's Level Members to a tour of artist Julie Wolfe’s studio in anticipation of her solo-exhibition in January 2017.

Artist’s Talk
Curator Jeffreen Hayes and artist Duron Jackson discussed the conception of Duron’s powerful site-specific installation featured in Silos.

LATE FALL 2016

Gallery Talk with Martha Wilson
The AU Studio Art Program presented Martha Wilson in conversation with Tim Doud, Associate Professor at AU, and Victoria Reis of Transformer. Martha Wilson is a pioneering feminist artist and the Founder and Director of Franklin Furnace, a New York based non-profit arts organization. This event was free and open to the public.

Members’ Preview
Museum members were invited to take a first look at the Late Fall Exhibitions. The evening featured a conversation with Carol Brown Goldberg on her new mural.
Gallery Talk with Squeak Carnwath
Squeak Carnwath explored monoprinting, etching, aquatint, and numerous other techniques that allow her to build layers of color and imagery. Patrons learned about her journey through media as she toured selected works from 30 years of artmaking.

A Conversation with Derek Guthrie

Late Fall Opening Reception
Artists, curators, and fellow museum patrons mingled at the opening reception. Free and open to the public.

James Renwick Alliance Distinguished Artist Lectures
The museum was pleased to host the James Renwick Alliance Distinguished Artist lectures. The series highlighted "local treasures," artists who contributed to the richness of DC’s artistic environment. The November lecture featured sculptor Barton Rubenstein. This event was free and open to the public.

Gallery Talk: Just(ified) Vandalism
Curator Aneta Georgievksa-Shine explained how the Macedonian government’s “urban renewal” project provoked a citizen revolt, the “Colorful Revolution,” and the photography that captured this justified vandalism.
An Evening with Alex Katz
An intimate evening with Alex Katz, where he discussed his rationale for stripping color from his prints in this rare Black and White exhibition.

Peltier Statue Unveiling
Visitors gathered outside of the American University Museum for the unveiling of artist Rigo 23’s sculpture created in honor of Native American activist Leonard Peltier. With this larger-than-life sculpture carved from redwood and mixed materials, Rigo called for the pardon of Peltier, a man that has spent over 40 years in prison for a crime that many believe was unsubstantiated. The dedication event was part of the Human Rights Week sponsored by the International Leonard Peltier Defense Committee.

Gallery Talk with Sylvia Snowden
Artist Sylvia Snowden explained the impasto technique behind her large-scale mixed media paintings in *The Feel of Paint.*

Brunch in the Museum
Katzen Circle Level Members and above and Museum volunteers were invited to a Winter brunch with Director and Curator Jack Rasmussen.

WINTER 2017

Members’ Preview
Director and Curator Jack Rasmussen invited members to preview the Winter exhibitions, featuring a discussion with George Hemphill and Ramon Osuna on the early Color Field paintings of Howard Mehring.

Gallery Talk with Julie Wolfe
Curator Claire D’Alba and artist Julie Wolfe discussed her paintings and drawings in the exhibition *Quest for a Third Paradise.*

Winter Opening Reception
Artists, curators, and museum patrons mingled at the opening reception. This event was free and open to the public.

Gallery Talk with Mike Shaffer
Artist Mike Shaffer spoke with curator Bobby Donovan about his series of grid-patterns and perpendicular stacking techniques from the 1970s to the present.

New Century Music Club: Music, Art, and Conversation
A live performance and conversation about American expression by award-winning pianist and composer Jerzy Sapieyevski, historian Marc Medwin, and specially selected singers to celebrate the veteran politician/performer and Washington’s notable chanteur - Hon. James Symington and his wife Sylvia. This event was ticketed at $25 per person.

Artist Talk with Sam Moyer
Featured in *New Ruins,* Sam Moyer discussed how she fuses painting, sculpture, and photography in her work. This event was free and open to the public.
Gallery Talk: New Ruins
Curators Danielle Mysliwiec and Natalie Campbell gave a tour of New Ruins and discussed how each artist has expanded the language of painting.

Member’s Party
Member’s party that featured classical “Rock” music performed by The Artifacts: CAS Dean Peter Starr, Museum Director Jack Rasmussen, VP of Development and Alumni Relations Courtney Surls, student Jarrett Murray and guest performers.

Meditation with Dianne Beal
Patrons spent an hour relaxing the mind, deepening the spirit, and strengthening the breath with a hatha yoga OM meditation practice. This introduction to basic meditation techniques took place in the 3rd floor galleries of the museum surrounded by Julie Wolfe’s color wheel circle of books installation. Led by Dianne Beal, a certified Sivananda yoga teacher, curator and owner of Galerie Blue Square. Free and open to the public.

SPRING 2017

Members’ Preview
Director and Curator Jack Rasmussen invited members to preview the Spring exhibitions, featuring a discussion and book signing with Carlos Luna on his exhibition, Green Machine.

Gallery Talk with Tammra Sigler and Sharon Wolpoff
Tammra Sigler and Sharon Wolpoff discussed the friendship behind their exhibition Geometry and Other Myths.

Spring Opening Reception
Artists, curators, and museum patrons mingled at the opening reception. Free and open to the public.

Gallery Talk and Reception with Frida Larios
Hosted by the Embassy of El Salvador, the evening included remarks by Ambassador Claudia Ivette Canjura de Centeno, a discussion with the artist, and a reception with tastes of Central America.

Gallery Talk Elzbieta Sikoska
Artist Elzbieta Sikoska and curator Aneta Georgievksa-Shine discussed the multimedia drawings in Time Stands Still.

Jazz: Concert and Conversation
The evening of jazz began with a panel discussion at 6 pm (doors at 5:30) moderated by Joshua Bayer, AU Jazz Orchestra. Afterwards, guests enjoyed a reception before the Annual Jazz Orchestra Spring Concert in the Abramson Family Recital Hall. Tickets were sold for $5.
Distinguished Artist’s Lecture with Foon Sham
In conjunction with the James Renwick Alliance
Distinguished Lecture series on “local treasures,” artist
Foon Sham discussed his large-scale installation Escape.
Free and open to the public. Associate Level Members were
invited to register for the exclusive workshop that
accompanies the lecture.

Artist Foon Sham with the First Lady of Maryland Yumi Hogan
CONCERTS

MUSIC IN THE MUSEUM, the Museum’s concert series with Ensemble-in-Residence INTERFERENCE/intermedia new music collective, returned for its second season with three ambulatory concerts in the gallery. Patrons were treated to a beautiful rendition of “Different Trains” in celebration of Steve Reich’s 80th birthday, William Brent’s interpretation of “Variations II” by John Cage, and the improvised percussion of Tom Teasley to name a few of the delights of this season.

The museum also partnered with the Department of Performing Arts to present its first cabaret! The evening featured live performance and conversation about American expression by Jerzy Sapieyevski and Marc Medwin, and select faculty and student singers.

And finally, "The Artifacts" featuring CAS Dean Peter Starr, Museum Director Jack Rasmussen, VP of Development and Alumni Relations Courtney Surls, and student Jarrett Murray rocked the museum with a special late-night concert for our members.
ALPER INITIATIVE FOR WASHINGTON ART

Alper Initiative for Washington Art Exhibitions

The Looking Glass: Artist Immigrants of Washington
June 18 through August 14, 2016

The Alper Initiative for Washington Art celebrated ten artists who left Latin America for many different reasons over the last sixty years—primarily for safety, freedom, and opportunity—and made their homes, and their artistic careers and contributions, in the Washington region. They included Joan Belmar and Juan Downey from Chile, Carolina Mayorga from Colombia, Ric Garcia, F. Lennox Campello, and Jose Ygnacio Bermudez from Cuba, Muriel Hasbun from El Salvador, Frida Larios from El Salvador/Honduras, Irene Clouthier from Mexico, and Naúl Ojeda from Uruguay. Each of these artists brought with them artistic traditions that took root and bore fruit here in the United States.

September 6 through October 23, 2016

In the Alper Initiative space, Washington artists responded to the graphics of Black Panther artist Emory Douglas with sculpture, paintings, photography, and multi-media installations. The exhibition featured Emory Douglas and Howard University colleagues and members of the African Commune of Bad Relevant Artists (“AFRICOBRA”): Jeff Donaldson, Akili Ron Anderson, James Phillips, Jae Jarrell and Wadsworth Jarrell. Collectively, they created a powerful lens to the socio-political landscape of the late 1960s and 70s and sought to visualize the 1967 Black Panther Party 10-point platform addressing issues of freedom, employment, economic exploitation, affordable housing, education, war, police brutality, prison, due process, and access. The exhibition also included artists examining these same issues 50 years later within a contemporary context, including: Holly Bass, Wesley Clark, Jay Coleman, Larry Cook, Tim Davis, Jamea Richmond Edwards, Shaunte Gates, Jennifer Gray, Amber Robles Gordon,

**Melissa Ichiuji: Make You Love Me**  
*November 12 through December 18, 2016*

In the first solo exhibition in the Alper Space, Melissa Ichiuji used dolls to remind us of the first objects that comforted us in childhood and as methods of expressing her personal and spiritual journey. The doll, with its suggestive and "rudimentary" shape, gives free reign to everyone's imagination. For Melissa Ichiuji, it helped to renew the creative energies within the family space. Anthropomorphism is at the heart of this experience, given the ability of man to project himself onto the world around him by attributing to human traits and emotions to objects. "The method of identification based on similar features to those of humans, is part of a logic of personification."

**Joe Cameron: Touching Air**  
*January 28 through March 12, 2017*

To talk about Joe Cameron's art is to talk about several arts. Few photographers have ever been more interested in drawing and design, or more steeped in imagery whose analogues are poetic, musical and phenomenological. Despite the continuity and traditionalism of his professional life as a long-time Washington, DC resident and teacher at the Corcoran College of Art + Design, Cameron has ultimately found himself in a milieu whose boundaries were perhaps more than ordinarily porous in relation to "purity" of any medium. He has found a way to use the camera in service to a visual quest that balances the subjective and the objective in a singular balancing act.

**Summerford Legacy**  
*April 1 through May 28, 2017*

Ben L. Summerford (1924-2015) taught at American University's Department of Art from 1951-1987. All of the artists in Summerford Legacy studied under Professor Summerford and took different aspects of his teaching to heart. Some stayed close to their artistic roots in AU's Department of Arts, and some used those roots to support far-flung but personal explorations. All of the artists exhibit the artistic integrity embodied by their teacher, and approach their art as an act of discovery. The artists featured in Summerford Legacy were: Walt Bartman, Ruth Bolduan, Delna Dastur, Willem de Looper, Ron Haynie, Luis Hernandez Cruz, Helene Herzbrun, Frank Hobbs, David Holt, Lani Irwin, Martin Kotler, Rosie Moore, Jaime Romano Roman, and Sharon Wolpoff.

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**Publications**

Twisted Teenage Plot  

The Looking Glass: Artist Immigrants to Washington  

The Alper Initiative for Washington Art Book Collection

In addition to Alper exhibition catalogues, the Alper Initiative for Washington Art Book Collection offers books on the art history of Washington and the local artists that played a role in that history, as well as those making history today. The book collection is available in the Alper study space located in the AU museum. All are welcome to peruse the books over a cup of coffee or tea during normal museum hours: Tuesday through Sunday, 11:00am-4:00pm.

To review the books available prior to visiting, patrons may reference the book collection Pinterest page or search the AU Library Alper Book Collection Catalog. Furthermore, anyone interested in contributing to the collection may submit a donation proposal through the book donation form on the Alper webpage.

Programming

Alper Salon Series

FREE PARKING is a series of salon-style, early evening conversations in the Alper Initiative for Washington Art space. The format of these events ensures an intimate evening of lively discussion. The salon is open to anyone interested in discussing the art and artists of the Washington Metropolitan area.

FREE PARKING: Twisted Teenage Plot was held on May 5, 2016 and featured a conversation with Bill Warrell and Michael Olshonsky, reviewing the life and art of musicians in the 70s and 80s DC Punk and New Wave music scenes.

FREE PARKING: The Looking Glass was held on July 14, 2016 and featured the powerful stories of artists from Chile, Colombia, Cuba, El Salvador, Honduras, Mexico and Uruguay, who departed from Latin America for reasons of safety, freedom and opportunity and built their careers in the Washington DMV area.

FREE PARKING: Make You Love Me was held on November 19, 2016 and featured a conversation with DC-area sculptor, Melissa Ichiuji whose doll-like figures excavate and elevate the female experience.
FREE PARKING: *Touching Air* was held on February 23, 2017 and featured a conversation between curator Jane Livingston and artist Joe Cameron on the poetic compositions in his black and white photographs.

FREE PARKING: *Summerford Legacy* was held on April 27, 2017 and featured a conversation with former students of Ben L. Summerford.

**Alper Panels**

Panel Discussion on Kevin MacDonald & Art Rock!
May 21, 2016
This two-part event featured a panel discussion on critically acclaimed Washington artist Kevin MacDonald, followed by a live-jam session with special guests from D.C. art rock bands Twisted Teenage Plot, The Slickee Boys, Urban Verbs, and Danger Painters.

The Art of the Black Panthers & AfriCOBRA
October 8, 2016
This discussion involved artists and scholars of the Black Arts Movement in the 1960s and 70s considering activist art in relation to the aesthetic strategies of the Black Panther Party and AfriCOBRA, along with local perspectives from the Black Arts Movement.

![Artist Emory Douglas shows posters he created for the Black Panthers](image)

Riffing on the Legacy of the Black Arts Movement
October 15, 2016
A dialogue, featuring members of the Delusions of Grandeur Artists Collective and Sheldon Scott, which sought to establish an understanding of how the Black Arts Movement influenced their work.

**Other Events**

Twisted Teenage Plot Gallery Talk
April 2, 2016
This dialogue featured artists in the *Twisted Teenage Plot* exhibition discussing their identities as both visual artists and musicians in Washington’s underground art scene during the late 70s and early 80s.
“All Power to all the People!”: An Artist’s Talk with Emory Douglas
September 26, 2016
Emory Douglas, former Minister of Culture and artist for the Black Panther Party, discussed his fifty plus years of experience producing revolutionary art, along with his activist work in the United States, and its relevance to the work being produced by contemporary artists.

Film Screening: The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution
September 29, 2016
In conjunction with It Takes a Nation, the Alper Initiative hosted a film screening of The Black Panthers: Vanguard of the Revolution.

Sheldon Scott Performance Installation
September 6 - October 23, 2016
Sheldon Scott activated his installation Confession-Penance and the Mortal Sin of Race in America several times throughout the exhibition, inviting visitors to step into his “confessional” and recount their sins of racism to him.

Guise and Dolls: Melissa Ichiuji’s Doll-Making Workshop
December 3, 2016
Dolls have long functioned as playthings, magical dream keepers, and spiritual intermediaries. Participants joined Melissa Ichiuji for a two-day doll-making workshop inspired by her exhibition Make You Love Me, on view in the Alper Initiative through December 18. Workshop participants drew inspiration from personal history, memories, and desires, and learned basic techniques for building armatures from found objects to create a unique art doll. The cost was $185 per person. All materials and lunch were provided for the two-day workshop, located in the Alper Initiative space.

Alper in the News


Fellowships, Internships, Student Employment & Exchanges

FELLOWSHIPS

Zhen Liu
Second Year, M.A. Arts Management
Museum Visitor Services: Campus and community outreach and museum shop retail assistance

Jerrell Jenkins
First Year, M.A. Arts Management
Museum Volunteer Program: coordination of museum tours, oversight and development of volunteer newsletter

Victoria Proctor
First Year, M.A. Art History
Alper Initiative: communication to Alper artists, loan agreement organization, documentation of Washington Art Book Collection and creation of online presence for collection

INTERNSHIPS

Henry Duong
Senior, School of Communications
Museum Marketing: social media strategy and execution and community outreach

Lexie Tyson
Senior, School of Communications
Museum Marketing: graphic design

Sarah Hines
Second Year, M.A. Art History
Office of the Assistant Director: development of volunteer educational materials and docent guides, content generation for Director & Curator’s blog, gallery attendant scheduling and communication

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Each semester, the museum employs 15-20 student gallery attendants, 3-4 Registrar and Preparator assistants, and 3-5 museum shop attendants.
Volunteer Education Program 2016 – 2017
The education program for the volunteers consists of activities designed to increase knowledge of contemporary art and to strengthen the role of the volunteer at the Museum. These activities include exhibition tours with Director & Curator, Jack Rasmussen, as well as a series of lectures on contemporary art, and educational field trips to galleries, museums, and historic sites. The speakers for the lectures are experts in their field and come from various museums and universities, including AU.

Below is the schedule of meetings and field trips.
Volunteer Education Events

May 11th  Trip to the Art Museum of the Americas
May 16th  Tour of the American University Arboretum
June 6th  Tour of Crowell Moring
June 15th  Exhibition Training
September 12th  Exhibition training with Jack Rasmussen
September 19th  Lecture by Naomi Daremblum on Latin American Art
October 10th  New Volunteer Orientation
October 11th  Tour of Jacob Lawrence works at Phillips Collection
October 24th  Visit to Freer Sackler to see Walter McConnell's Chinamania
November 7th  Lecture by Professor Ying-Chen Peng on Contemporary Asian Art
November 14th  Exhibition Training with Jack
December 5th  Volunteer show and tell
January 30th  Exhibition training with Jack
February 13th  Feedback meeting to review at the program’s last year
February 27th  Lecture from Aneta Georgiewska-Shine on Freelance Curating
March 13th  Lecture on the Future of Museums by Sage Morgan-Hubbard of the American Alliance of Museums
March 27th  Brown Bag Lunch with Jack & Lecture on Chinese ceramics by Arts Management Fellow, Zhen Liu
April 3rd  Exhibition training with Jack
April 6th  New Volunteer Orientation
April 24th  Tour of Frank Lloyd Wright’s Pope-Leighey House
AU Museum Volunteers

Natalie Abrams  
Harriet Belkin  
Heidi Bishop  
Holly Bolter  
Andrea Boyarsky-Maisel  
Natalie Brenner  
Shelley Brodecki  
Florence Brodkey  
Vivian Brodsky  
Joanne Chong  
Susan Cole  
Aileen Cooper  
Yacsire Cutler  
Joan de Pontet  
Jerry Fink  
Jo Anne Fink  
Susan Fink  
Beverly Flowers  
Tina Heller  
Judy Gann  
Judith Goozh  
Debbie Grant  
Donna Grell  
Jay Guerber  
Marilyn Hardis  
Laura Hicken  
Lorrie Kaitz  
Terry Kelly  
Ellen King  
Marie Kissick  
Kathleen Koehler  
Kathleen Madigan  
Roxana Martin  
Rona Mendelsohn  
Andrea Mones  
Marilyn Paul  
Joff Pincher  
Hope Phillips  
Carla Portocarrero  
Sandy Pritzker  
Nancy Raskin  
Gerry Robin  
Zita Rudolph  
Myrna Seidman  
Sharon Simon  
Mary Jo Smith  
Nena Thayer  
Hope Zoss  
Sandy Zuckerman
Volunteer Run Programs

Kids@Katzen
Our Family Day Kids@Katzen program offers children from ages 5-12 and their parents a unique opportunity to engage with current exhibitions and each create their own works of art in a hands-on experience.

Sunday, June 26, 2016
This program focused on the exhibition, Bandits and Heroes, Poets and Saints. Children created musical instruments and masks based on the folk-history of Brazil presented in the exhibition.

Sunday, September 18, 2016
In conjunction with Hung Liu: Daughter of China, Resident Alien, children imagined they were immigrating to a new place and created collages of what they would take with them.

Sunday, November 11, 2016
Based on Alex Katz: Black and White Project, children explored “drawing” with paper cut-outs in black and white.

Sunday, February 5, 2017
In this program, children created artwork based on Julie Wolfe: Quest for A Third Paradise, creating drawings on found book pages.

Sunday, April 9, 2017
Children told their own stories through symbols, based on the pictoglyphs featured in Frida Larios’s exhibition Maya Alphabet of Modern Times.

Culture@Katzen
The museum launched a new program, Culture@Katzen, designed for our elderly patrons that are home in the afternoon. Each event features a discussion on select works followed by a unique interdisciplinary performance or activity.

Tuesday, August 2, 2016
Participants enjoyed a tour of Bandits & Heroes, Poets & Saints, followed by a screening of a documentary on the history of slavery in Brazil.

Tuesday, November 29, 2016
The program featured a tour of Squeak Carnwath: Crazy Papers and Sister Objects, followed by a workshop on notebooking by Volunteer Joff Pincher.
Tuesday, February 28, 2017
Attendees participated in a tour of *Julie Wolfe: Quest for a Third Paradise* followed by several interactive activities based on the theme of the exhibition.

**Tours**
Volunteer docents provided tours of the museum's current exhibitions each Friday. They also gave 30 tours upon request for classes, community groups, and tourists.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5/5/16</td>
<td>National Presbyterian School</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/25/16</td>
<td>Arts for the Aging</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/12/16</td>
<td>Kreeger Museum Docents</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/22/16</td>
<td>Higher Achievement Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/13/16</td>
<td>Prof. Friedman’s History Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/19/16</td>
<td>Language &amp; Culture Class</td>
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<td>9/20/16</td>
<td>Prof. Watkins’ Anthropology Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/20/16</td>
<td>Prof. Watkins’ Anthropology Class</td>
<td>40</td>
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<td>9/26/16</td>
<td>Bread for the City</td>
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<td>9/27/16</td>
<td>Bowie State University</td>
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<td>10/4/16</td>
<td>NMWA Volunteers</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/4/16</td>
<td>Capital City Public Charter School</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/6/16</td>
<td>Dr. Peng’s Art History Class</td>
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<td>10/7/16</td>
<td>Dr. Williams’ Theatre Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/11/16</td>
<td>Sidwell Friends School</td>
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<td>10/13/16</td>
<td>Dr. Bader’s Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/13/16</td>
<td>Dr. Cherry’s Anthropology Class</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/14/16</td>
<td>Wheatley Middle School</td>
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<td>10/17/16</td>
<td>Georgetown Day School</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/17/16</td>
<td>Prof. Foreman-Murray’s Dance Class</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/19/16</td>
<td>Prof. Vilanova’s Spanish Class</td>
<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/20/16</td>
<td>Middleburg College</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/20/16</td>
<td>Prof. Kerr’s History Class</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/20/16</td>
<td>Prof. Dondero’s Sociology Class</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/7/16</td>
<td>Nancy Snider’s Class</td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/9/17</td>
<td>Sidwell Friends School</td>
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<td>3/8/17</td>
<td>General Education Class Tour</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/3/17</td>
<td>Dr. Mitchell’s Spanish Class</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/6/17</td>
<td>Prof. Marin &amp; Ruzza’s Spanish class</td>
<td>30</td>
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Publications

This year, the museum published 8 catalogs, 9 brochures, and collaborated on 1 catalog. We also produced five seasonal programs, each mailed to over 6,000 museum patrons.

Catalogs:

Summer 2016
The Looking Glass: Artist Immigrants to Washington (Alper Initiative for Washington Art)
40 pages. ISBN: 978-0-9964172-7-3

Collaborated on Art Cart: Honoring the Legacy
44 pages

Early Fall 2016
It Takes a Nation: Art for Social Justice (Alper Initiative for Washington Art)
44 pages. ISBN: 978-0-9964172-9-7

Hung Liu: Daughter of China, Resident Alien
86 pages. ISBN: 978-0-9964172-8-0

Late Fall 2016
Melissa Ichiuji: Make You Love Me (Alper Initiative for Washington Art)
64 pages. ISBN: 978-0-9982944-0-7

Winter 2017
Joe Cameron: Touching Air (Alper Initiative for Washington Art)
62 pages. ISBN: 978-0-9982944-1-4

Mehring / Wellspring: The Early Color Field Paintings of Howard Mehring

Spring 2017
Sharon Wolpoff & Tammra Sigler: Geometry and Other Myths
18 pages.

Summerford Legacy (Alper Initiative for Washington Art)
44 pages. ISBN: 978-0-9982944-2-1
Brochures:

Summer 2016
  South Korean Art: Examining Life through Social Realities
  Tri-fold brochure

Early Fall 2016
  Silos
  Tri-fold brochure

Late Fall 2016
  Sylvia Snowden: The Feel of Paint
  8-page brochure

  Martha Wilson & Franklin Furnace
  Tri-fold brochure

Winter 2017
  New Ruins
  Tri-fold brochure

    Julie Wolfe: Quest for a Third Paradise
    Tri-fold brochure

    Mike Shaffer: Towers & Monuments
    Tri-fold brochure

Spring 2017
  Elzbieta Sikorska: Time Stands Still
  Tri-fold brochure

    Carlos Luna: Green Machine
    Gate fold brochure
Art in the News


Irvine, Spencer. “American University in DC Promotes Statue to Grant Clemency for Cop Killer


Kostarelis, Stefan. “North Korea is home to nukes, silly haircuts and masterpiece artworks.” *Techly.* Aug. 29, 2016.


Padua, Pat. “40 Years After His Father Was Murdered, Francisco Letelier Honors His Memory With Art And Conversation.” DCist. Sep. 21, 2016.


Richardson, Bradford. “American University installs statue of convicted cop killer in plea for


Wecker, Menachem. “Exhibit charts Brazil’s untrodden historical and religious ground.” 


The Museum ONLINE

Social Media:

The Museum maintains active social media profiles on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. These platforms allow the museum to more immediately engage with museum patrons, exhibiting artists, and like-minded organizations while also promoting our exhibitions and events.

The past year has seen sustained growth on all three of our platforms, particularly Facebook where the greatest number of our followers are.

The Museum on Instagram:
By the Numbers:

@AUMuseum_Katzen on social media

Facebook:
    Average of 19 new followers per month
    2016 averaged 35 new followers
    June 2016: 2,711
    Goal for 2017: 3,000
    Status: Surpassed
    June 2017: 3,018 followers

Instagram:
    Average of 37 new followers a month
    2016 averaged 49 new followers per month
    June 2016: 763 followers
    Goal for 2017: 1,500 followers
    Status: On track
    June 2017: 1,219 followers

Twitter:
    Average 25 new followers per month
    2016 Average 27 new followers per month
    June 2016: 1,283 followers
    2017 goal: 1,500
    Status: On track to surpass
    June 2017: 1,468 followers

Alper Initiative for Washington Art

In January 2017, social media pages on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter were launched for the Alper Initiative. These accounts are distinctive yet related to the AU Museum’s style as dictated by a style guide developed with the intention of creating a unique voice and appearance for the Alper online. Posts aim to be informal yet professional with strong local feel, directly engaging with artists and organizations via social media.

By the Numbers:

@AlperInitiative on social media:

Followers as of June 2016:
    Instagram: 184
    Facebook: 363
    Twitter: 298
Followers as of June 2017:
  Instagram: 296
  Facebook: 489
  Twitter: 371

Goals for June 2018:
  Instagram: 1,000
  Facebook: 1,000
  Twitter: 500

Concentrated Development and Advertising Sampling on Facebook:
In the past year, we have made an effort to live-stream gallery talks via Facebook Live since our greatest audience is on Facebook and given the ease of use and popularity of the streaming technology. While these videos do not receive many live viewers, the record of the video serves as a documentation and educational tool for our volunteer docents. On average, these videos are viewed 323 times.

Last February, the Alper Initiative Facebook page ran the first paid ad in an effort to raise awareness and increase submissions for a submission-based exhibition. The budget of $10 lead to 85 clicks to submit as compared to the unpaid version of the same post that earned 6 clicks.

Boosted Post:

![Alper Initiative for Washington Art](Image)

DC area artists: Be a part of Alper Initiative's group exhibition this summer! Submission deadline is March 1.

Summer 2017 Group Exhibition - Call for Artists!
The Alper will present a group show curated by Megan Rosk-Korbet featuring artists that have submitted their work to the Initiative’s online database.

American: edu

Content: Link
Ran for 6 days (Tuesday Feb 14 – Sunday Feb 19)

Budget: $10
Clicks: 85 Shares: 4 Likes: 22
Reach: 1995 (Organic: 885, Paid: 1110)
Audience Demo: 80.6% women, 19.4% men
Email Marketing:

In June 2016, the Museum switched their email marketing software from MyEmma to MailChimp with the following motivations in mind:

- Option to create and manage our own lists separate from the AU Department of Art (previously they were combined)
- Ability to embed sign-up for our multiple email lists directly onto the AU website (general, Alper, Kids@Katzen programming).
- Distinctive and automated lists for General Public, Membership, Alper Initiative, and Kids@Katzen that require less manual entry than our last service.
- Two-step confirmation for new subscribers that ensures newsletter does not get caught in spam filter
- Easy to use software allows for less time to design emails, allows for more sophisticated targeting of member’s content vs. general content to enhance member benefits

Subscriber Growth & Data under MailChimp:

Alper Initiative for Washington Art:
June 2016: 286  
June 2017: 467  
Average Open rate: 48%  
(Industry Average open rate for “Arts and Artists” 27.23%)

Museum (General Patrons):
June 2016: 2,666  
June 2017: 2,702  
Average Open rate: 25.4%

Museum Members (all levels):
June 2016: 274  
June 2017: 285  
Average Open rate: 48.2%
Katzen Museum Store

The Katzen Museum Store offers a selection of books including the American University Museum’s exhibition catalogues, arts and crafts, and a variety of merchandise, much of which is derived from the museum’s collection and special exhibitions. All items are carefully chosen for their educational and aesthetic quality, in keeping with the museum’s mission of enhancing visitor appreciation of the visual arts, both locally and internationally.

Best Sellers
Merchandise
Diwali Modern Resin Jewelry: 240
Divine Specialty Fair Trade Chocolate Bars: 216
Good Paper Fair Trade Handmade Cards from the Philippines: 111
Locally Made Silver and Gold Earrings by Amy Marx: 56

Catalogues
It Takes a Nation Alper Exhibition Catalog: 157
Contemporary North Korean Art Exhibition Catalog: 152
Kevin Macdonald Exhibition Catalog: 81
Joe Cameron Alper Exhibition Catalog: 55

Store Sales Associates
Hannah Fitch, M.A. Art History
Sierra Apaliski, B.A. History and Anthropology
Isabella Echeverry, B.S Finance
Maisha Maliha Hoque, B.A. International Studies and Environmental Science
Diane Roznowski, B.A. Interdisciplinary Studies

New Additions to our Vendors:
Jay Burch: Kensington, MD
Alice Gadzinski: Baltimore, MD (http://www.alicegadzinski.com/)
Melissa Ichiuji: Front Royal, VA (https://www.melissaichiuji.com/)
Carlos Luna: Miami, FL (http://www.carlosluna.com/)
Mike Shaffer: Ijamsville, MD (http://mikeshaffer.net/)
Foon Sham: Springfield, VA (http://www.foonsham.com/)
Tammra Sigler: Naples, FL (http://www.tammrasigler.com/)
Martha Wilson: Brooklyn, NY (http://www.marthawilson.com/)
Julie Wolfe: Washington, DC (http://thestudiovisit.com/julie-wolfe/)
Membership & Contributions

We are pleased to report that the museum currently has 369 members. Since the launch of the revamped membership program in 2014, membership and revenue from the program have more than doubled.

Membership

Curator’s Circle
Ms. Carolyn Alper
Mr. Henry Goldberg and Mrs. Carol Brown
Goldberg
Ms. Stephanie Bennett-Smith
Ms. Micheline Klagsbrun & Mrs. Ken Grossinger
Ms. Carla D’Arista
Peter D’Arista
Raymond Garcia & Fruzsina Harsanyi

Mr. & Mrs. Ben Huberman
James Renwick Alliance
Carleen Keating
Ms. Jane Lang
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Mahon
The Alper Family Foundation
The Dr. Cyrus Katzen Foundation
Ms. Sharon Wolpoff

Artist’s Circle
Laurie & David Adamson
Mr. Paul Feinberg & Mrs. Wendelin White
Gary Snyder Fine Art
Ms. Gretchen Toles

Katzen Circle
Addison/Ripley Fine Arts
Mr. & Mrs. Marc Brodsky*
Ms. Frauke DeLooper
Ms. Elisabeth French
Ms. Susan J. Goldman & Jeffrey Owens
Madeleine Keessing
Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Levine
Mrs. Rona Mendelsohn*
Mr. & Mrs. Mihael Polymeropoulos
Mrs. Marjorie B. Rachlin
Mr. Anil Revri & Mrs. Nuzhat Sultan Khan
The Edelman Foundation

Director Level
Wilfred Brunner & Joyce Jewell
Jacqueline Cirillo-Meisenberg & Richard Meisenberg
Mr. Donald Goldberg & Mrs. Tracy de la Mater
Goldberg
Thora Colot
Community Foundation for the National Capital Region
Ms. Alice Denney
Ms. Andrea Evers
Ms. Michele Forzley
Ms. Julia Graham Lear
Ms. Francis Hester
Mr. Joseph P. Holbach Jr.
Linda Kaplan
Mr. Arthur B. Kennickell
Ms. Barbara Kerne
Ms. Cookie Kerxton
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Kissick*
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Levinas
Sara Nieves-Grafals & Albert Getz
Mr. Peter Starr & Mrs. Alice Hill

Associate Level
Ms. Judy Aaronson & Mr. David Aaronson
Ms. Sondra Arkin
Douglas Arnold
Ms. Ellen K. Baker
Mr. Philip Barlow & Mrs. Lisa Gilotty
Ms. Liz Barratt Brown and Mr. Bos Dewey
Ms. Ellen Berlow
Mrs. Andrea Boyarsky-Maisel*
Ms. Adah Rose Bitterbaum
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Boren
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Brodecki*
Dr. Morris J. Chalick
Mr. & Mrs. James Cole*
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Connors
Teresa Covacevich Grana
Mr. & Mrs. Kersy Dastur
Ms. Linda E. Doman
Kristin Eastlick
Ms. Sara Nieves-Grafals & Mr. Albert Getz
Ms. Dorothy Fall
Robert Fitzgerald
Ms. Margaret Flaherty & Mr. Scott Hempling
Ms. Beverly Flowers*

Family
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Brodkey*  Mr & Mrs. Nancy Mandel
Mr. & Mrs. Alex Brodsky  Mr. & Mrs. James Mateyka
Mr. Philip Brown & Mrs. Barbara Wolanin  Ms. Sophia McCrocklin & Mr. Bill Isaacson
Judy Byron & Richard Reinhard  Mr. Robert & Mrs. Rhonda Metcalfe
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Dana  Mr. Kent Morrison & Mrs. Dale Clayton-Morrison
Ms. Joan Danziger  Ms. Joyce Muis-Lowry
Ms. Marie Duellman  Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Myer
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Fink*  Mr. & Mrs. Richard Myers
Mr. & Mrs. James Fitzpatrick  National Society of Arts & Letters
Mr. & Mrs. Herb Franklin  Mr. & Mrs. John O'Connor
Ms. Susan Gallaher  Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Ojeda
Ms. Paula Goetz Schumann  Mr. Ray Ottenberg & Mrs. Margaret Johnson
Ms. Judith Goozh*  Dr. & Mrs. Paul D. Parkman
Jay Guerber & Sally Klusaritz*  Ms. Frances Pearce
Mr. & Mrs. Mel Hardy  Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm Pritzker*
Mr. Christopher Harris  Ms. Brigitte Reyes & Mr. Lawrence Mills Davis
Ms. Mira Hecht & Mr. Stephen Rosen  Dr. Leigh Riddick & Dr. Ted Jaditz
Ms. Nancy Garruba  Ms. Marie Ringwald
Ms. Beth Irving  Dr. and Mrs. Gerry Robin*
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Kelty  Mrs. April Shelford & Mr. Philip Katz
Jonathan Kempner & Lise Van Susteren  Josefa & Robert Scholz
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Klaiderman  William Singleton
Mr. & Mrs. Alan Klavans  Ms. Beverly Sklover
Mr. & Mrs. John Kokus  Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Smith*
Barbara & Robert Liotta  Samuel Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Luttwak  Courtney Surls & Mark Caylor
Ms. Mary H.D. Swift
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Symington
Ms. Bonita Tabakin & Mr. Art Latterner

Jane Tomlinson & Thomas Nerad
Mr. Jay Towensend & Mrs. Mary Welch Higgins
Ms. Lynda Tredway

Young Patron
Ms. Polson Kanneth

Mr. Jeffrey Bass

Individual

Ms. Natalie Abrams*
Ms. Francesca Adams
Mr. Theodore Adamstein
Ms. Janice Agricola
Ms. Kathe Albrecht
Ms. Harriet Babbitt
Ms. Sarah C. Bahl
Carol Barsha
Ms. Harriet Belkin*
Ms. Susan Bernhardt
Ms. Robin Berrington
Ms. Alyssa Best
Ms. Sandra Birdsong
Ms. Eva Blutiner
Ms. Herta Borniger
Ms. Frances Bourne
Ms. Leah Brady
Ms. Natalie Brenner*
Ms. Lisa Montag Brotman
Ms. Loredana Calin
Page Carr
Mr. Geoffrey Cavanagh
Ms. Gretchen Cheney
Ms. Sandra Collazo
Janis Colton
Ms. Aileen Cooper*
Ms. Marja Corden
Susan Coti
Caroline Croft
Ms. Yacsire Cutler*
Ms. Betsy A. Damos
Ms. Judith Daniel
Ms. Juliet Davis
Mr. Stephen Day
Ms. Kyra Detmer
Ms. Thelma Deutsch
Mr. Joze Diaz-Asper
Ms. Marta Dunetz
Ms. Raquel Reichmann Dunnig
Ms. Elizabeth Edmonds
Ms. Cheryl Edwards

Ms. Alan Fern
Christine Files
Ms. Sharon Fishel
Mr. Tyrell Flawn
Mr. Fred Folsom III
Ms. Cianne Fragione
Ms. Barbara Frank
J.L. Friedenberg
Ms. Jessica Furey
Ms. Judy Gann*
Ms. Dora Gebruers
Heath Gibson
Ms. Robin Glantz
Ms. Debbie Grant*
Ms. Linda Green
Ms. Donna Grell*
Ms. Judy Havemann
Ms. Deborah Hefferon
Ms. Carol Hill Lowe
Mr. Alan Huguley
Ms. Linda Jacobson
Ms. Renita Johnson
Ms. Kathryn Joseph
Ms. Lorrie Kaitz*
Frederic Kellogg
Mr. Edwin P. Kennedy Jr.
Ms. Kathleen Koehler*
Ms. Dominique Lallement
Mr. Mike Larson
Ms. Vivienne Lassman
Ms. Jeneva Lee
Ms. Carol Levison
Ms. Maria Leyva
Ms. Gloria Lisec
Ms. Kathleen Madigan*
Ms. Robin Mahler
Yolanda Mamone
Mr. Marcus Glenn
Ms. Roxana Martin*
Bonita Martino
Mr. Nicolas Mathieu
Frank McFadden
Ms. Kiki McGrath
Ms. Andrea Mones*
Ms. Christine Moran
Joann Moser
Mr. George Mueller
Ms. Vanessa B. Nii
Ms. Jennifer Noyon
Hamilton O'Dunne
Ms. Geraldine Ostrove
Ms. Terry Parmelee
Ms. Joanne Peck
Ms. Kate Perrin
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Ms. Hope Phillips*
Ms. Janet V. Platt
Ms. Carla Somoza Portocarrero*
Ms. Susan Rao
Ms. Nancy Raskin*
Ms. Amy Rispin
Ms. Sara Rix
Ms. Sharon Ross
Ms. Zita Rudolph*
Ms. Teresa Saavedra
Ms. Renee Sandell
Ms. Maria Sanz
Ms. Roberta Schneidman
Mr. Gerald Allen Schwinn
Ms. Helen Sebsow
Michelle R. Sender
Ms. Mary Sieber
Ms. Sharon Simon*
Mr. Gerald Stern
Ms. Marie-Elise Tanabe
Ms. Nena Thayer*
Ms. Patricia Tuohy
Ms. Susan Van Pool
Ms. Amy Vieth
Mr. Will Walker
Mr. Brandon Webster
Ms. Jo Weiss
Ms. Joyce E. Wellman
Marilyn Wong Glegsteen
Ms. Suzanne Ziska
Ms. Hope Zoss*
Ms. Sandy Zuckerman*

*Volunteer
Outdoor Sculpture Collection

We added two new sculptures to our outdoor sculpture collection this year. Tom Mullaney’s *Stacked Men* now stands between the Sculpture Garden and Nebraska Hall. Meanwhile, Carol Brown Goldberg’s *Dr. Mike*, overlooks Ward Circle. *Dr. Mike* is a bright tribute to the arts and sciences and their unexpected intersections.

Tom Mullany  
*Stack of Men, 1990*  
Poplar wood  
18 in x 18 in x 14 ft  
Gift of Jane Lang
Carol Brown Goldberg
*Dr. Mike*, 2016
Painted Aluminum
120 x 48 x 42 in.
Courtesy of the Artist