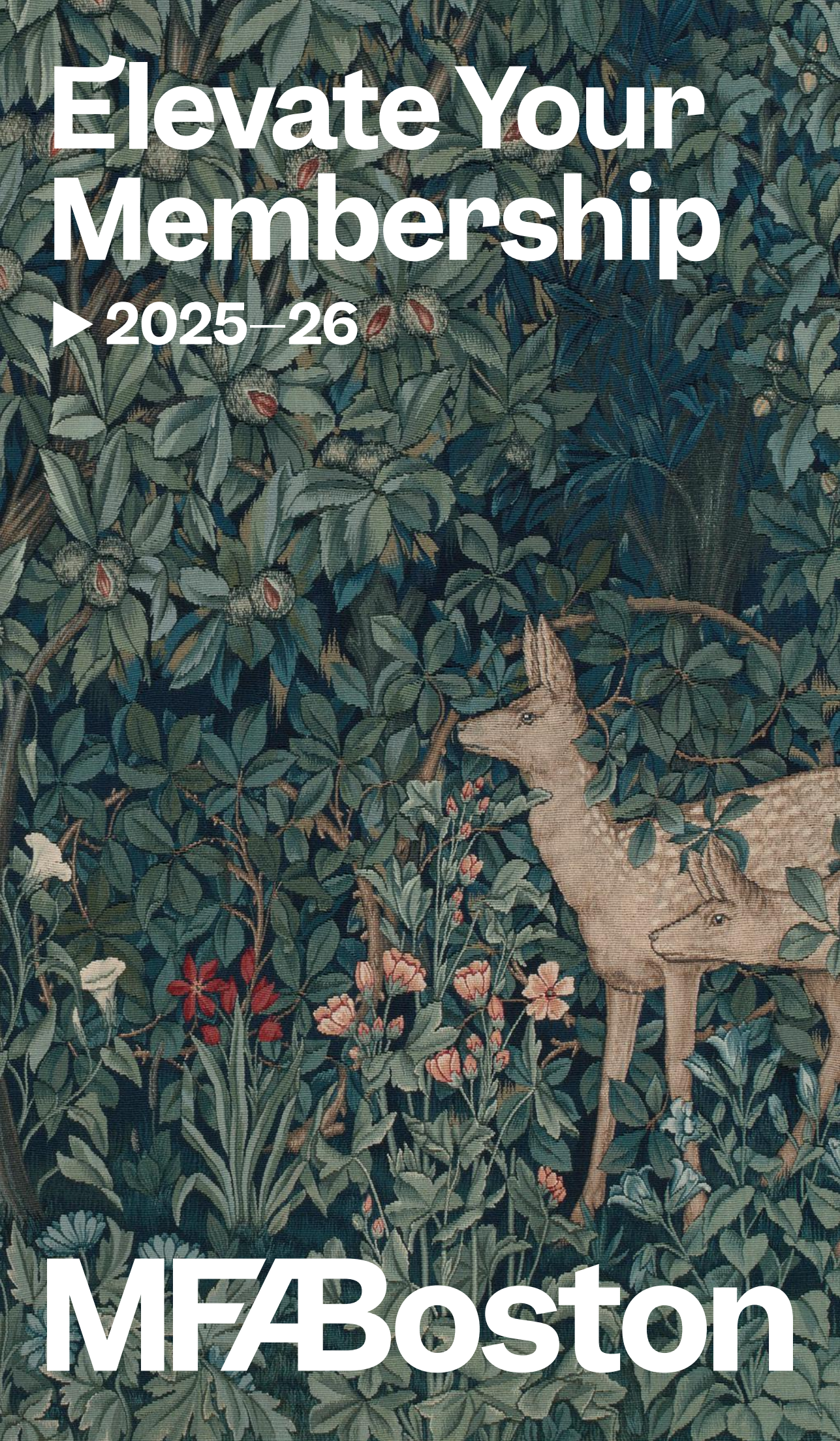
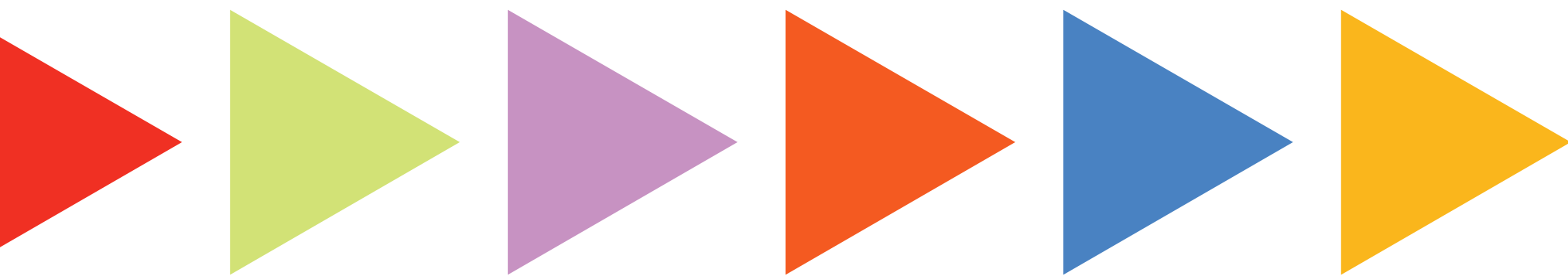




Elevate Your Membership

► 2025—26

MFA Boston



Museum Council Travel Advocate Patrons Curators Circles



Cultivating the next generation of art lovers

As the MFA's new Ann and Graham Gund Director, it is an honor and a great pleasure to share a rich array of programs developed for you, our most active supporters. We crafted this suite of events to recognize your commitment to the MFA and our mission, as well as to engage with ideas and one another.

In my time here, I have witnessed the passion that MFA members at all levels share for the Museum. Your interaction with art, curators, conservators, artists, and fellow art lovers makes our community stronger; it also fuels our ongoing work to bring people and art together and expand our reach by welcoming new generations of visitors.

Events are thoughtfully planned, from behind-the-scenes moments of discovery with curators and conservators, to stimulating talks with artists and makers, and opportunities to come together in appreciation for art.

There is much to look forward to this year: the MFA's Curators Circles—both in the range of programs and access to higher levels of membership—allow you to engage deeply with collection areas, travel with fellow supporters and curators, and gain insights into our exhibitions and galleries.

The season's upcoming exhibitions range from richly detailed floral paintings in "Rachel Ruysch: Artist, Naturalist, and Pioneer" to magisterial works by a contemporary sculptor in "Martin Puryear: Nexus." On November 3 we celebrate together the once-in-a-generation exhibition "Of Light and Air: Winslow Homer in Watercolor." In the spring the MFA explores all things botanical with "Framing Nature: Gardens and Imagination" and the 50th anniversary of Art in Bloom.

I hope you reach out to our dedicated Patron Program and Museum Council staff with any questions or for help planning a visit.

We welcome your participation in these programs and events. Not only do they provide opportunities to explore art in depth and celebrate together, they help sustain the MFA's day-to-day operation, which underpins everything we do. Your active involvement is more vital than ever as we navigate a changing world. It is perhaps in such circumstances that art's power to expand perspectives, stimulate dialogue, and move and inspire is most precious and essential.

Of one thing I am certain: in you the MFA has dedicated, steadfast supporters who strengthen our community. Thank you again for welcoming me so warmly to the MFA.

I look forward to spending a most exciting season together.

Pierre Terjanian
Ann and Graham Gund Director

► Exhibition and Gallery Highlights

Rachel Ruysch: Artist, Naturalist, and Pioneer

► Open through 12/7/25

This exhibition offers the first extensive solo display dedicated to Dutch artist Rachel Ruysch (1664–1750), who achieved fame across Europe in her lifetime for her rich, detailed still lifes of flowers, fruits, and insects. Organized with the Alte Pinakothek, Munich, and the Toledo Museum of Art, “Rachel Ruysch” brings together 35 works by the artist, as well as paintings by other female artists of the time.

Martin Puryear: Nexus

► 9/27/25–2/8/26

This fall’s “Martin Puryear: Nexus” is the most comprehensive presentation of the artist’s (b. 1941) practice to date, featuring iconic sculpture, including works not publicly shown in decades, as well as prints and drawings. Co-organized with the Cleveland Museum of Art, the exhibition explores the global histories that influenced Puryear’s practice, with a particular focus on Black history, material culture, and the natural world.

Faces in the Crowd: Street Photography

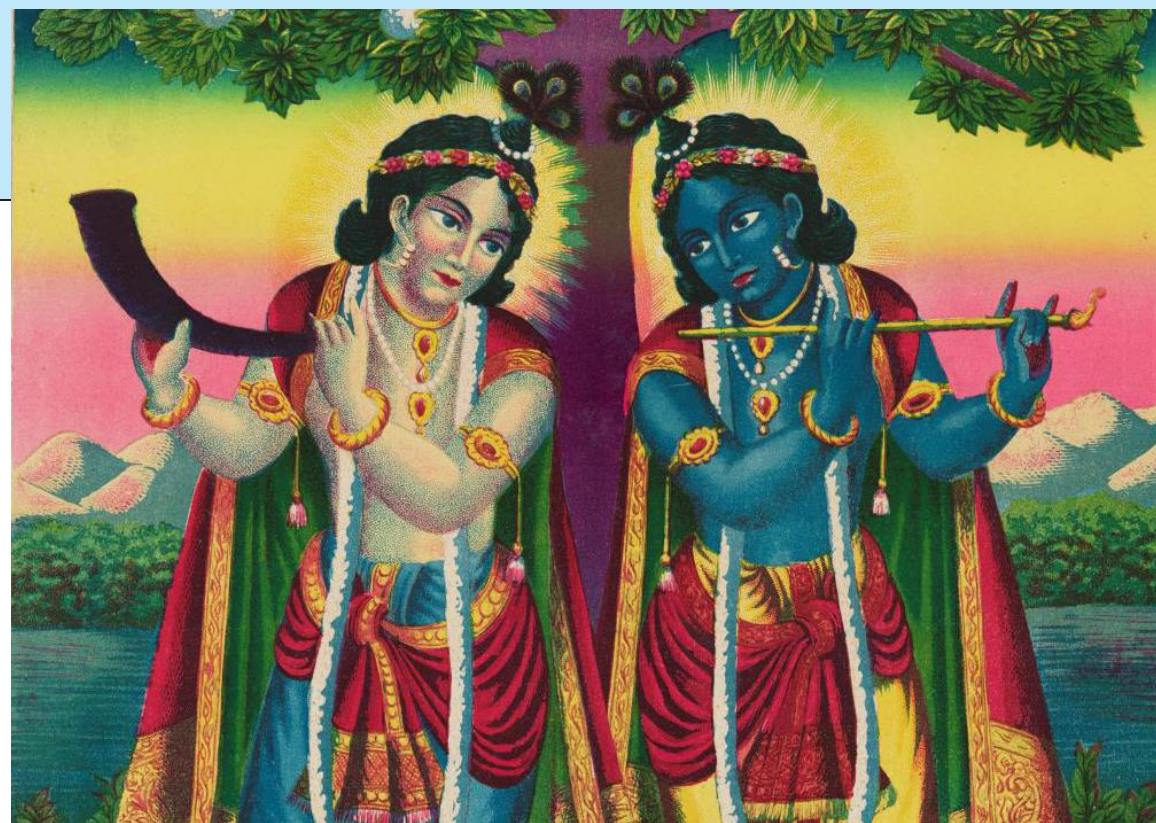
► 10/11/25–7/13/26

The ubiquity of camera phones today has made all the world a stage. With this development, contemporary photographers have veered from surreptitious techniques of the past in favor of carefully collaborating with subjects to stage street scenes. “Faces in the Crowd” creates a compelling visual conversation between the work of today’s photographers and examples of street photography going back five decades, marking the change in artists’ techniques over time.

Of Light and Air: Winslow Homer in Watercolor

► 11/2/25–1/19/26

The MFA houses the world’s largest collection of watercolors by Boston-born artist Winslow Homer (1836–1910). Rarely displayed due to their light sensitivity, dozens of these works are shown alongside important oils, drawings, and prints by Homer for the first time in nearly half a century. The artist’s luminous views transport visitors to the rugged Maine coast, the Adirondack Mountains, seaside England, Caribbean waters, and beyond.



Modern Art Galleries

► November 2025

A suite of new galleries dedicated to modern art opens this fall. Stay tuned for more information! In the meantime, visit our newly opened gallery “20th-Century Sculpture,” which invites visitors to explore the trajectory of three-dimensional art from the end of the 19th century to the present through works by Louise Bourgeois, Simone Leigh, Pablo Picasso, and Auguste Rodin.

One Hundred Stitches, One Hundred Villages: The Beauty of Patchwork in Rural China

► 12/6/25–5/3/26

In rural Chinese villages today, women are creating dynamic patchwork textiles, as their mothers and grandmothers did before them. “One Hundred Stitches, One Hundred Villages” offers visitors the chance to engage with and learn about the personal histories behind nearly 20 of these kaleidoscopic artworks, which are rarely seen outside the villages where they are made.

Divine Color: Hindu Prints from Modern Bengal

► 1/31–5/31/26

Vivid images of divinities are ubiquitous in Hindu life today. Discover their fascinating origins in this exhibition, the first of its kind in the United States, which presents lithographic prints by Bengali artists from 19th-century Calcutta (present day Kolkata) alongside other related prints, paintings, sculpture, and textiles.

Framing Nature: Gardens and Imagination

► 3/15–6/28/26

Gardens evoke a range of feelings, memories, and associations for individuals and communities alike. This exhibition unites works from across the Museum’s collections—including beloved favorites and unseen masterpieces—to consider how gardens’ surprising similarities and differences over time and place speak to our relationship with the natural world.

Fazendo a América: Rosângela Rennó and Histories of Memory and Migration in Brazil

► 4/4–8/2/26

“Fazendo a América” consists of five immersive photographic installations, four previous works by Brazilian artist Rennó (b. 1962) and one commissioned by the MFA, which address marginalized histories and challenge how narratives have been constructed through visual culture.

America at 250

► June 2026

Coinciding with the 250th anniversary of American Independence, the MFA is reimagining its 18th-century galleries on Level 1 of the Art of the Americas Wing. The new display brings together works from across the Americas and explores how artists have contributed to, or in some cases resisted, ideas of nationhood and identity.

Opposite: Winslow Homer, *The Blue Boat*, 1892. Watercolor over graphite pencil on paper. William Sturgis Bigelow Collection.

Above: Shri Shri Krishna Balarama (detail), published by Kansaripara Art Studio, about 1910–20. Lithograph. Marshall H. Gould Fund.



Museum Council

Celebrate art and find your community

The Museum Council is Boston’s premier group of young arts and culture enthusiasts. Membership offers insider access to art experiences, social opportunities, and more, while also providing meaningful philanthropic support to the MFA.

Each level of Museum Council membership offers a range of exciting benefits, outlined on the following pages.



Courtesy of Pierce Harman Photography

Museum Council Committee 2025—26

Christopher Kelley, Chair
Anna Bezener, Vice Chair
Arjun Gupta, Vice Chair
Emily Anne Jacobstein, Vice Chair
Georgina Winthrop, Vice Chair

Carolyn Bachman
Caroline Barry
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Jacob Lazarus
Hannah Menard
Andrew Mowry
Yooni Park
Paul Siegel
Oleksiy Slobodyan
Hanna Tuomi
Nitin Walia
Zachary Zaremba

► Museum Council Events



Fellow Level

Also includes all Museum Council Member level events

An Evening with Daveed Diggs

► Thursday 10/9/25 ► Evening

Hear from award-winning actor, rapper, and singer-songwriter Daveed Diggs, who is best known for originating the roles of Marquis de Lafayette and Thomas Jefferson in *Hamilton*. Enjoy complimentary tickets to the public lecture. A special reception follows.

Connoisseurship Seminar

► Wednesday 10/29/25 ► Evening

Sharpen your eye and deepen your appreciation for art at this perennial favorite. Choose two of four sessions led by MFA curators and conservators, followed by a seated dinner in the beautiful Koch Gallery.

Studio Visit

► Saturday 3/28/26 ► Afternoon ► Off Site

Explore the Boston art scene with a private visit to a local artist's studio. Get a closer look at the artist's creative process and a unique opportunity to deepen your appreciation of contemporary art in an intimate setting.

Travel Opportunity: New York City

► May 2026 ► New York City

Join MFA curators on a weekend trip to New York City for a guided visit to the 82nd Whitney Biennial, the longest-running survey of American art. The group also explores Frieze New York, a renowned art fair where galleries from all over the world showcase contemporary work from established and emerging talent.

One Curators Circles Event of Your Choice!

Museum Council Fellows are invited to sample a complimentary Curators Circles event (see pages 22–32). E-mail curatorscircles@mfa.org to RSVP to the event of your choice.

Member Level

Season Opener Celebration: Rachel Ruysch

► Wednesday 9/17/25 ► Evening

Kick off the season with a celebration of “Rachel Ruysch: Artist, Naturalist, and Pioneer,” the first solo exhibition dedicated to the Dutch painter. Hear Antien Knaap, Rose-Marie and Eijk van Otterloo Curator of Paintings, Art of Europe, speak on Ruysch's remarkable fusion of art and science over her nearly seven-decades-long career. A reception follows.

Exhibition Celebration: Winslow Homer

► Monday 11/3/25 ► Evening

Get a special first look at “Of Light and Air: Winslow Homer in Watercolor” with Pierre Terjanian, Ann and Graham Gund Director; Ethan Lasser, John Moors Cabot Chair, Art of the Americas; and Christina Michelon, Pamela and Peter Voss Curator of Prints and Drawings.

SMFA Breakfast

► Saturday 12/6/25 ► Morning ► SMFA

Begin your day at the MFA with coffee, pastries, and mimosas before heading to the SMFA Art Sale, where you can peruse original work by talented students, alumni, faculty, and friends of the SMFA. This eminent art sale has been a fixture in New England's contemporary art scene for more than 40 years.

Winter Warmer: Scavenger Hunt

► Saturday 1/24/26 ► Afternoon

Get together with your fellow Museum Council members for a spirited scavenger hunt. Explore the Museum's galleries in a fun and fresh way, then enjoy a cozy reception. The winning team gets free tickets to the Curatorial Dinner!



Opposite: Rachel Ruysch, *Flowers* (detail), 1696. Oil on canvas mounted on panel. © Musée Thomas Henry, Cherbourg-en-Cotentin/La Fabrique de Patrimoines en Normandie. Photograph: Patrice Schmidt.

Left: Josef Sudek, *A Summer Shower in the Magic Garden*, 1954–59. Gelatin silver print. The Sonja Bullaty and Angelo Lomeo Collection of Josef Sudek Photographs; The Saundra B. Lane Photography Purchase Fund. © Anna Fárová.

Curatorial Dinner: Divine Color

► Thursday 3/12/26 ► Evening

Experience the vibrancy of “Divine Color: Hindu Prints from Modern Bengal,” a groundbreaking exhibition of 19th-century devotional lithographs from Calcutta (present day Kolkata). Hear from Laura Weinstein, Ananda Coomaraswamy Curator of South Asian and Islamic Art, on how Bengali artists reimagined Hindu gods and goddesses for the modern era, then enjoy a private seated dinner. This event is ticketed with an additional fee.

Exhibition Celebration: Framing Nature

► Tuesday 4/7/26 ► Evening

Enjoy private access to this lively exhibition and a celebratory reception with Pierre Terjanian, Ann and Graham Gund Director, and members of the curatorial team.

The Art of Collecting: Jewelry

► Thursday 4/16/26 ► Evening ► Grogan & Company

Led by Emily Stoehrer, Rita J. Kaplan and Susan B. Kaplan Senior Curator of Jewelry, this panel discussion offers an inside look at the journey of collecting artwork—from personal passion to museum acquisition. The conversation accessibly approaches how collections are built, shared, and preserved.

Season Closer Celebration: America at 250

► Tuesday 5/19/26 ► Evening

Don't miss this sneak peek with MFA curators at the Museum's reimagined 18th-century galleries on the first floor of the Art of the Americas Wing, opening in correspondence with the 250th anniversary of American Independence. A dinner reception with Pierre Terjanian, Ann and Graham Gund Director, follows. Cohosted with the Patron Program.

► Museum Council Levels and Benefits

► In Gratitude for Your Support

- 12 months of complimentary admission
- Early access to reserve special exhibition tickets
- Reciprocal admission benefits at 21 major art museums
- 15% discount at all MFA dining venues
- 10% discount at all Museum Shops, in person and online
- Up to a 40% discount on parking for Museum visits; complimentary parking for all Museum Council events
- Discounted tickets to lectures, courses, concerts, films, and additional guest tickets
- Invitations to members-only curator talks and programs
- Direct phone line and e-mail to Museum Council staff to answer questions and help plan visits
- Recognition in the Annual Report
- Additional benefits based on member level

Museum Council benefits are nontransferable and subject to change.

Fellow

► \$1,200 to \$2,999/year

Ages 21–45

An elevated level for young professionals who are ready to deepen their philanthropy and connection to the MFA. Includes all benefits at the Member level, plus:

- Daily general admission for up to six adults and four youths (ages 7–17)
- Eight tickets for each special exhibition
- Opportunity to learn more about the collections by joining Curators Circles (see page 22)
- Opportunities to travel with MFA curators
- Invitations to exclusive Museum Council Fellow events (admits two)
- \$420 per person is not tax deductible

Associate

► \$300 to \$599/year

Ages 21–26

A discounted Museum Council membership for recent graduates and early career professionals.

- Daily general admission for four adults and four youths (ages 7–17)
- Four tickets for each special exhibition
- Invitations to all Museum Council Member events (admits two)
- \$240 per person is not tax deductible

Member

► \$600 to \$1,199/year

Ages 21–45

An opportunity to meet fellow young professionals with an enthusiasm for art.

- Daily general admission for four adults and four youths (ages 7–17)
- Six tickets for each special exhibition
- Invitations to all Museum Council Member events (admits two)
- \$240 per person is not tax deductible

Join or renew

617-369-3268
museumcouncil@mfa.org
mfa.org/council

Event Tips

Invitations to Museum Council events are sent by e-mail only. Please provide a valid e-mail address and cell phone number so you don't miss any invitations, event reminders, or updates. Complimentary parking validation is offered at all on-site, scheduled Museum Council events.

Museum Council events are complimentary with your membership unless otherwise noted; however, space at these events is limited and not guaranteed. The event schedule is subject to change. Each membership admits two people per invitation.

Meetups

Are you interested in meeting other members around the Boston area? In addition to our official calendar of events, members of the Museum Council periodically host meetups—chances to connect with each other and experience art in casual social settings. Information about upcoming gatherings is sent by e-mail. Members interested in hosting a meetup should contact the Museum Council office.

Want to Save Time?

When you join or renew online, choose Automatic Renewal. We also offer the option to fulfill your membership gift in 12 monthly installments. Contact the Museum Council office for more information.

Increase Your Impact with a Matching Gift!

Your company may double or triple your Museum Council membership gift. Visit mfa.org/give/matching-gifts to see if your company will match your donation, and check with your employer's human resources department for further details.

Choose Your Circle

Museum Council Fellows are eligible to join Curators Circles. Choose from 14 groups to take a deeper look into collection areas. See page 22 for more information.

Stay Connected

Follow us on Instagram at [@mfamuseumcouncil](https://www.instagram.com/mfamuseumcouncil).

Travel

Pack your suitcase for an art adventure

Led by the Museum's expert curators, our exclusive travel opportunities offer global insights into art, history, and culture. Go behind the scenes with our curators at world-renowned art fairs and museums, access spectacular private collections, meet artists, and enjoy fine cuisine and luxury accommodations.

Members at the following levels are eligible to participate in MFA Travel:

- Museum Council Fellow
- Patron Member and above

To receive itinerary and registration details or request more information, contact mfatravel@mfa.org.

Every effort is made to adhere to the dates, pricing, and curatorial participants as listed; however, circumstances beyond our control might force changes or substitutions. The MFA reserves the right to make any necessary alterations to tours or to cancel tours due to inadequate registrations. We urge travelers not to book nonrefundable airfare until the tours have been confirmed by the Museum. In the event of a tour cancellation, any fees paid to the Museum or its travel partners will be refunded in full.



Looking Towards the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco from the Marin Headlands, 2024. iStock: Jason Doiv.

Journeys

San Francisco

► Wednesday 11/5–Monday 11/10/25

Venture to San Francisco with Ian Alteveer, Beal Family Chair, Department of Contemporary Art. Explore the de Young Museum and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and enjoy the city's diverse culinary scene. Our trip also includes an excursion to Napa Valley and Sonoma to discover some of the Bay Area's finest private collections of art.

Maastricht and TEFAF

► Monday 3/9–Sunday 3/15/26

Travel to picturesque Maastricht to attend the opening days of The European Fine Art Fair (TEFAF), widely regarded as the world's premier art fair. Discover modern and contemporary photographs, jewelry, and works on paper alongside traditional Old Master paintings, decorative arts, and antiquities. Join Pierre Terjanian, Ann and Graham Gund Director; and Frederick Ilchman, Mrs. Russell W. Baker Curator of Paintings and chair, Art of Europe, for an inside look at TEFAF. Travelers explore the vibrant and historic cities of Frankfurt and Cologne before arriving in Maastricht.

Prague and Dresden

► Saturday 5/23–Saturday 5/30/26

Betsy Dospěl Williams, Penny Vinik Chair of Fashion, Textiles, and Jewelry, leads travelers through the Czech Republic, a country rich in artistic heritage, architectural marvels, and cultural traditions. Venture through Prague's iconic Old Town and visit stunning castles outside the city. Our artistic visits continue on in Germany to see Dresden's magnificent galleries and famed Green Vault.

Interested in Additional Travel Experiences?

Many of our Curators Circles offer travel opportunities, from local day trips to multiday journeys. See pages 22–32 for more information.



Advocate

Get closer to art and support the Museum you love

Your Advocate membership helps bring people and art together and contributes vital support to the Museum.

In appreciation, we invite Advocates to sample the Patron and Curators Circles experiences through invitations to events and programs designed to bring you closer to the MFA’s collection and staff.



Courtesy of Pierce Harman Photography

Advocate Events

Advocates are invited to the following events. Invitations admit two, are sent by e-mail, and include RSVP instructions. Please ensure you have provided us with a valid e-mail. Event schedule is subject to change; please see mfa.org/advocate for the most up-to-date information.

Exhibition Celebration: Winslow Homer

► Monday 11/3/25 ► Evening

Get a special first look at “Of Light and Air: Winslow Homer in Watercolor,” with Pierre Terjanian, Ann and Graham Gund Director; Ethan Lasser, John Moors Cabot Chair, Art of the Americas; and Christina Michelin, Pamela and Peter Voss Curator of Prints and Drawings.

Virtual Talk: Our Favorite Faces

► Wednesday 1/14/26 ► Evening ► Virtual

Frederick Ilchman, Mrs. Russell W. Baker Curator of Paintings and chair, Art of Europe; Lawrence W. Berman, John F. Cogan Jr. and Mary L. Cornille Chair, Ancient Egypt, Nubia, and the Near East; and Layla Bermeo, Kristin and Roger Servison Curator of Paintings, Art of the Americas, share their favorite portraits in the MFA’s collection.

Coffee with a Curator: Jewelry Art and Fashion

► Saturday 2/7/26 ► Morning

Enjoy coffee and pastries with fellow members and hear Emily Stoehrer, Rita J. Kaplan and Susan B. Kaplan Senior Curator of Jewelry, talk about her new book, *Brilliance: Jewelry Art and Fashion* (2025). A signing with Emily follows.

Coffee with Curators: Framing Nature

► Saturday 4/11/26 ► Morning

Mingle with fellow members over coffee and pastry, then enjoy a behind-the-scenes talk on “Framing Nature: Gardens and Imagination” from Meghan Melvin, Ruth and Carl J. Shapiro Senior Curator of Prints and Drawings, and Betsy Dospěl Williams, Penny Vinik Chair of Fashion, Textiles, and Jewelry.

Advocate Benefits

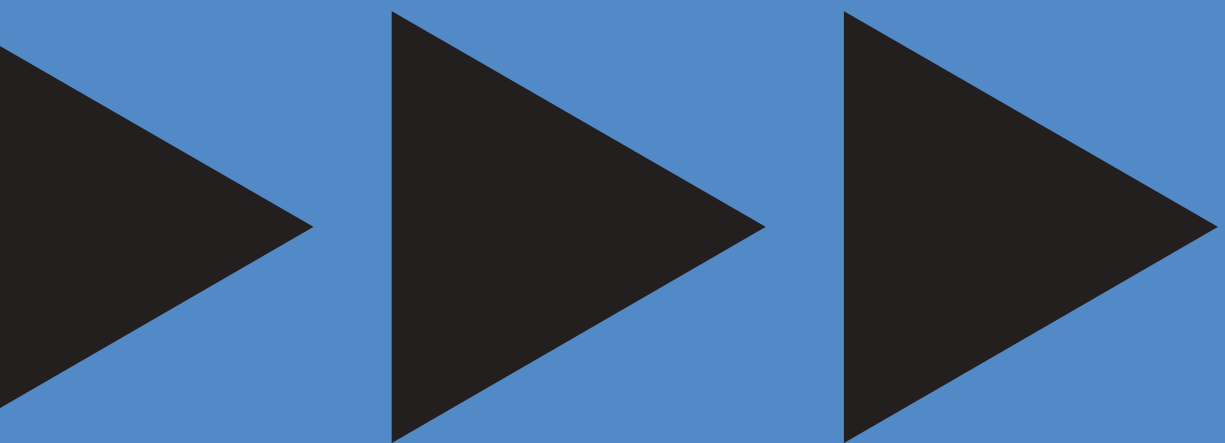
► \$1,200 to \$2,999 Annual Gift

- Complimentary daily general admission for up to six adults and four youths (ages 7–17)
 - Early access to reserve eight tickets for each special exhibition
 - Invitations to a selection of Patron events and one Curators Circles event
 - Opportunity to join Curators Circles to learn about the Museum’s collections (see page 22)
 - 10% discount in all Museum Shops; 15% discount at all MFA dining venues; up to 40% off parking
 - Reciprocal admission benefits at 21 major art museums
 - Invitations to members-only curator talks and programs
 - \$50 per person is not tax deductible
- Advocate benefits are nontransferable and subject to change.



One Curators Circles Event of Your Choice!

Deepen your relationship with the Museum by sampling a complimentary Curators Circles event of your choice (see pages 22–32). Available only to our most dedicated members, Curators Circles bring you closer to the MFA’s collection with regular gatherings of curators and fellow enthusiasts in intimate settings. To RSVP for the event of your choice, please e-mail curatorscircles@mfa.org.



Patrons

Your ticket to exhilarating art and insider experiences

Patrons are part of an intimate community of art lovers and vital investors in the future of the MFA. Patrons receive an unparalleled array of benefits and event invitations, bringing them closer to the Museum they love. Be among the first to explore our world-class exhibitions, get to know MFA curators and leadership, and dive deeper into our incredible collection.



Courtesy of Pierce Harman Photography

Patrons Committee 2025–26

Rachel Rosenfeldt, Chair
Elizabeth Dunne
Marcoulier, Vice Chair

Meryl Beckingham
Joan Blair
Kate Moran Collins
Lynn Bay Dayton
Justin DuMouchelle
Lisa Dynner
Kate Enroth
Deborah Glasser
Debbie Johnston
Meg Kasuba
Alyssa Mack

Anne McNay
Olaperi Onipede
Maria Park
Hadley and Allie Powell
Margo Pullman
Tricia Schade
Nalini Sharma
Phyllis Sims
Susan Turpin
Charlotte Zawel

► Patrons Events

Chairman's Circle, President's Circle, and Director's Circle

Also includes all Patron Sponsor, Fellow, and Member level events

Director's Choice Evening

► Tuesday 11/18/25 ► Evening

Discover the breadth and depth of the MFA's collection through close looking with curators and conservators at hidden gems selected by Pierre Terjanian, our new Ann and Graham Gund Director. A dinner follows.

Director's Dinner: Arts of Japan

► Wednesday 4/22/26 ► Evening

Spend the evening with Pierre Terjanian, Ann and Graham Gund Director, and members of our Arts of Japan curatorial team, exploring plans for future galleries. View exceptional works up close and enjoy a seated multicourse dinner inspired by Japanese cuisine.

Patron Sponsor

Also includes all Patron Fellow and Member level events

Exhibition Celebration: Martin Puryear

► Tuesday 9/30/25 ► Evening

Join MFA leaders and Ian Alteveer, Beal Family Chair, Department of Contemporary Art, for a first look at this new exhibition. A celebratory reception follows.

A Celebration of Partnership: MFA x BSO

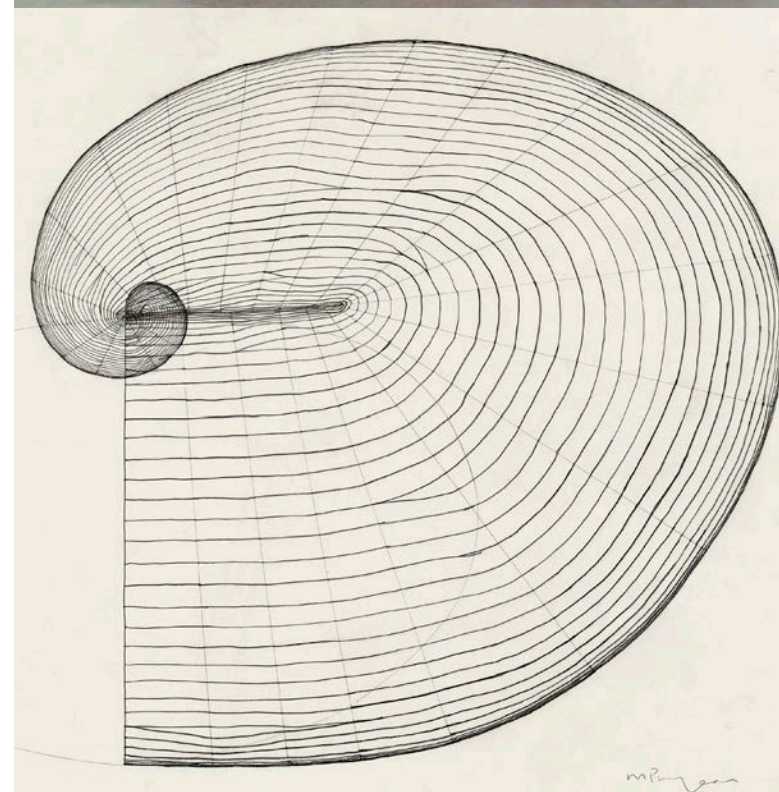
► Tuesday 1/27/26 ► Evening

Revel in a special evening of music with the Boston Symphony Orchestra's new concertmaster, Nathan Cole, as he performs on two rare Stradivari violins—one from the BSO and one on loan from a private collection. Jared Katz, Pappalardo Curator of Musical Instruments, offers insight into these historic instruments. A reception follows.

Craft and Community: Perspectives from the MFA Collection

► Tuesday 5/5/26 ► Morning

Attend a panel discussion and gallery viewing in celebration of a new installation of contemporary craft from the MFA's collection. Michelle Millar Fisher, Ronald C. and Anita L. Wornick Curator of Contemporary Decorative Arts, leads a conversation with local artists on the impact of amplifying today's voices and the evolving role of craft in museum collections. A luncheon follows.



Clockwise from top left, all images by Martin Puryear: *Big Phrygian*, 2010–14. Painted red cedar. Glenstone Museum. © Martin Puryear, courtesy Matthew Marks Gallery; *Allen Huddle*, 1993–95. Red cedar and pine. The Cleveland Museum of Art, Gift of Agnes Gund and Daniel Shapiro 2002.65 © Martin Puryear, courtesy Matthew Marks Gallery; *Hibernian Testosterone* (detail), 2018. Painted cast aluminum, American cypress. Courtesy the artist and Matthew Marks Gallery. © Martin Puryear, courtesy Matthew Marks Gallery; *Untitled*, about 2003. Graphite on paper. Collection of the artist. © Martin Puryear, courtesy Matthew Marks Gallery.

► Patrons Events

Patron Fellow

Also includes all Patron Member level events

Behind the Scenes: MFA on Tour

► Wednesday 10/15/25 ► Evening

Join us for an inside look at how the MFA's renowned collection travels the globe—from conservation and packing to partnerships with leading museums. Christopher Atkins, Van Otterloo-Weatherbie Director, Center for Netherlandish Art, moderates a panel of MFA curators, conservators, and staff who share how the Museum's masterpieces reach art lovers worldwide. A dinner reception follows.

A Taste of the MFA

► Wednesday 3/25/26 ► Evening

Take a deeper dive into the Museum's collection at this beloved annual event. Choose two of five close-looking sessions led by MFA curators and conservators, followed by a dinner reception with different food stations to expand your palate.

Patron Member

Exhibition Celebration: Rachel Ruysch

► Wednesday 9/10/25 ► Evening

Kick off our new season with a behind-the-scenes talk from Antien Knaap, Rose-Marie and Eijk van Otterloo Curator of Paintings, Art of Europe, and Christopher Atkins, Van Otterloo-Weatherbie Director, Center for Netherlandish Art. Enjoy a private exploration of "Rachel Ruysch: Artist, Naturalist, and Pioneer" and a celebratory reception after the talk.

Exhibition Celebration: Winslow Homer

► Monday 11/3/25 ► Evening

Get a special first look at "Of Light and Air: Winslow Homer in Watercolor," with Pierre Terjanian, Ann and Graham Gund Director; Ethan Lasser, John Moors Cabot Chair, Art of the Americas; and Christina Michelin, Pamela and Peter Voss Curator of Prints and Drawings.

Coffee with a Curator: Winslow Homer

► Saturday 11/15/25 ► Morning

Mingle with fellow members and enjoy coffee, pastries, and treats in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Patron Program. Then enjoy a talk from Christina Michelin, Pamela and Peter Voss Curator of Prints and Drawings, on the major exhibition "Of Light and Air: Winslow Homer in Watercolor," which includes works on view for the first time in nearly half a century.

Virtual Talk: Our Favorite Faces

► Wednesday 1/14/26 ► Evening ► Virtual

Frederick Ilchman, Mrs. Russell W. Baker Curator of Paintings and chair, Art of Europe; Lawrence W. Berman, John F. Cogan Jr. and Mary L. Cornille Chair, Ancient Egypt, Nubia, and the Near East; and Layla Bermeo, Kristin and Roger Servison Curator of Paintings, Art of the Americas, share their favorite portraits in the MFA's collection.

Coffee with a Curator: Jewelry Art and Fashion

► Saturday 2/7/26 ► Morning

Enjoy coffee and pastries with fellow members and hear Emily Stoehr, Rita J. Kaplan and Susan B. Kaplan Senior Curator of Jewelry, talk about her new book, *Brilliance: Jewelry Art and Fashion* (2025). A signing with Emily follows.

Explore the Conservation Center

► Monday 3/16/26 ► Evening

View current restoration and treatment projects up close with conservators in our Conservation Center during this annual Patron favorite "science fair" evening. A dinner reception follows.

Exhibition Celebration: Framing Nature

► Tuesday 4/7/26 ► Evening

Celebrate "Framing Nature: Gardens and Imagination" with private access to the exhibition and a reception with Pierre Terjanian, Ann and Graham Gund Director, and members of the exhibition's curatorial team.

Coffee with Curators: Framing Nature

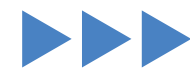
► Saturday 4/11/26 ► Morning

Join fellow members for coffee, pastries, and a behind-the-scenes talk on "Framing Nature: Gardens and Imagination" from Meghan Melvin, Ruth and Carl J. Shapiro Senior Curator of Prints and Drawings, and Betsy Dospěl Williams, Penny Vinik Chair of Fashion, Textiles, and Jewelry.

Season Closer Celebration: America at 250

► Tuesday 5/19/26 ► Evening

Don't miss this sneak peek with MFA curators at the Museum's reimagined 18th-century galleries on the first floor of the Art of the Americas Wing, opening in conjunction with the 250th anniversary of American Independence. A dinner reception with Pierre Terjanian, Ann and Graham Gund Director, follows. Co-hosted with the Museum Council.



Stay Tuned!

You never know what's around the corner. Please keep an eye on your e-mail for special Patron Program opportunities and updates throughout the season.

In rare cases, changes to our event schedule occur. See the most up-to-date information for all Patron events at mfa.org/patron.

Patron Event Tips

Join us! Invitations to events admit two, are sent by e-mail, and include RSVP instructions. Please ensure you have provided us with a valid e-mail address.

The Patron Program is pleased to offer complimentary parking at all on-site Patron events.

John Singleton Copley, *Watson and the Shark* (detail), 1778. Oil on canvas. Gift of Mrs. George von Lengerke Meyer.



► Patrons Levels and Benefits

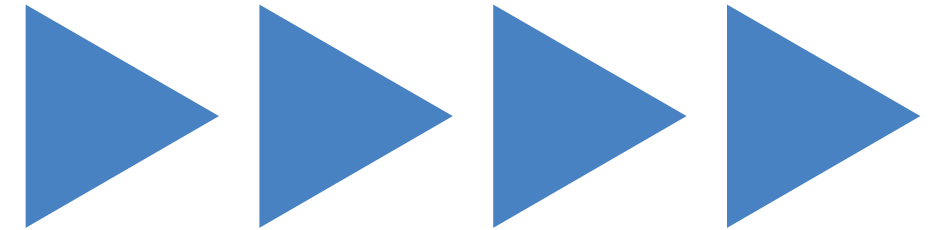
► In Gratitude for Your Support

- 12 months of complimentary admission, including special exhibitions
- Early access to reserve special exhibition tickets
- Patron Concierge Service with staff dedicated to personally handling your special requests, including assistance with ticket reservations
- Reciprocal admission benefits at 21 major art museums
- Opportunities to travel with MFA curators
- 15% discount at all MFA dining venues
- 10% discount at all Museum Shops, in person and online
- Up to a 40% discount on parking for Museum visits; complimentary parking for all Patron events
- Access to curator talks and programs open to all levels of MFA membership
- Recognition in the Annual Report

Patron Program benefits are nontransferable and subject to change.

Join or renew

617-369-3211
patronprogram@mfa.org
mfa.org/patron



Chairman's Circle Patron

► Contributing \$100,000 or more

- All benefits at the President's Circle level
- Opportunity to host an intimate cocktail party at the MFA for up to ten guests with the curator and focus on the collection area of your choice, upon request
- Complimentary annual membership to one Curators Circle of your choice
- \$745 per person is not tax deductible

President's Circle Patron

► Contributing \$50,000–\$99,999

- All benefits at the Director's Circle level
- A private group tour with the curator of your choice
- Your choice of a complimentary Patron Member or Museum Council Fellow level membership to gift to a friend, family member, or colleague
- A complimentary exhibition catalogue selected by MFA staff
- \$745 per person is not tax deductible

Director's Circle Patron

► Contributing \$30,000–\$49,999

- All benefits at the Patron Sponsor level
- Unlimited admission for you and your guests
- Invitations to exclusive events with the MFA's Ann and Graham Gund Director
- Complimentary parking for MFA visits
- VIP tickets to domestic and international art fairs upon request (when available)
- Ability to host a wedding or meaningful milestone celebration at the MFA (see opposite page for details)
- \$745 per person is not tax deductible

Patron Sponsor

► Contributing \$12,000–\$29,999

- All benefits at the Patron Fellow level
- 20 tickets for each special exhibition
- Personal support to share the MFA with friends and family and customize your own MFA experience
- Invitations to additional intimate experiences with MFA curators
- Ability to rent space at the MFA to host your private event with a 50% discount on the reservation fee
- \$545 per person is not tax deductible

Patron Fellow

► Contributing \$6,000–\$11,999

- All benefits at the Patron Member level
- 14 tickets for each special exhibition
- Invitations to two additional special events with MFA curators and conservators
- \$395 per person is not tax deductible

Patron Member

► Contributing \$3,000–\$5,999

- All Patron membership benefits listed at the top of the opposite page
- Daily general admission for up to six adults and four youths (ages 7–17)
- 12 tickets for each special exhibition
- Invitations to all Patron Member events and learning opportunities
- \$255 per person is not tax deductible

Host a Private Event or Celebration at the MFA

Private Events

Patrons can host private events at the MFA. Patrons at the Sponsor level receive a 50 percent discount on the reservation fee; the entire reservation fee is waived for the Director's Circle Patron level and above. Please note that the benefits of Patron support cannot be transferred to corporations.

Signature Celebrations

Patrons at the Director's Circle level and above have the opportunity to host ceremonial occasions such as weddings, bar and bat mitzvahs, quinceañeras, and other meaningful milestone celebrations in the exceptional setting of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Please note that specific requirements and conditions apply. Contact Restaurant Associates and Catering staff at 617-369-3115 for more information.

Making Your Gift

We welcome gifts of appreciated securities, as well as gifts from donor-advised funds, family foundations, and IRA-qualified charitable distributions. Please contact us for information on making your gift and tax-deductibility implications.

Curators Circles: Customize Your MFA Experience

All Patrons are eligible to join Curators Circles. Choose among 14 groups to gain deeper insight into the Museum's collection areas with curators and other experts. See page 22 for more information.



Curators Circles

Dive deeper

Curators Circles invite you to dive deeper into the MFA's collections while also supporting the crucial work of our curatorial departments. Featuring collection-focused programs, these intimate groups offer the opportunity to build relationships with curators and fellow enthusiasts in behind-the-scenes settings.

Curators Circles members provide vital funding to help our curators with their long-term goals for research, travel, acquisitions, and exhibitions.

Gisela Charfauros McDaniel, *Tiningo'si Sirena*, 2021. Oil on canvas, clothing, objects from subject-collaborator; shells, pearls, sound. Irving W. and Charlotte F. Rabb Acquisition Fund for the Department of Contemporary Art. © Gisela McDaniel; Courtesy of the artist and Pilar Comras, London. Photo courtesy of Pierce Harman Photography.



Members of the following programs are invited to add on Curators Circles:

- All members of the Patron Program
- Museum Council Fellows
- Advocates

The annual contribution to join a Curators Circle is \$1,500*, which entitles two people to four unique curator-led events and one combined event for all Curators Circles members, and a travel experience.

Dates, times, venues, and events are subject to change.
For the most up-to-date information, visit mfa.org/curatorscircles.
*\$100 per person is not tax deductible.

► Curators Circles Events



Courtesy of Pierce Harman Photography

An Evening for All Curators Circles

► Date and time to be announced

Connect to our community of art lovers and supporters during an exciting event including all Curators Circles. Stay tuned for more details later in the season.

Art of the Americas

Up Close: Winslow Homer

► Monday 9/29/25 ► Afternoon

Learn from curators and conservators about the incredible paintings, watercolors, and prints by Winslow Homer and see the works up close before their installation ahead of this fall's special exhibition, "Of Light and Air: Winslow Homer in Watercolor." Co-organized with Curators Circles: Conservation and Collections and Prints and Drawings.

Preparing for America at 250: New and Notable Acquisitions

► Friday 11/21/25 ► Evening

Join curators for a behind-the-scenes preview of recent acquisitions to our collection, including a contemporary bust of George Washington, the MFA's first portrait of a colonial Latin American woman, and an elaborately painted 17-foot *biombo*, or Mexican folding screen. Curators share details about these works and their strategies to build and broaden the collection as they reimagine our 18th-century galleries on the first floor of the Art of the Americas.

Travel Opportunity: Philadelphia

► Thursday 3/26–Sunday 3/29/26
► Philadelphia

Travel to Philadelphia for a special springtime tour and to explore the ideals of "Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness," as put forth in the Declaration of Independence. Visit the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Barnes Foundation, the newly opened Calder Gardens, prominent private collections, and more.

An Evening with Percival Everett

► Thursday 5/14/26 ► Evening

Don't miss a private evening with Percival Everett, author of the Pulitzer Prize–winning novel *James* and the final speaker in this season's series of Shapiro Celebrity Lectures. The reception immediately follows the lecture and is presented in connection with America at 250. Lecture tickets are provided for all reception attendees.

Black Arts and Artists

Jake Blount: Afrofuturist Folklore and the Banjo

► Friday 9/12/25 ► Evening

Hear from scholar and performer Jake Blount, who produced music with Rhiannon Giddens for *The American Revolution: An Intimate History*, a Ken Burns documentary. Jake speaks about his research on the banjo, dives into his new projects, and performs on a selection of historic banjos in the MFA's collection. Meet Jake before his performance. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Musical Instruments.

Allan Rohan Crite: Urban Glory

► Thursday 11/20/25 ► Evening
► Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

Allan Rohan Crite (1910–2007) dedicated much of his rich career to documenting the Black community in Boston's South End and nearby Roxbury. Crite worked and inspired many local young artists for more than eight decades. Explore the artist's powerful paintings and works on paper in the Gardner Museum's "Allan Rohan Crite: Urban Glory." Co-organized with Curators Circles: Prints and Drawings.

Travel Opportunity: New York City

► Thursday 4/23–Saturday 4/25/26
► New York City

Join MFA curators in New York City for a trip to the new home of the Studio Museum of Harlem, and the New York Public Library's Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. Enjoy an artist studio visit, private tours of galleries and exhibitions, cocktails, and gourmet meals.

Fashion x Art

► Thursday 6/25/26 ► Evening

Learn about the blurred lines between fashion and art during a conversation with theo tyson, curator of Fashion Arts, and special guests. A reception follows. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Fashion Council.

Conservation and Collections

Up Close: Winslow Homer

► Monday 9/29/25 ► Afternoon

Learn from curators and conservators about the incredible paintings, watercolors, and prints by Winslow Homer and see the works up close before their installation ahead of this fall's special exhibition, "Of Light and Air: Winslow Homer in Watercolor." Co-organized with Curators Circles: Art of the Americas and Prints and Drawings.

Up Close: Rachel Ruysch

► Thursday 11/6/25 ► Evening

Join Antien Knaap, Rose-Marie and Eijk van Otterloo Curator of Paintings, Art of Europe, and Rhona MacBeth, Rose-Marie and Eijk van Otterloo Director of Conservation and Scientific Research, and head of Paintings Conservation, to learn about the research and conservation efforts behind "Rachel Ruysch: Artist, Naturalist, and Pioneer." Co-organized with Curators Circles: Swan Society.

Conservation of a Colossal Falcon

► Thursday 5/7/26 ► Evening

Explore the amazing journey of a monumental ancient Egyptian statue of a divine falcon. Fragments of the falcon arrived in Boston in 1923 and underwent a bold reconstruction in the 1970s. Discover the unusual properties of granodiorite, the stone the falcon is made from, and the object's current treatment as the MFA prepares to put it back on view after 30 years. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Lotus Society.

CT Scanning: A Look Inside the Music

► Friday 5/22/26 ► Evening

The MFA's Musical Instruments and Conservation and Scientific Research departments are working with MIT to pioneer a new method for analyzing musical instruments. As a result, conservators and curators now use a CT scanner to study instruments in the collection. Learn how this powerful technology allows us to hear instruments deemed no longer playable. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Musical Instruments.

► Curators Circles Events

The Contemporaries

Welcome to the New Modern and Contemporary Galleries

► Thursday 10/9/25 ► Evening

Join curators from the Department of Contemporary Art for an intimate look at new, extensive presentations of collection works on two floors of the Linde Family Wing. Enjoy focused displays that bring together more than 150 works of contemporary art across media. A reception follows.

An Evening with María Magdalena Campos-Pons

► Thursday 11/13/25 ► Evening

Internationally acclaimed artist and recipient of a MacArthur “genius grant,” María Magdalena Campos-Pons gives this year’s Deborah and Martin Hale Visiting Artist Lecture. Join Campos-Pons immediately following her lecture for a reception celebrating her impact on Boston, and tour the exhibition “Rituals for Remembering: María Magdalena Campos-Pons and Ana Mendieta.”

Panel and Reception: Subvert, Repair, Reclaim

► Thursday 4/16/26 ► Evening

The daring artists of “Subvert, Repair, Reclaim: Contemporary Artists Take Back the Nude” discuss the urgent questions of power, agency, and art history at the heart of the exhibition. The artists highlight their multimedia artwork and draw connections between their works and those in “Rosângela Rennó,” which is also on view in the Linde Family Wing. A reception follows.

Behind the Scenes: Historic Boston and Contemporary Ideas

► Saturday 4/25/26 ► All Day ► Off Site

The United States of America, a complex, contested, and ongoing project, celebrates its 250th anniversary in 2026. Venture with Mark Thomas Gibson, artist of the current “Banner Project,” and other artists to two significant historical sites in Boston. View these well-known places through the contemporary lens of these individuals.

Fashion Council

Travel Opportunity: Detroit

► Friday 10/17–Monday 10/20/25
► Detroit and Toledo

Travel with us to Detroit, where we explore historic textile collections, visit cutting-edge design studios, and engage with local artists. While we’re in the Midwest, enjoy a day trip to Toledo for the opening weekend of “Radiance and Reverie: Jewelry from the Collection of Neil Lane” at the Toledo Museum of Art, cocurated by the MFA’s Emily Stoehrer, Rita J. Kaplan and Susan B. Kaplan Senior Curator of Jewelry. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Threads.

Celebrating Brilliance: Jewelry Art and Fashion

► Friday 12/12/25 ► Evening

Celebrate the publication *Brilliance: Jewelry Art and Fashion* (2025), by Emily Stoehrer, Rita J. Kaplan and Susan B. Kaplan Senior Curator of Jewelry, at our lively book party! Enjoy an engaging discussion about this stunning visual journey through four millennia of jewelry in the MFA’s collection.



The Garden Party

► Wednesday 5/13/26 ► Afternoon

Welcome to this spring’s captivating special exhibition, “Framing Nature: Gardens and Imagination.” Indulge in afternoon tea, enjoy presentations, tour the exhibition, and consider how gardens have inspired art and fashion through the ages. Wear your garden party best! Co-organized with Curators Circles: Swan Society.

Fashion x Art

► Thursday 6/25/26 ► Evening

Learn about the blurred lines between fashion and art during a conversation with theo tyson, curator of Fashion Arts, and special guests. A reception follows. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Black Arts and Artists.

Gingko Society

Yu Kil-Chun Gallery of Korean Art and Culture

► Sunday 10/5/25 ► Morning ► PEM

In spring 2025 the Peabody Essex Museum debuted the Yu Kil-Chun Gallery of Korean Art and Culture to house their exceptional collection of Korean art. Join members of the MFA’s Art of Asia department on a trip to PEM to explore instruments, textiles, and decorative furniture that reflect life and culture in Korea from the late Joseon dynasty (1392–1910) to today.

Travel Opportunity: Asian Art in London

► Monday 10/27–Wednesday 10/29/25
► London

Take part in Asian Art in London, an annual program of exhibitions and auctions hosted by respected dealers, galleries, and auction houses specializing in Asian art, from ancient to contemporary. The trip includes visits to collectors’ homes, private tours of exhibitions, and opportunities to connect with London-based scholars, artists, and art dealers. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Jasmine Society.

Up Close: Chinese Patchwork

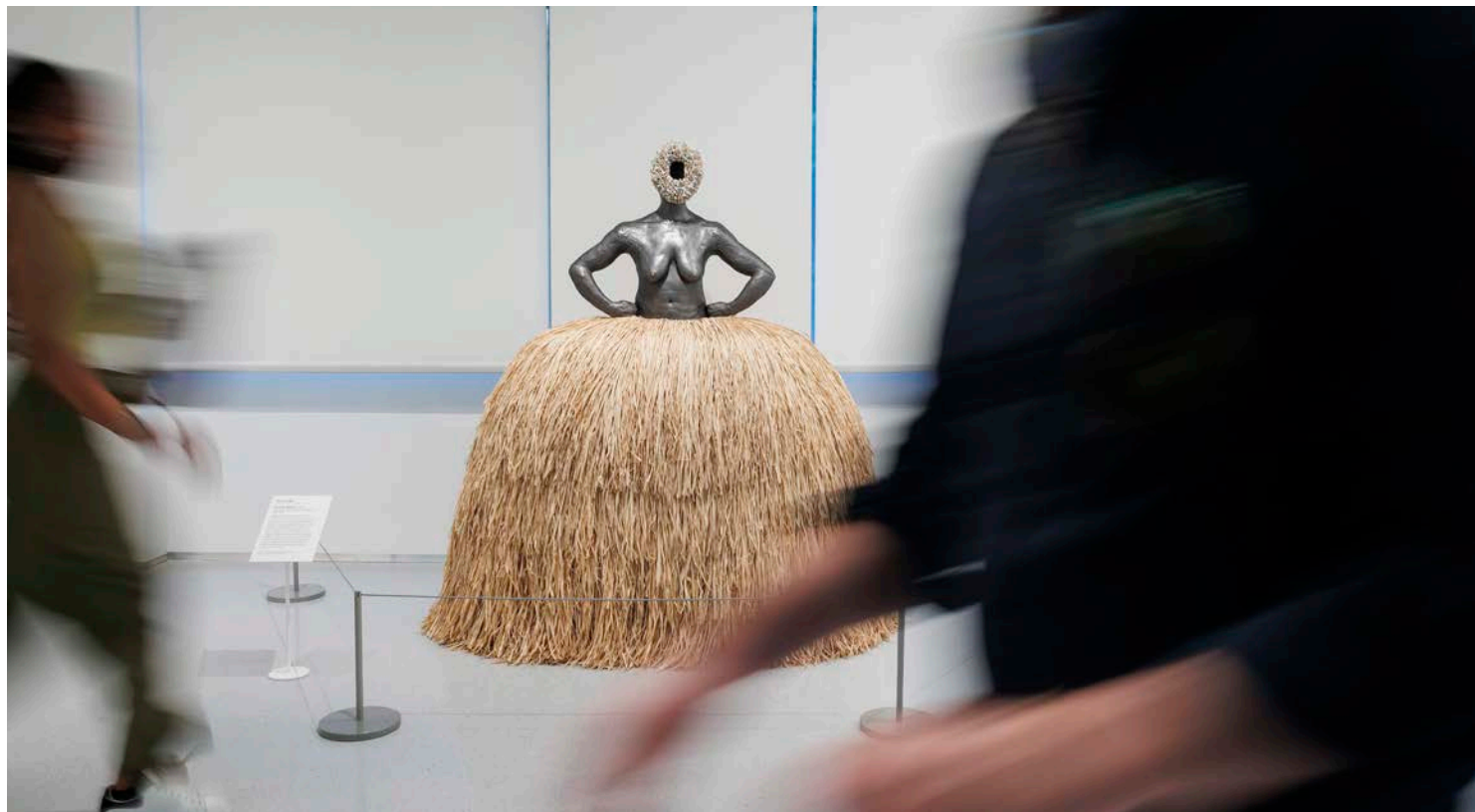
► Thursday 1/22/26 ► Afternoon

Nancy Berliner, Wu Tung Senior Curator of Chinese Art, and Jennifer Swope, David and Roberta Logie Curator of Textile and Fashion Arts, go behind the scenes of “One Hundred Stitches, One Hundred Villages: The Beauty of Patchwork from Rural China.” Hear about Nancy’s travels in rural Chinese villages and get a close look at kaleidoscopic samples of this unique and unexplored art form. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Threads.

Objects in the Collection: Honoring William Sturgis Bigelow

► Thursday 5/21/26 ► Afternoon

Honor the 100th anniversary of the death of William Sturgis Bigelow (1850–1926), whose donation to the MFA provided the Museum with the largest collection of Japanese art outside of Japan. Anne Nishimura Morse, William and Helen Pounds Senior Curator of Japanese Art, speaks about Bigelow’s life and contribution, and joins other curators from Art of Asia in sharing their favorite works from the Bigelow collection.



Opposite: Simone Leigh, *No Face (Pannier)* (detail), 2018. Terracotta, graphite, salt-fired porcelain, steel, raffia. Robert L. Beal, Enid L. Beal, and Bruce A. Beal Acquisition Fund. © 2018 Simone Leigh. All rights reserved.

Above: Unidentified artist, bed cover (detail), Chinese, about 1970s. Cotton and synthetics, hand-sewn patchwork. Joel Alvord and Lisa Schmid Alvord Fund.

► Curators Circles Events

Jasmine Society

(formerly Art of South Asia and the Middle East)

Calligraphic Batiks from Sumatra

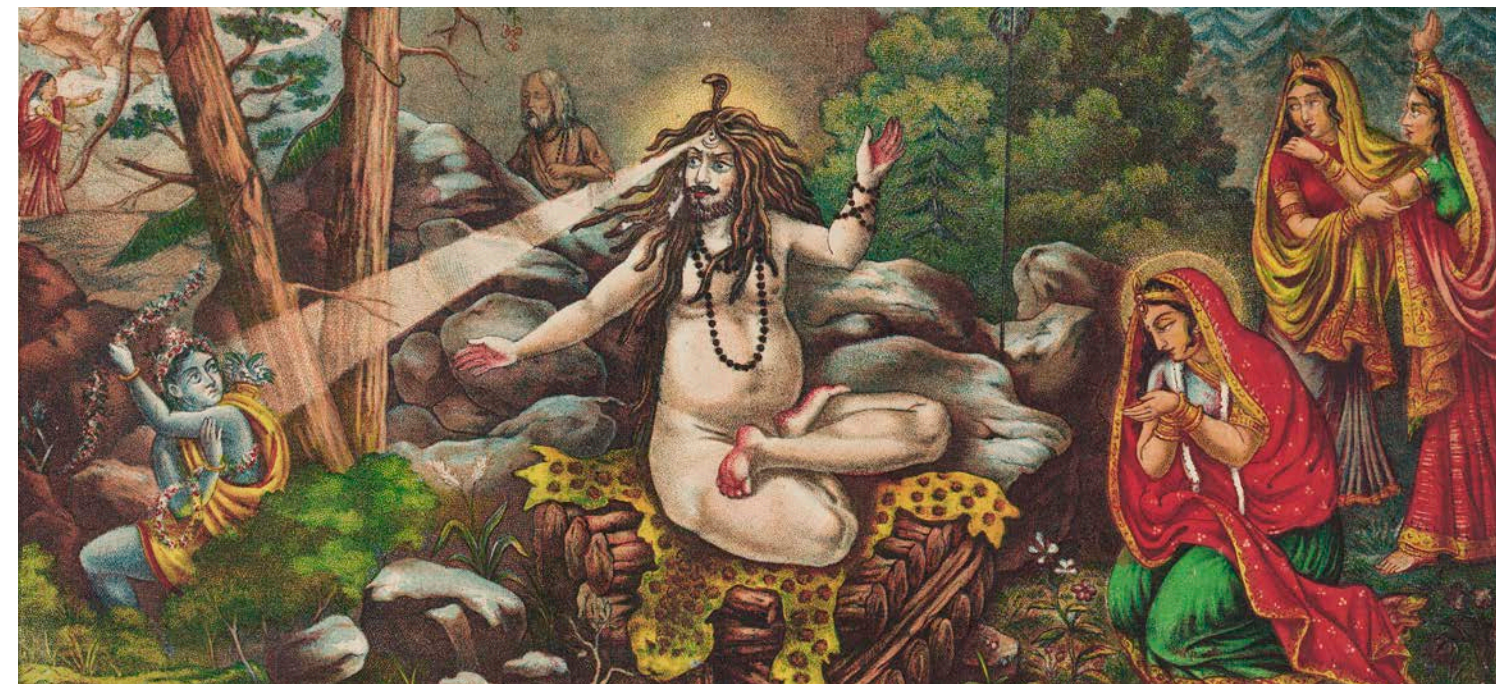
► Friday 9/19/25 ► Evening

In 2024 the MFA became one of few museums in the world to house a notable collection of rare Indonesian batiks with designs influenced by Muslim culture. Study these new acquisitions up close with curators from our Art of Asia and Fashion, Textiles, and Jewelry departments to learn how wax-resist textiles are made and preserved across generations, and about Muslim communities of Indonesia. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Threads.

Travel Opportunity: Asian Art in London

► Monday 10/27–Wednesday 10/29/25
► London

Take part in Asian Art in London, an annual program of exhibitions and auctions hosted by respected dealers, galleries, and auction houses specializing in Asian art, from ancient to contemporary. The trip includes visits to collectors' homes, private tours of exhibitions, and opportunities to connect with London-based scholars, artists, and art dealers. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Gingko Society.



Exhibition Celebration: Divine Color

► Sunday 2/22/26 ► Morning

Celebrate “Divine Color: Hindu Prints from Modern Bengal,” an exhibition showcasing the MFA’s collection of vivid Hindu devotional art. The first exhibition of its kind in the United States, “Divine Color” explores the origin of Hindu divinities through rarely seen lithographic prints alongside other related prints, paintings, sculpture, and textiles from 19th-century Calcutta (present day Kolkata).

Jewelry of the Middle East, North Africa, and South Asia

► Thursday 4/23/26 ► Evening

The MFA’s collection of Islamic jewelry, which includes North African enameled necklaces, Middle Eastern headwear, and South Asian bangles and pendants, spans two continents and hundreds of years. Delve into recent curatorial research with Jasmine Society curators, as well as special guest Emily Stoehr, Rita J. Kaplan and Susan B. Kaplan Senior Curator of Jewelry, to learn how jewelers designed pieces that produce sound and reflect light, and how wearers modified pieces to suit their needs.

Laurel Society

Shaping Roman Landscape on Delos

► Wednesday 10/8/25 ► Noon

Mantha Zarmakoupi, Morris Russell and Josephine Chidsey Williams Assistant Professor in Roman architecture, University of Pennsylvania, is an expert on Roman architecture and urban development. Mantha joins Laurel Society members to discuss the fascinating evolution of the Cycladic island of Delos during Roman rule.

From Seal Stones to Photography: A Prehistory of the Impression

► Thursday 11/13/25 ► Evening

Verity Platt is a professor of Classics and History of Art at Cornell University, where she also serves as director of the undergraduate Humanities Scholars Program. As cocurator of Cornell’s plaster cast collection, Verity has contributed to several exhibitions on classical art and reception, including “Wonder and Wakefulness: The Nature of Pliny the Elder” (2023). She joins the Laurel Society to discuss research on her upcoming book, *From Seal Stones to Photography: A Prehistory of the Impression* (2025).

Day Trip: Celtic Art Across the Ages

► Friday 4/17/26 ► Afternoon ► Harvard

Laurel Society favorite and treasured colleague Dr. Susanne Ebbinghaus, George M. A. Hanfmann Curator of Ancient Art and head of the Division of Asian and Mediterranean Art at the Harvard Art Museums, takes us on a behind-the-scenes tour of her groundbreaking exhibition “Celtic Art Across the Ages.” The exhibition centers on objects from the Iron Age, the Roman period, and the early medieval period, encompassing 1,500 years of Celtic art, its reception, reinterpretation, and revival.

Brettman Memorial Lecture Reception: Jacopo Tabolli

► Saturday 5/9/26 ► Afternoon

Jacopo Tabolli is associate professor of pre-Roman Archeology and Etruscology at the Università per Stranieri di Siena and director of the Center of Archeology for Diversity and Mobility in pre-Roman Italy. Jacopo—who currently directs the archeological excavations at San Casciano dei Bagni and at Isola del Giglio, both in Italy, as well as the excavation at the tumulus of Laona in Palaepaphos, Cyprus—delivers this year’s Estelle Shohet Brettman Memorial Lecture. Join Professor Tabolli and fellow Laurel Society members for a reception following the lecture. Lecture tickets are provided for all reception attendees.

Lotus Society

Reevaluating the Origins of a Royal Funerary Statuette

► Thursday 10/9/25 ► Evening

Learn about the archeological context of a royal funerary statuette in the collection. The wooden figurine is stylistically dated to the late 18th or early 19th Egyptian dynasty, but its excavation history remains unknown. Nicholas Brown, postdoctoral associate of Egyptology at Yale University, presents his case for the origins of the statuette and provides possible explanations for inclusion of these figures in royal burials.

Day Trip: Divine Egypt

► Friday 12/5/25 ► The Met

Visit New York’s Metropolitan Museum of Art to see “Divine Egypt,” a major exhibition exploring the manifold forms ancient Egyptian deities assume in art. Diana Craig Patch, Lila Acheson Wallace Curator in Charge, leads us on a tour of the exhibition and guides us through significant loans of Egyptian art from collections all over the world, including key objects from the MFA.

Herman Memorial Lecture Reception: Hidden Kings

► Sunday 3/1/26 ► Afternoon

Dr. Josef Wegner, professor of Egyptian Archeology at the University of Pennsylvania and curator, Egyptian Section, Penn Museum of Archeology and Anthropology, gives this year’s Herman Memorial Lecture. Hear from Dr. Wegner about new information uncovered from recent excavations through the royal necropolis of Anubis-Mountain at Abydos, and join him for a reception following his lecture. Lecture tickets are provided for all reception attendees.

Conservation of a Colossal Falcon

► Thursday 5/7/26 ► Evening

Explore the amazing journey of a monumental ancient Egyptian statue of a divine falcon. Fragments of the falcon arrived in Boston in 1923 and underwent a bold reconstruction in the 1970s. Discover the unusual properties of granodiorite, the stone the falcon is made from, and the object’s current treatment as the MFA prepares to put it back on view after 30 years. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Conservation and Collections.



Opposite: *Madana-Bhasma* (detail), published by Calcutta Art Studio, about 1885–95. Lithograph. Marshall H. Gould Fund.

Right: Unknown artist, statue of a falcon (Horus of Nekhen) (detail), Egyptian, New Kingdom, Dynasty 18, reign of Amenhotep III, 1390–1352 BCE. Granodiorite. Harvard University—Boston Museum of Fine Arts Expedition.

► Curators Circles Events

Musical Instruments

Jake Blount: Afrofuturist Folklore and the Banjo

► Friday 9/12/25 ► Evening

Hear from scholar and performer Jake Blount, who produced music with Rhiannon Giddens for *The American Revolution: An Intimate History*, a Ken Burns documentary. Jake speaks about his research on the banjo, dives into his new projects, and performs on a selection of historic banjos in the MFA's collection. Meet Jake before his performance. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Black Arts and Artists.

Bahauddin Dagar: The Legacy of the Rudra Veena

► Thursday 10/23/25 ► Evening

Bahauddin Dagar is a 20th-generation musician and widely considered the world's leading expert of the *rudra veena*—a large, plucked string instrument from North India. Bahauddin's father, Zia Mohiuddin Dagar, modified the traditional *rudra veena* to better suit solo performances, and the MFA holds the third iteration he ever made. Meet Bahauddin during a private reception before he speaks about the history of the *rudra veena* and the iconography on the MFA's version. Enjoy a captivating performance by Bahauddin after his talk.



Jake Blount. Photo by Tadin Brown.

Emily Hale: Music Hot off the Press

► Sunday 4/26/26 ► Afternoon

"PrintWorks: Making Music" is an interactive, multisensory music and art performance featuring 17th-century instruments and printing processes. Emily Hale, the Baroque violinist behind "PrintWorks," speaks about her work and provides insight into her creative process. Spend the afternoon exploring connections between auditory and visual arts and the printmaking process. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Prints and Drawings.

CT Scanning: A Look Inside the Music

► Friday 5/22/26 ► Evening

The MFA's Musical Instruments and Conservation and Scientific Research departments are working with MIT to pioneer a new method for analyzing musical instruments. As a result, conservators and curators now use a CT scanner to study instruments in the collection. Learn how this powerful technology allows us to hear instruments deemed no longer playable. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Conservation and Collections.

Photography

Studio Visit with Olivia Parker

► Thursday 9/25/25 ► Afternoon
► Manchester-by-the-Sea

Visit the beautiful home studio of photographer Olivia Parker in Manchester-by-the-Sea. Parker's still lifes portray both the natural and constructed through objects collected over her lifetime, including shells, bones, plants, stone fragments, and pages from books.

New Photography 2025: Lines of Belonging

► Thursday 10/30/25 ► Evening ► Hybrid

The Museum of Modern Art, New York's, acclaimed "New Photography" series celebrates its 40th anniversary edition with "New Photography 2025: Lines of Belonging." On the occasion of the anniversary, hear from MoMA curators about 13 international artists and collectives from Johannesburg, Kathmandu, Mexico City, and New Orleans, who are creatively combining personal narratives with structural, environmental, and colonial histories to highlight forms of belonging that shape communities and expand the horizons of photography.

Travel Opportunity: Rhode Island

► Thursday 3/5–Friday 3/6/26
► Providence and Westerly, RI

Visit photographers' studios and the vibrant Rhode Island School of Design Museum, and enjoy a one-night stay at the Weekapaug Inn in scenic Westerly.

Exhibition Celebration: Rosângela Rennó

► Friday 4/17/26 ► Evening

Celebrate the exhibition "Fazendo a América: Rosângela Rennó and Histories of Memory and Migration in Brazil." View the artist's photographic installations, sourced from public and private archives, which both interrogate notions of memory and historical amnesia while generating new layers of meaning.

Prints and Drawings

Up Close: Winslow Homer

► Monday 9/29/25 ► Afternoon

Learn from curators and conservators about the incredible paintings, watercolors, and prints by Winslow Homer and see the works up close before their installation ahead of this fall's special exhibition, "Of Light and Air: Winslow Homer in Watercolor." Co-organized with Curators Circles: Art of the Americas and Conservation and Collections.

Allan Rohan Crite: Urban Glory

► Thursday 11/20/25 ► Evening
► Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

Allan Rohan Crite (1910–2007) dedicated much of his rich career to documenting the Black community in Boston's South End and nearby Roxbury. Crite worked and inspired many local young artists for more than eight decades. Explore the artist's powerful paintings and works on paper in the Gardner Museum's "Allan Rohan Crite: Urban Glory." Co-organized with Curators Circles: Black Arts and Artists.

Emily Hale: Music Hot off the Press

► Sunday 4/26/26 ► Afternoon

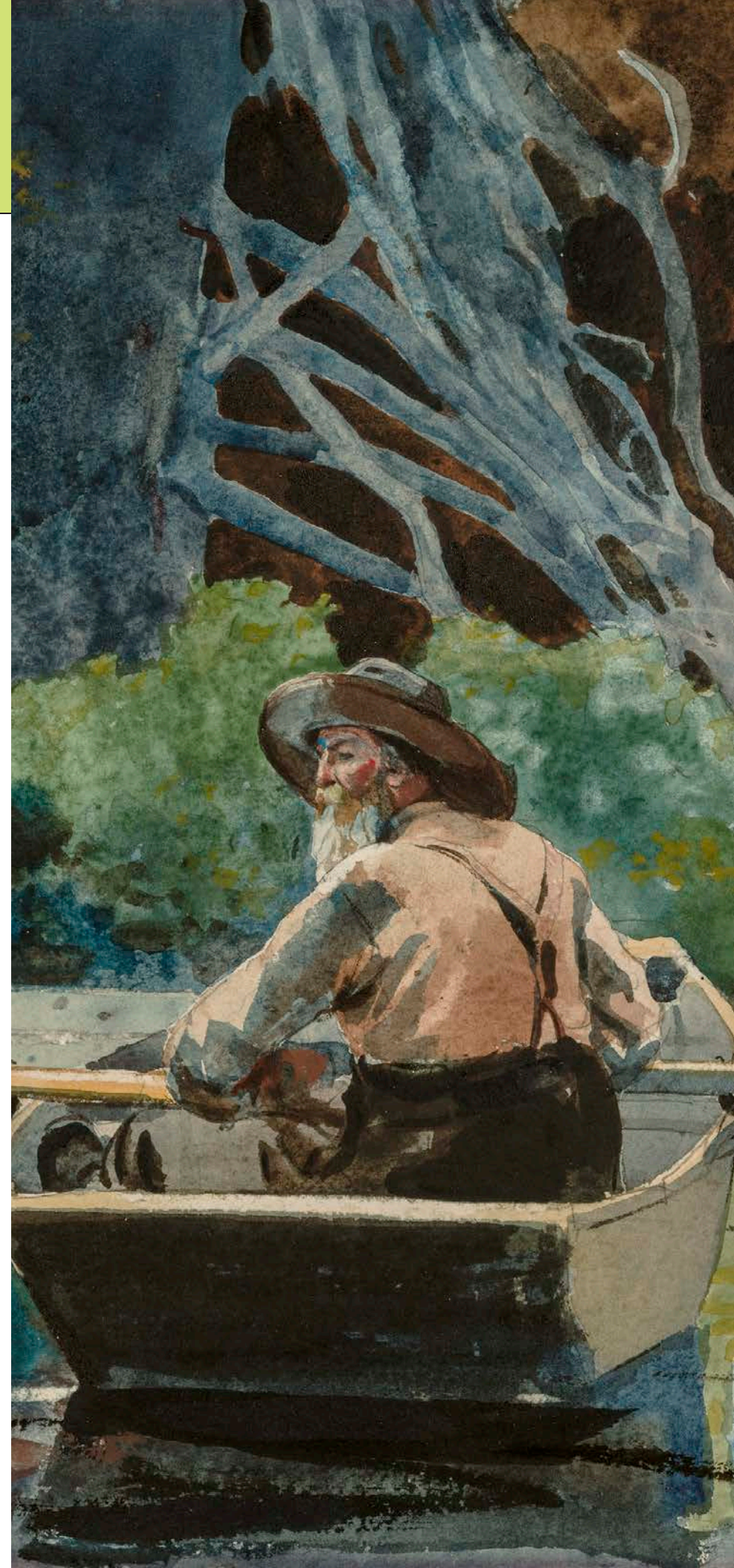
"PrintWorks: Making Music" is an interactive, multisensory music and art performance featuring 17th-century instruments and printing processes. Emily Hale, the Baroque violinist behind "PrintWorks," speaks about her work and provides insight into her creative process. Spend the afternoon exploring connections between auditory and visual arts and the printmaking process. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Musical Instruments.

Day Trip: Studio Visit with Joan Hall

► Saturday 5/16/26
► Jamestown, RI

Visit Joan Hall, one of the leading figures in handmade paper art and former director of Washington University's Island Press, at her home studio in Jamestown. Learn about Joan's papermaking process, enjoy lunch, and view works by Joan and the artists she published at both Island Press and her own press, Havsfläckan Studio.

Right: Winslow Homer, *The Adirondack Guide* (detail), 1894. Watercolor over graphite on paper. Bequest of Mrs. Alma H. Wadleigh.



► Curators Circles Events

Swan Society

New Acquisitions Showcase

► Friday 10/10/25 ► Evening

Curators from Art of Europe lead you through some exciting recent acquisitions. Learn about the department's priorities and the various steps included in acquiring a work for the MFA's collection.

Up Close: Rachel Ruysch

► Thursday 11/6/25 ► Evening

Join Antien Knaap, Rose-Marie and Eijk van Otterloo Curator of Paintings, Art of Europe, and Rhona MacBeth, Rose-Marie and Eijk van Otterloo Director of Conservation and Scientific Research, and head of Paintings Conservation, to learn about the research and conservation efforts behind "Rachel Ruysch: Artist, Naturalist, and Pioneer." Co-organized with Curators Circles: Conservation and Collections.

Travel Opportunity: Paris of the Impressionists

► Saturday 3/14–Tuesday 3/17/26
► Paris

A trip through late-19th-century Paris awaits! Visit the French capital with Katie Hanson, William and Ann Elfers Curator of Paintings, Art of Europe, and attend events around the opening of her exhibition "Renoir and Modern Love" at the Musée d'Orsay. Enjoy artistic and culinary delights along the way.

The Garden Party

► Wednesday 5/13/26 ► Afternoon

Welcome to this spring's captivating special exhibition, "Framing Nature: Gardens and Imagination." Indulge in afternoon tea, enjoy presentations, tour the exhibition, and consider how gardens have inspired art and fashion through the ages. Wear your garden party best! Co-organized with Curators Circles: Fashion Council.

Threads

Calligraphic Batiks from Sumatra

► Friday 9/19/25 ► Evening

In 2024 the MFA became one of few museums in the world to house a notable collection of rare Indonesian batiks with designs influenced by Muslim culture. Study these new acquisitions up close with curators from our Art of Asia and Fashion, Textiles, and Jewelry departments to learn how wax-resist textiles are made and preserved across generations, and about Muslim communities of Indonesia. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Jasmine Society.

Travel Opportunity: Detroit

► Friday 10/17–Monday 10/20/25
► Detroit and Toledo

Travel with us to Detroit, where we explore historic textile collections, visit cutting-edge design studios, and engage with local artists. While we're in the Midwest, enjoy a day trip to Toledo for the opening weekend of "Radiance and Reverie: Jewelry from the Collection of Neil Lane" at the Toledo Museum of Art, cocurated by the MFA's Emily Stoehrer, Rita J. Kaplan and Susan B. Kaplan Senior Curator of Jewelry. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Fashion Council.

European Tapestries

► Friday 10/24/25 ► Morning

Join us for an exclusive viewing of stunning works from the MFA's rarely seen collection of medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque tapestries. Immerse yourself in a world of fashionable dress, astounding beasts, and lush vegetation through these expansive masterpieces. A luncheon follows.

Up Close: Chinese Patchwork

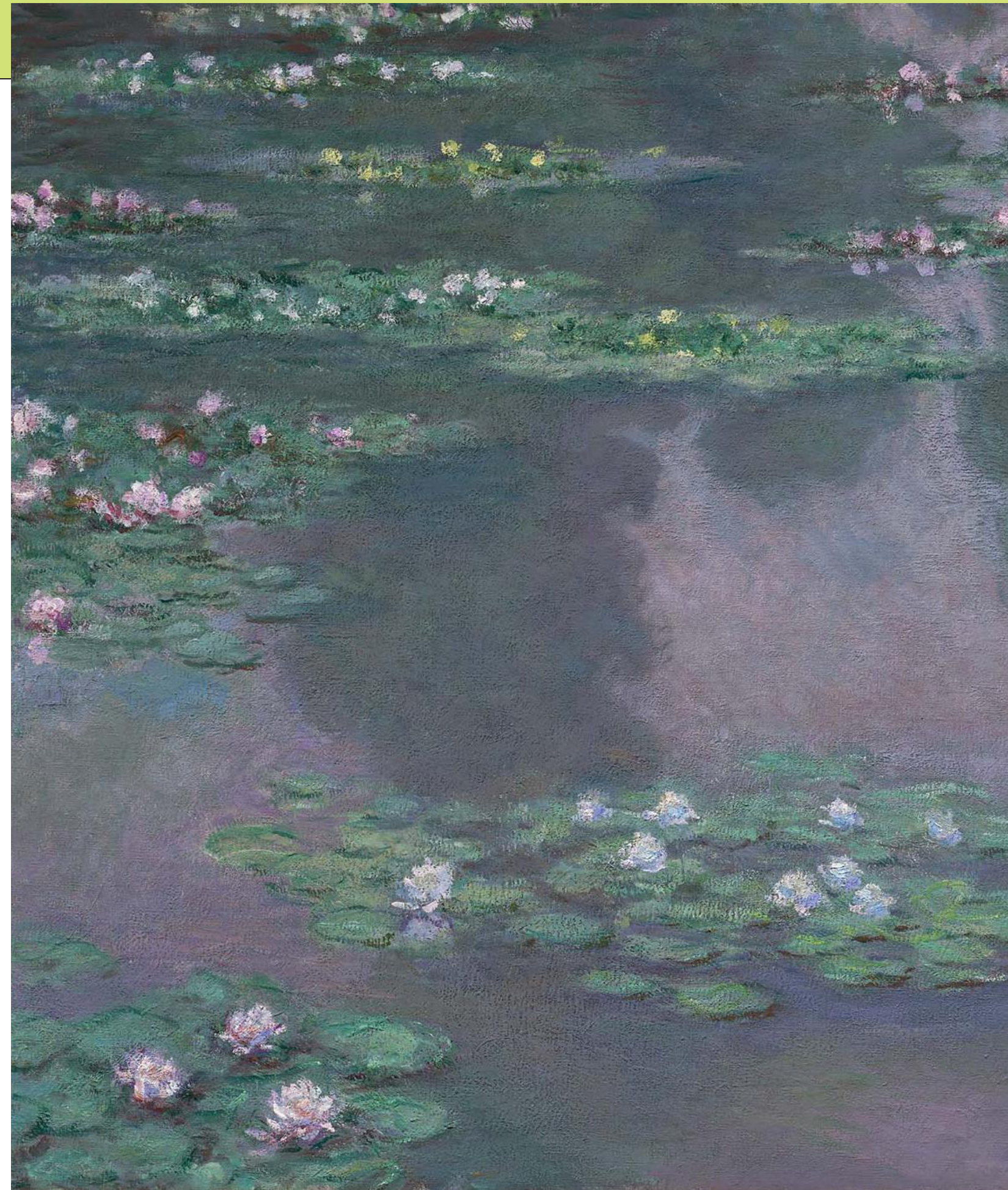
► Thursday 1/22/26 ► Afternoon

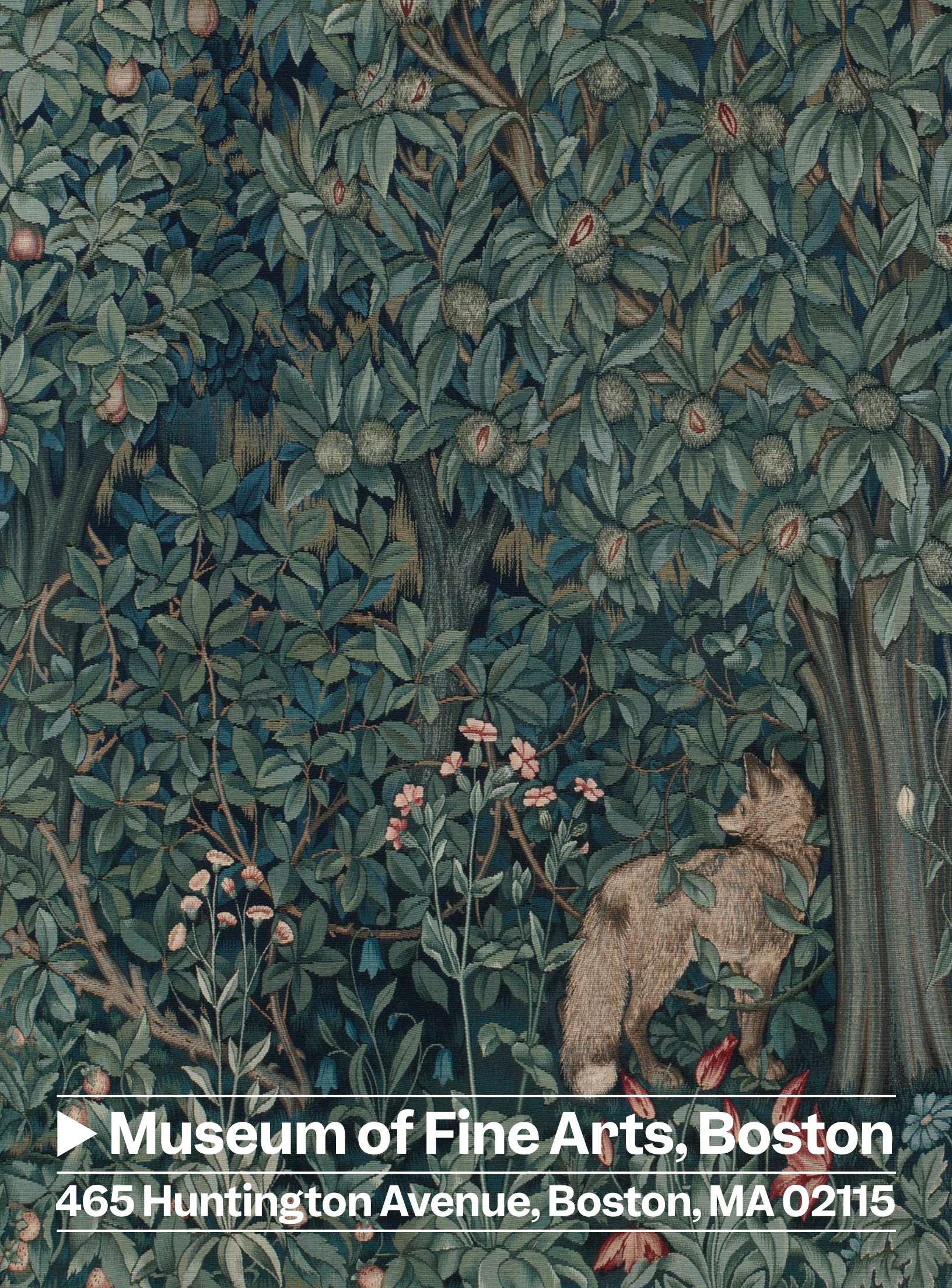
Nancy Berliner, Wu Tung Senior Curator of Chinese Art, and Jennifer Swope, David and Roberta Logie Curator of Textile and Fashion Arts, go behind the scenes of "One Hundred Stitches, One Hundred Villages: The Beauty of Patchwork from Rural China." Hear about Nancy's travels in rural Chinese villages and get a close look at kaleidoscopic samples of this unique and unexplored art form. Co-organized with Curators Circles: Ginkgo Society.



Right: Rachel Ruysch, *Forest Still Life with Stag Beetle and Nest* (detail), 1717. Oil on canvas. Staatliche Kunsthalle Karlsruhe.

Opposite: Claude Monet, *Water Lilies* (1905). Oil on canvas. Gift of Edward Jackson Holmes.





► **Museum of Fine Arts, Boston**

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