

NEW ACQUISITIONS

Walking Woman by Reginald Marsh



Reginald Marsh (1898 – 1954), *Walking Woman*, 1947. oil on board. Collection of Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson. Gift of Jean Butler. 2008.150.

A beautiful and significant addition to the Museum's collection of American paintings is *Walking Woman*, 1947, by Reginald Marsh. Born in Paris, France, of American parents, he studied at Yale and began his career in New York City. Like his contemporaries John Sloan, Isabel Bishop, and Kenneth Hayes Miller, Marsh drew upon Gotham's distinctive denizens and gritty urban backdrop to fashion his paintings, drawings, prints, and watercolors. A true observer of everyday life, Marsh was inspired not by the polished members of high society but by the fleshy, crowded throngs on Coney Island Beach, the rowdy audiences of burlesque halls, and the vibrant young women he saw everywhere in the city. *Walking Woman*, in a sense, is the descendant of the figural works of Peter Paul Rubens (1577-1640) or Jacopo Robusti (1518-1594), also known as Tintoretto. The rigid lines of the city's architecture serve as an effective backdrop for the woman's classically rendered, curvaceous form. Marsh adds a certain nervous energy to the image by scraping lines through the dark, rich pigment and exposing the lighter ground around the forms. The Museum is very pleased to have this outstanding work of art in its Permanent Collection, and is even more pleased to share it with the public.

The Museum is very pleased to have this outstanding work of art in its Permanent Collection, and is even more pleased to share it with the public.

MMA AFFILIATES

Unburied Treasures Hits the Road!

Last fall, the Museum took its award winning arts and humanities program to several member organizations of its Statewide Affiliate Network. Each "Unburied Treasures: On the Road" program consists of a visual arts presentation, a literary reading, and a musical performance, and accompanies exhibitions of artworks from the Museum's Permanent Collection. "Unburied Treasures: On the Road" debuted at the Charleston Arts and Revitalization Effort on September 14 in conjunction with the exhibition *Tell Me a Story: Photographing the American South*. Photographer Langdon Clay discussed his artwork. Exploring the exhibition's theme of storytelling were actor Jo Ann Robinson and singer/songwriter Tricia Walker. The Pike County Arts Council presented a program on October 16 about John James Audubon in conjunction with an exhibition of prints donated to the Mississippi Museum of Art by Robert Burns, Jr. in memory of his parents, Robert and Hortense Burns. Museum Deputy Director for Programs Dan Piersol spoke about Audubon and his *Birds of America*. Robert Burns, Jr. read his poetry, and Valerie Plested and Don Penzien of the band Legacy performed on the fiddle and guitar. For the "Unburied Treasures: On the Road" program at Northwest Mississippi Community College in Senatobia, poet Louis Bourgeois and singer/songwriter Laurel Isbister presented their own poems and songs, respectively, that reflected on nature, faith, and philosophy. The October 20th program was held in conjunction with the exhibition *The Glow of Faith: Watercolors and Drawings by Hans Friedrich Grohs*. Dan Piersol discussed the fascinating life of Grohs and his artwork, throughout which the themes of faith and nature appear.

Funding for "Unburied Treasures: On the Road" is provided by the Mississippi Arts Commission and The Wallace Foundation. For a schedule of 2009 programs, please visit www.msmuseumart.org.



Robert Burns, Jr. discusses his poetry with Sharon White following his "Unburied Treasures: On the Road" presentation at the Pike County Arts Council in McComb.

MMA AFFILIATES CONT.

Other Affiliate News

Community members, politicians, and government officials from across the state gathered in Amory to celebrate the opening of Amory Regional Museum's new gallery annex. The October 10th event also marked the opening of the exhibition *GladRags: Sketches, Swatches and Costume Designs* by Myrna Colley-Lee. The mission of the Mississippi Museum of Art's Statewide Affiliate Network, which consists of nearly thirty not-for-profit organizations in Mississippi, is to increase the engagement of the state's many communities in the visual arts by utilizing the Museum's most significant resource—artworks from the Mississippi Museum of Art's Permanent Collection. The Statewide Affiliate Network Program is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

Affiliate Exhibition Schedule JANUARY - AUGUST 2009

JANUARY

January 20 – March 7

Drawn to Whimsey: The World of Edgar Parker

Crossroads Museum, Corinth

January 20 - February 12

Picture Show: Photographs from the Permanent Collection

Mississippi Gulf Coast

Community College, Gautier

MARCH

March 6 – 31

10! A Decade of Cartoons by Marshall Ramsey

Northwest Mississippi

Community College, Senatobia

March 25 – April 30

Enduring Impressions: Master Prints from the Collection of Sara Virginia Jones

Crossroads Museum, Corinth

APRIL

April 1 – May 15

Tell Me a Story: Photographing the American South

Historic Jefferson College, Washington

AUGUST

August 1 – September 12

10! A Decade of Cartoons by Marshall Ramsey

Crossroads Museum, Corinth

SPOTLIGHT ON THE COLLECTION

Jane Rule Burdine

While pursuing a master's degree in sociology at The University of Mississippi, and taking casual photographs for her own pleasure in the early 1970s, Jane Rule Burdine had a life-changing experience. She purchased a book of Dorothea Lange's stark, black and white Depression-era photographs. In the artist's own words, she was "galvanized by the intensity and narrative quality" of the images. This inspiration, along with her interest in humanity, led Burdine to capture her own powerful images of the Delta landscape and its people. Like her distinguished Southern contemporaries, William Christenberry (born 1936) and William Eggleston (born 1939), she has embraced color photography as her medium.

Burdine's stark Dixie reveals her gift for finding the intriguing amongst the everyday. A fleeting moment in time was captured in the photograph, but the familiar signs and symbols therein retain their meanings and give the viewer pause to consider the past, the present, and the future.



Jane Rule Burdine (born 1946), *Dixie*, no date. Cibachrome print. Collection of Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson. Purchase. 1983.143.