

Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art

SUMMER 2014



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- Luke Dempsey, *Collections Manager Assistant*
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- Lindsay Smith, *Exhibitions Designer*
- Chelcie Sutherland, *Program Assistant*
- Anthony Whetstone, *Maintenance*

On the cover:

Dawoud Bey, *Mrs. Bracey*, 1989, silver print, courtesy of the artist and Stephen Daiter Gallery.

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Linda Duke, Director

Located just north of the Beach Museum, The Meadow's profusion of native prairie plants is maturing as it enters its first full summer. If you are not able to stroll through its winding pathways, be sure to check the blog and see its remarkable progress.

On June 17 the Beach Museum of Art will open a very special traveling exhibition: "Dawoud Bey: Picturing People." We are grateful to the organizing institution, The Renaissance Society, for extending the run of this exhibition so it can visit our area. It is scheduled to remain on view through Oct. 5 to maximize visiting opportunities for school groups and university classes. Several public programs are planned, but I want to especially draw your attention to one. Artist Dawoud Bey and the exhibition's curator, Hamza Walker, will discuss the work in this show at 7 p.m. in the Little Theatre at the K-State Student Union on Thursday, Sept. 4. This discussion will open a window into the provocative and compassionate art practice of one of the most interesting photographers of our time.

I hope to see you often in your museum. It's a great place to find cool experiences on a hot summer day.

All best,

Linda Duke, Director

P.S. Have you checked out some of the fun and interesting Beach Museum videos on our website? Just click on the YouTube icon in the box with museum hours on the homepage. The other YouTube icon, in the banner across the bottom of the page, links to all of K-State's videos.

Scenes from the opening reception for "Take Shelter: An Installation by Tom Parish." The exhibition is on view until June 29, 2014. Gift prints by Tom Parish are available for purchase by Friends of the Beach Museum of Art members at the Sponsor (\$250) level or higher. For information, contact Robin Lonborg at 785-532-7718 or rlonborg@ksu.edu.



EXHIBITIONS



◀ Wayne Thiebaud (United States, born 1920), *Boston Creams*, 1970, lithograph on paper, KSU, Beach Museum of Art

Igniting the Senses: Selections from the Permanent Collection

June 6 – October 5, 2014, Ruth Ann Wefald Gallery

“Igniting the Senses” explores the power of visual art to evoke other physical senses in the viewer. The works in this exhibition range from those that may spark a single sensory reaction to those that meld a sense of space, time, light, sound, taste and touch with the brain serving as orchestra director.

The concept of the five senses or wits is rooted in Greek philosophy, which held that the senses are points of contact between people and the universe. The traditional five senses appeared as the five material faculties (pañcannaṃ indriyānaṃ avakanti) in Buddhist literature and are represented as five horses drawing the chariot of the body, guided by the mind as driver.

The five senses as a theme in art first appeared in Middle Ages, when sight, hearing, touch, smell and taste were associated with vices, such as gluttony and greed. The 16th century saw the first artistic treatment of the senses as independent subjects, with artists creating works of art based on aesthetics, such as still life. By the 17th century, Dutch and Flemish painters depicted the senses as positive allegories — for example, sense of smell as a girl holding a bouquet of flowers.

A more complex web of interrelationships between the senses emerges under closer examination. Despite the distinct feelings they produce, the senses are not experienced independently and each sense has the ability to incite or enhance another. The most common example is smell influencing one’s sense of taste.

Today, neuroscientists are delving into the mystery of synesthesia, a neurological phenomenon in which stimulation of one sensory or cognitive pathway leads to automatic, involuntary experiences in a second sensory or cognitive pathway. For example, letters or numbers may be perceived as colors. Current research on visual culture includes the concept of multimodality, an approach that states communication and representation are more than just language, and that investigates the relationships of visual, aural and spatial aspects of interaction and environments. These examinations of the senses are contributing to the ability of museums to offer universal accessibility — experiences that are available to all visitors. Art Beyond Sight, a national organization promoting art experiences for the visually impaired, is a leader in this effort.



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Dawoud Bey, *Rudy Nimocks and Lindsay Atnip, Hyde Park, Chicago, 2012*, pigment print, courtesy of the artist

Dawoud Bey: Picturing People

June 17–October 5, 2014, Marion Pelton Gallery

Since 1975, photographer Dawoud Bey has developed a body of work distinguished for its commitment to portraiture as a means of reflecting social circumstances. Ranging from street encounters to studio portraits, Bey's photographic methods are designed to increase engagement with his subjects. This comprehensive look at Bey's work provides an opportunity to explore subjects such as the presentation of self, race, site, and the relationship between artist and subject.

"Picturing People" includes selections from Bey's work spanning 1982 to the present. The seven bodies of work in the exhibition include: small camera street photographs (1981–1988); large format black and white street photographs (1988–1992); Polaroid 20x24 works (1991–1998); color street portraits (2000–2002); selections from the series *Class Pictures* (2002–2006); *Character Project* (2008); and *Strangers/Community* (2010–present).

Bey's small camera pictures focus on the spontaneous choreography of human interactions within specific locations, and the fleeting social tensions embedded in them. His street portraits explore moments of consensual collaboration between the artist and the subjects and speak to the possibility of formal portraits made in public spaces. Bey's first Polaroid works mark the introduction of young people as the central subject, which is further developed in *Class Pictures* and *Character Project*. Bey's most recent project, *Strangers/Community*, returns to concerns with neighborhood and community. Bey pairs people who live in the same neighborhood but who have never previously met and whose lives are unlikely to bring them into contact.

This exhibition is organized by The Renaissance Society at the University of Chicago, and made possible through generous support from the David C. and Sarajeon Ruttenberg Arts Foundation and the Harper Court Arts Council.

Related events

Gallery Walk:
Picturing People

June 26, 2014, 5:30 p.m.

In Conversation: Dawoud Bey and Hamza Walker

September 4, 2014, 7 p.m.

K-State Student Union
Little Theatre

BEACH HAPPENINGS

ARTSmart Classes — Igniting the Senses

Art serves as a unique sensory stimulus; it has the power to evoke multiple senses. A viewer may sense the sound of the ocean crashing in a seascape or smell the smoke in a photograph of a prairie grass fire. In conjunction with the Manhattan Public Library summer reading theme “Fizz – Boom – Read,” this program explores the science of sensory perception and the experience of one sense igniting another.

Topics

Touch	June 10-12
Smell	June 17-19
Taste	June 24-26
Sound	July 22-24
Sight	July 29-31

Summer Class Schedule

Tuesdays	10:30-11:30 a.m., ages 2-3 3-4 p.m., ages 4-5
Wednesdays	10:30-11 a.m., toddlers and twos 3-4 p.m., all ages
Thursdays	10:30-11:30 a.m., all ages 3-4 p.m., ages 6 and up

Cost is \$3 per child per class, \$1.50 for Friends of the Beach Museum of Art members. Call 785-532-7718 or email klwalk@k-state.edu to register. Children must be accompanied by an adult. If you must cancel, we would appreciate a call.

Young Artists Programs take place in June and July with tours, activities and art workshops. One work by each artist will be chosen for display. Reservations are required.

Young Artists & Observers spend time sketching from nature in “The Meadow,” create art from their sketches and receive a behind-the-scenes tour of the Beach Museum of Art. Cost is \$15.

June 9	9:30 a.m.-noon, ages 9-12
June 16	9:30 a.m.-noon, ages 6-12
June 23	9:30 a.m.-noon, ages 6-8
June 30	1-3:30 p.m., ages 6-12

Young Musicians will create a sound art performance inspired by art from the permanent collection, create art to be included in a slide show, participate in music, performance and language arts exercises, and receive a behind the scenes tour. Cost is \$25.

July 7-10	9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m., ages 9-12 1-3 p.m., ages 6-9
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Young Artists Celebration and Reception July 11, 3-5 p.m.

Visit the Young Curators exhibition and view works created in the Young Artists Program. Reception features performances by the Young Musicians and readings in the galleries by participants in K-State English department’s Young Writers Program. Refreshments will be served.

Portrait Workshops

Visit “Dawoud Bey: Picturing People” and create photographic and drawn self-portraits. Reservations required. Cost is \$5.

August 5	10:30 a.m.-noon, ages 6-10
August 6	10:30 a.m.-noon, ages 10-16

To learn more about education programs please visit beach.k-state.edu. To make a reservation please call 785-532-7718 or email klwalk@k-state.edu.

Celebrating Art: Transformations

Mark on your calendar Friday, Sept. 12, 2014, 6 p.m. for the Friends of the Beach Museum fundraising gala. The gala at the museum will feature amazing food and entertainment, the opening of two major exhibitions, and many surprises. All profits will be used for purchases of Kansas and regional art. Contact Ken Warren (knmjwarren@aol.com) or Sharon Kriss (smkriss@cox.net) with questions.

CALENDAR

All events are at the museum and free and open to everyone unless noted otherwise. For events requiring preregistration, call 785-532-7718 or email beachart@k-state.edu. More information at beach.k-state.edu/visit/calendar.

June 26, 2014, 5:30 p.m.

Gallery Walk: *Picturing People*

Join Beach Museum of Art curator Theresa Bembnister, K-State assistant professor of photography Rebecca Bahlmann, and University of Kansas history of photography PhD candidate Jen Friess for an informal exploration of the exhibition "Dawoud Bey: Picturing People."

July 11, 3-5 p.m.

Young Artists Celebration and Reception

Visit the Young Curators exhibition and view works created in the Young Artists program. Featuring

performances by the Young Musicians and readings in the galleries by the English department's Young Writers program participants. Refreshments will be served.

August 5, 10:30-noon (ages 6-10)

or August 6, 10:30-noon (ages 10-16)

Portrait Workshops

Visit "Dawoud Bey: Picturing People" and create photographic and drawn self-portraits. \$5 per child. Reservations required.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



A native of Topeka, Kan., **Collin Huerter** is a senior in political science, pre-law. He has been with the museum since April 2011 as a gallery attendant and lobby host.

Collin is an avid scouter with lots of experiences in hiking, backpacking, canoeing, and exploring parks and forests throughout the country. He

also enjoys playing and watching sports with his friends, staying busy with several groups on and off campus, and relaxing by spending time with his family and girlfriend.

Outside the museum, Collin serves as a class leader (teaching assistant) at the School of Leadership Studies during the fall semesters and will attend law school in fall 2014. He is president of the School of Leadership Studies Ambassadors and a member of National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

"I love spending at least an hour at the museum each day of my week," Collin said. "Taking in the awesome atmosphere of the art, the events and all the great patrons always leaves me feeling recharged."

Fun fact: Collin was born on New Year's Day, the first person born in Topeka in 1992.



Trent Jones is a junior majoring in family studies and human services with a minor in conflict analysis and trauma studies. He has been at the museum since November 2011 and is a lobby host. From Hutchinson, Kan., Trent enjoys music, cooking, running and reading.

Trent also is a site coordinator at Boys and Girls Club of

Manhattan, an active member of Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity and enjoys volunteering for K-State Proud.

When it comes to working at the Beach Museum of Art, Trent said, "I love getting to interact with our guests and hearing their feedback on our newest exhibitions."

Fun fact: Trent has played the piano since he was 5 years old.

FRIENDS OF THE BEACH MUSEUM OF ART



Sharon Kriss, President

What a wonderful year it has been for the Friends of the Beach Museum of Art! It has been my privilege to serve as president of the Friends Board. Of course, this task could not have been accomplished without the constant work and support of the executive committee, board members, advisors, Board of Visitors, Friends members, director Linda Duke and all of the Beach staff. The Friends would not survive without the ever present willingness of volunteers coming together for the betterment of the Beach Museum of Art. It is a perfect combination when people in the community realize the great asset that is theirs and choose to support the Beach by joining the Friends organization.

The president-elect of the Friends board, Sarah Caldwell-Hancock, proved her leadership skills by leading her committee in presenting the annual gala, "Night of Wonder." It fit the theme and left us all looking forward to 2014's gala. Everyone may look forward to a great year under Sarah's leadership in 2014-15.

Jill Myers, our secretary and spring reception chair, was always more than prompt with minutes of all meetings and organized a delightful reception.

In every organization, there is someone who keeps track of the "little" things, and that for me would be our treasurer, Tom Giller. Tom was vigilant with financials, reminding us exactly how we were doing and what we should be doing. Also keeping us on track was our past president, Janet Cooper, who I do believe knows "all things Beach" and was always prepared to answer questions and solve dilemmas.

One executive committee member, Ken Warren, is our vice president and is in charge of fundraising. His job seemed an uphill battle after the tremendous success of last year's gala, but he took on the task and is striving for an even better experience this year. Ken and his committee are working diligently on the upcoming gala Sept. 12. The theme will be "Celebrating Art: Transformations." Once again the gala will be held at the museum and will offer wonderful food, entertainment, conversation and surprises for all who attend. Please put it on your calendars!

Thank you to all of these individuals and every single member of the Friends board and advisors who have given their time to help fulfill the mission of the Friends. A big thank you also goes to the staff who are constant in their assistance and support of the board.

Of course, the last thank you goes to you, the Friends membership. We appreciate the support you give by purchasing a membership. Your financial support enables the museum to purchase the works of Kansas and regional artists, fund conservation of existing pieces in the permanent collection, pay honorariums, print membership brochures, and perform all the other activities that are necessary within the organization.

Please remember to include the Beach in your plans with family and friends. There are constantly changing exhibitions, programs, openings, workshops and treasures to be explored. The Friends and staff of the Beach Museum of Art look forward to seeing you soon. Thank you for this very special year.

Sincerely,

Sharon Kriss,
President

**Friends of the Beach
Museum of Art Board
of Directors**

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RECENT ACQUISITION



< Shirley Smith (United States, 1929–2013), *Soft Landing*, 1970, acrylic on canvas (unbleached muslin), three parts, overall, 66 x 89 x 66 in., KSU, Beach Museum of Art, gift of Shirley Smith estate