



NEWS RELEASE

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Marks of GENIUS 100 EXTRAORDINARY DRAWINGS from the Minneapolis Institute of Art

An exceptional opportunity to see rarely exhibited drawings spanning from the Renaissance to today.

(Omaha, NE) – Whether quick sketches or highly finished works, drawings reveal artists' creative impulses and their artistic process, providing viewers a window into the way ideas are transformed into images, and how artists navigate composition and design. *Marks of Genius: 100 Extraordinary Drawings from the Minneapolis Institute of Art* presents a selection of exceptional and rarely seen works from the museum's superb collection of over 2,600 drawings. Ranging from the fifteenth century to the present day, the exhibition features pen and ink studies, chalk drawings, watercolors, and pastels that explore a wide range of subject matter, including depictions from nature, portraits, mythological scenes, and landscapes. The exhibition also features a selection of works from Joslyn's permanent collection.

Marks of Genius opens to the public at Joslyn Art Museum on Saturday, October 7, and continues through January 7, 2018.

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Marks of Genius at Joslyn Art Museum

In *Marks of Genius*, masterworks by such artists as Annibale Carracci, Guercino, Eugène Delacroix, Edgar Degas, Gustav Klimt, Henri Matisse, Vincent van Gogh, Pablo Picasso, and Andy Warhol illustrate the manifold role of drawings as a means of study, observation, and personal expression, bringing to life the intimacy and immediacy of the artist's hand.

Marks of Genius is organized around several themes that embody key aspects of drawing, including the three highlighted here:

Artist as Observer features studies from nature, including people, flora, and fauna.

Showcasing Pierre-Joseph Redouté's extraordinary observational and technical skills to depict scientifically accurate botanical forms, this drawing (right) illustrates the flowers, leaves, stem, bulb and roots of the amaryllis lutea as well as the plant's reproductive system. It was later engraved for Redouté's eight-volume publication of lilies called *Les Liliacées* (1802–16).



Abstraction explores how artists approach both representational and non-

representational forms through drawing. Ernst Ludwig Kirchner's portrayal of a woman (left) features bold and animated strokes of pastel and black ink to distinguish form. A member of the German progressive art group called Die Brücke (The Bridge), Kirchner found artistic inspiration in the works of Vincent van Gogh, Edvard Munch, and Henri Matisse.



Storytelling presents drawings that have a narrative theme.

Arthur Rackham's intricately detailed drawing of Little Red Riding Hood's encounter with the wolf (right) was created for the 1909 edition of *The Fairy Tales of the Brothers Grimm*. Creating a sense of isolation and danger, Rackham contrasted the small, innocent girl with the towering, eerie woods.



IMAGES: (PAGE 1) Winslow Homer (American, 1836–1910), *The Conch Divers*, 1885, watercolor, blotting, lifting, and scraping, over graphite, 13–13/16 x 20 in., Minneapolis Institute of Art; (PAGE 2, TOP TO BOTTOM) Pierre-Joseph Redouté (Flemish, active France, 1759–1840), *Amaryllis lutea*, c. 1800–1806, watercolor and graphite on vellum, 18 1/2 x 13 1/4 in., Minneapolis Institute of Art; Ernst Ludwig Kirchner (German, 1880–1938), *Seated Woman in the Studio*, 1909, pastel, brush, and black ink, 35 3/8 x 26 5/8 in., Minneapolis Institute of Art; Arthur Rackham (British, 1867–1939), *Little Red Riding Hood*, 1909, pen and ink with watercolor, on illustration board, 11 1/8 x 7 5/8 in., Minneapolis Institute of Art

Exhibition Catalogue

The *Marks of Genius* exhibition catalogue is available in Joslyn's Hitchcock Museum Shop for \$59.95 (Member price: \$53.96).

Exhibition Tickets and Tours

Marks of Genius is a ticketed exhibition: \$10 for general public adults; \$5 college students with ID (tickets for those with a UNMC student ID are free); free for members and youth ages 17 and younger. Special Thursday pricing (4–8 pm): \$5 for general public adults. All visitors, including members, must obtain a ticket at the admissions desk for entrance to the exhibition. Programs with visits to the exhibition will be priced accordingly for general public adults. Docent-guided tours of the exhibition are offered weekly (ticket pricing applies; view the calendar of events at www.joslyn.org for tour offerings).

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Marks of Genius at Joslyn Art Museum

Exhibition Mobile Tour

Free Wi-Fi is available in all Joslyn galleries. Guests may use their own web-enabled mobile device or borrow one of Joslyn's to access the dual language *Marks of Genius* mobile tour. Dial (402) 881-3601 for English or (402) 972-4031 for Spanish; or visit www.joslyn.org > Education > Multimedia; or scan the QR code at the entrance to the exhibition; or read the audio script, available for hearing impaired visitors (access it through the web app). Presented by Joslyn and OnCell with special thanks to 91.5 KIOS FM.

Exhibition Programs & Events

Friday, October 6

Members Preview Reception; 5:30–8 pm

On Friday, October 6, Joslyn members are invited to a private discussion and reception celebrating *Marks of Genius*.

At 6 pm, Dana E. Cowen, Ph.D., Joslyn's Associate Curator of European Art, will offer an overview of the show in the Witherspoon Concert Hall. The presentation will be followed by exhibition viewing in the Pavilion galleries and complimentary light hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar in the fountain court. Joslyn members receive invitations. To join Joslyn, visit www.joslyn.org.

Monday, October 9

Members Day; Noon–3 pm

On Monday, October 9, the Museum will open the *Marks of Genius* exhibition exclusively for Joslyn members. From noon 3 pm, members show their membership card at the admissions desk for tickets to the exhibition (reservations not required during the day). At 12:30 pm, 1:30 pm, and 2:30 pm, Dana E. Cowen, Ph.D., Associate Curator of European Art, will present talks for members in the exhibition galleries. Each talk is limited to 30 people on a first come, first served basis (participants will be asked to sign up upon arrival on October 9 as no reservations will be taken ahead of time for tours). Joslyn members receive invitations. To join Joslyn, visit www.joslyn.org.

Friday, October 13; 7–10 pm

Drink & Draw

For ages 21 and up. This drop-in event is free, however, those wishing to see the *Marks of Genius* exhibition must obtain an exhibition ticket.

Guests are invited to let creativity flow while they sip, scribble, and snack! Drawing on a variety of creative prompts inspired by *Marks of Genius*, this event offers an informal atmosphere of drawing games and prizes designed to synthesize creative minds and improve technique. *Drink & Draw* welcomes artists of all skill levels!

Participants may bring sketchbooks and pencils or whatever their preferred medium. For the less artistically-inclined, drawing materials and supplies will be available at the event. *Drink & Draw* encourages artists to talk to each other, motivate each other, and maybe even collaborate with each other. Joslyn will provide the rules to the games and a cash bar – guests provide the creativity!

Saturday & Sunday, November 4 & 5

Free College Weekend

During regular public hours (10 am to 4 pm) on Saturday and Sunday, November 4 and 5, anyone with a valid college ID will receive free tickets to *Marks of Genius*! Regular ticket price for college students is \$5 (tickets for those with a UNMC student ID are always free).

Sponsored by
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Marks of Genius at Joslyn Art Museum

Thursday, November 9 @ 6:30 pm (cash bar @ 5 pm)

***A Window into the Artist's Mind* with Rachel McGarry, Ph.D., Associate Curator, Minneapolis Institute of Art**

This talk is free, however, those wishing to see the *Marks of Genius* exhibition must obtain an exhibition ticket.

Hear the fascinating stories behind the rare drawings in the *Marks of Genius* exhibition by artists such as Käthe Kollwitz, Winslow Homer, Emile Nolde, Egon Schiele, and Amedeo Modigliani. Curator Rachel McGarry, Ph.D., will share her discoveries as well as examine the indispensable role of draftsmanship to some of the world's most renowned artists. Drawing, in its directness and informality, is the art form arguably closest to the artist's authentic self. You will see drawings that offer glimpses into an artist's private thoughts, as well as works of astounding virtuosity executed with a mere piece of chalk or quill pen and a slip of paper.

Rachel McGarry is an Associate Curator of Prints and Drawings at the Minneapolis Institute of Art (Mia), where she was worked since 2006. She earned her M.A. and Ph.D. from the Institute of Fine Arts at New York University. While her first love is Old Master drawings, Dr. McGarry was drawn to the art of engraving when she worked for two years after college in the silver department at Christie's New York. While in graduate school, she worked at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in both the drawings and prints department, as well as the European paintings department. She has taught art history at Stony Brook University and the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. In 2010, she helped Mia acquire Jacopo de' Barbari's monumental bird's-eye *View of Venice*, a rare Renaissance woodcut from 1500, and is currently organizing an exhibition around the work and artist titled *Renaissance Mystery Artist Jacopo de' Barbari*. Among the many drawings, prints, and paintings exhibitions Dr. McGarry has organized at Mia since 2006, *Marks of Genius* is without doubt her very favorite, so she is thrilled the exhibition lives on in its tour through the United States, which wraps up at Joslyn Art Museum.

Thursday, November 30; 6:30 pm & 7:10 pm (cash bar @ 5 pm)

Sunday, December 17; 2 pm & 2:45 pm

Curator Gallery Talks

Advance registration is strongly encouraged; walk-in guests will only be admitted as space permits. Please register online at www.joslyn.org (select gallery talk date and time) or by contacting Susie Severson, Director of Adult programs, at (402) 661-3862 or sseverson@joslyn.org. The talks are free with regular exhibition admission (special Thursday evening pricing of \$5 per ticket for general public adults).

Join Dana E. Cowen, Ph.D., Associate Curator of European Art, for a look at the highlights of the *Marks of Genius*.

Other Programs at Joslyn

Many of Joslyn's regularly scheduled programs will feature *Marks of Genius*-inspired themes this fall and winter. Visit www.joslyn.org for complete details.

- **Stroller Tours** (Wednesday, October 18): Joslyn offers docent-guided tours designed for moms, dads, and caregivers to look at and talk about art with other adults, while being mindful of young ones in arms and strollers. Guests gather on the Strauss Bridge at 9:30 am for complimentary refreshments, then head to the galleries at 10 am for tours of Joslyn's collections and exhibitions. Crying babies welcome! On October 18, the tour will feature the *Marks of Genius* exhibition. Free for Joslyn members and infants/toddlers; \$10 for general public adults (includes exhibition ticket). Space is limited; reservations are requested. Sign-up at least one week in advance at www.joslyn.org > Visit > Kids Programs.
- **Art Encounters** (Thursday, October 19; 10:30 am): Art lovers, from the well-seasoned to the amateur, will enjoy a docent-guided tour of the *Marks of Genius* exhibition. \$10 general public adults; \$5 college students with valid ID on October 19.

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Marks of Genius at Joslyn Art Museum

- **Art Camps and Classes**

Joslyn offers drawing classes for all ages this fall. From drawing in the galleries and figure drawing (clothed and nude) to intuitive drawing and drawing with a brush, there's something for everyone's interests and skill level. Online class registration is available; Joslyn members receive discounted registration. Visit www.joslyn.org > Education > Classes.



JOSLYN
Art Museum

Our Mission – Joslyn Art Museum collects, preserves, and interprets the visual arts of the highest quality, fostering appreciation and enjoyment of art for the benefit of a diverse audience.

Our Vision – To be cherished and respected as a premier art museum.

Joslyn Art Museum showcases art from ancient times to the present. The Museum was a gift to the people of Omaha from Sarah Joslyn in memory of her husband, George, who made his fortune as president of the Western Newspaper Union. The Museum's original 1931 building is one of the finest examples of Art Deco architecture in the nation, with 38 types of marble from seven countries. The Walter and Suzanne Scott Pavilion, a 58,000-square-foot addition built in 1994, was designed by renowned British architect Norman Foster as his first U.S. commission. The Museum features galleries, a 1,000-seat concert hall, fountain court, education technology gallery, lecture hall, classrooms, sculpture garden, café, shop, and Art Works, an interactive space for art exploration.

General Museum Admission: Free (additional charge for general public adult tickets to *Marks of Genius*; see page 2).

Regular Museum Hours: Tuesday through Sunday, 10 am–4 pm; late 'til 8 pm on Thursday; closed Monday and major holidays. Joslyn will close early, at 1 pm, on Sunday, December 24.

www.joslyn.org | (402) 342-3300 | 2200 Dodge Street | Omaha, NE 68102