

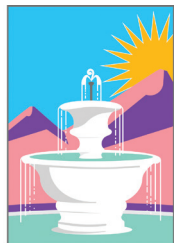


THE ONTARIO MUSEUM OF HISTORY & ART

The Ontario Museum of History & Art is a public-private institution operated by the City of Ontario with support from the non-profit Ontario Museum of History & Art, Associates.

The Museum Associates is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit support group for the Ontario Museum of History & Art. We provide support financially, through our fundraising and membership efforts; educationally, through our support of the docent program; and throughout the community with our representation at events and activities.

This newsletter is prepared by the Museum Associates.



ONTARIO
MUSEUM
OF HISTORY & ART
ASSOCIATES

Volume 23, Issue 1 • January, February, March • 2018

Diversity and Inclusion: The Influence of African American Art in Southern California

Thursday, January 25 to Sunday, February 25, 2018

The Ontario Museum of History & Art and Guest Curator, Jerry Weems, present *Diversity and Inclusion: The Influence of African American Art in Southern California* from Thursday, January 25 through Sunday, February 25, 2018. This open call



Linda Ternoir, *My Harlem Romance*, 2014. Photo courtesy of Linda Ternoir.



Juan Pacheco, *Untitled*, 2004. Photo courtesy of Juan Pacheco.

exhibit displays the diversity of the artistic styles and visions of contemporary African American art. Seen through the stylings of regional artists, *Diversity and Inclusion* reveals how artists are influenced by the raw and expressive beauty of the African American experience. For this exhibit, “we want to showcase the arts of individuals that are truly underrepresented in the cultural landscape of Southern California. There is a great deal of talent and creativity that is being overlooked by galleries and educational institutions. It’s our desire to bring recognition/affirmation of these participating visual artists and provide a venue that their work can be seen,” said Weems. Visitors will enjoy viewing 2-and 3-dimensional artwork with a wide range of subject matter and technique. *Diversity and Inclusion* features artists of different race and ethnic backgrounds who use a variety of media such as oil, acrylic, clay, metal, fiber, textiles, photography, ink, graphite and installations.

The museum will be hosting an Artists Reception and Artists Panel Discussion on Saturday, January 27, 2018 from 2 PM to 4 PM, with a panel discussion at 2:30 PM. Light refreshments and hors d’oeuvres will be served. Program is free and reservations are required. Call the museum at (909) 395-2510 for additional information or to make reservations.



Shantien Tom Chow, *As You Wish*, 2017. Photo Courtesy of the artist.

Lunar New Year: Blossoms of Spring

Thursday, February 8 to Sunday, March 4, 2018

Artist Shantien Tom Chow enjoys sharing his love for Chinese calligraphy with the community. On February 8, 2018, the Ontario Museum of History & Art will celebrate the Lunar New Year, a holiday shared with family and friends, with an exhibit that focuses on the cleansing of the past, celebration and revitalization of life. The exhibit is a traditional event and mainly features calligraphy scrolls of auspicious sayings for the Lunar New Year, including paintings for the Year of the Dog. The artists featured are from the Sea of Ink Society, a multi-ethnic group. The reception for the exhibit will be held on Saturday, February 10, 2018 from 2 PM to 4 PM. Mr. Chow will also teach free calligraphy workshops on Saturday, February 24, 2018 at 10 AM and 2 PM. For more information call (909) 395-2510.

Searching for the Seventies: The DOCUMERICA Photography Project

Thursday, March 15 to Sunday, April 22, 2018



"Young woman watches as her car goes through testing at an auto emission inspection station in Downtown Cincinnati, Ohio."

Lyntha Scott Eiler, Cincinnati, Ohio, September 1975.

The Ontario Museum of History & Art will be showing *Searching for the Seventies: The DOCUMERICA Photography Project* from Thursday, March 15 through Sunday, April 22, 2018. The exhibition takes a look at the '70s using 90 remarkable color photographs taken for a federal photography project called *Project DOCUMERICA* (1971–1977). Created by the Environmental Protection Agency, *Project DOCUMERICA* was born out of the decade's environmental awakening, producing striking photographs of many of that era's environmental problems and achievements. Drawing its inspiration

from the Great Depression-era Farm Security Administration photography project, *DOCUMERICA* photographers created a portrait of America in the early and mid-70s. About 70 well-known photographers, including John Corn, Lyntha Scott Eiler, Danny Lyon, Flip Schulke and John H. White, completed 115 separate assignments between 1972 and 1977. They took shots of small Midwestern towns, barrios in the Southwest and coal mining communities in Appalachia. Their assignments were as varied as African American life in Chicago, urban renewal in Kansas City, commuters in Washington, D.C., and migrant farm workers in Colorado. *Searching for the Seventies: The DOCUMERICA Photography Project* is a sampling of images culled from a trove of thousands. *DOCUMERICA* photos include expected images of smog, polluted rivers and waste dumps. But the photos also capture the decade's fashions, trends and lifestyles. From smokestacks to leisure suits, these images are a fascinating time capsule of '70s America. *Searching for the Seventies: The DOCUMERICA Photography Project* is a collaboration between Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibits (SITES) and the National Archives and Records Administration. For more information call (909) 395-2510.

From the Director

by John Worden

This winter season demonstrates our continued commitment to provide exhibits and programs for diverse audiences, and the quarterly winter mailer is a resounding exclamation of how that much richer we are for it. From the *Diversity and Inclusion* exhibit, guest curated by local artist and Associates Board Member Jerry Weems, to the Lunar New Year festivities, to the *Searching for the Seventies* photography exhibit, we are all about different perspectives and experiences.

This rich mixture, it seems to me, is what a museum is all about – a place to gather and experience multiple dimensions, where it is safe for us to come together as a community. We are dedicated to a vision of the museum that is a thriving, beating heart of the community. We have created and stuck to a vision and a strategic plan, and with many hours of dedicated volunteers and staff, we have accomplished much. And maybe, just maybe, some magic happens along the way. Enjoy!



Highlights from the Collection: Hotpoint/General Electric

Sunday, March 25, 2018 at 2:00 PM

Earl Richardson and his wife Mary came out to California in 1895. Richardson first worked for the Ontario Power Company. In 1904, he left the San Antonio Electric Company to start the Pacific Electric Heating Co., later renamed Hotpoint Heating Company. Known for its irons and later other kitchen appliances, Hotpoint was one of the top employers in Ontario. In 1918, Hotpoint merged with General Electric Company, the new company was known as the Edison Electric Appliance Company. Later Hotpoint became a division of the General Electric Company in 1952. In 1982, the Ontario plant closed its doors. Join Curator of Collections, Michelle Sifuentes to learn more about the history of Hotpoint and see artifacts from the museum's collection on Sunday, March 25, 2018 at 2:00 PM in the old City Council Chambers. Admission is free. Reservations are required. For more information or to make a reservation call (909) 395-2510.



Hotpoint, date unknown. Courtesy of the Ontario Museum of History & Art, Collections.

In The Museum

It's a gray metal thing that sits somewhat obscured in a display at the Ontario Museum of History & Art, in the *Gem of the Foothill* exhibit. Its dignified name was that of an orchard heater, but to those who needed them to save their crops or suffered through the billowing smoke they created, these were simply smudge pots. These were the savior of the Inland Valley citrus industry when nighttime temperatures fell below freezing. Ranchers filled thousands of them with oil or anything that would burn. Once lit they helped raise the temperature around the trees preventing crops from freezing. These pots became the enemy of the rest of Southern California as their smoke and grit spread into houses and businesses even miles away from the orange groves.

The museum's orchard heater was an improvement invented by W.C. Scheu of Upland whose company made the heaters. His HYLO heater was designed to burn the smoke a second time, greatly reducing the choking smoke other heaters emitted. Smudge pots were eventually phased out because of air pollution concerns and the gradual disappearance of citrus groves due to the arrival of suburbia. To learn more about orchard heaters and the citrus industry visit the *Gem of the Foothills* in the Museum's south wing. For more information call (909) 395-2510.

Great Adventure Enrichment Program: Spring Break Edition

This spring, the Museum becomes a learning lab for arts and science enrichment for children ages 8 to 12. Participants will explore local history, science, dance, and art through gallery tours, garden explorations, and individual and collaborative projects. Participants will showcase their projects for families and friends on Friday, March 30, 2018 (4 PM to 5 PM). Lunch is not provided. Please bring a lunch sack. Seating is limited. Reservation and application required. Free Admission.

Monday, March 26, 2018 (8:30 AM to 4:00 PM)

Wednesday, March 28, 2018 (8:30 AM to 4:00 PM)

Friday, March 30, 2018 (8:30 AM to 5:00 PM)



Volunteer Highlight: Steve Gell

Being a docent for hundreds of school children was a far cry from his career path of working in information technology. But for the last year and a half, Steve Gell was one of the museum's valued volunteers, guiding visitors through the exhibits.

Steve joined the museum on the urging of Bonnie Verhoef, a member of the museum's Associates Board of Directors. And after extensive training and lectures about various historical aspects of the museum, he worked sometimes twice a week leading tours through the permanent and revolving exhibits.

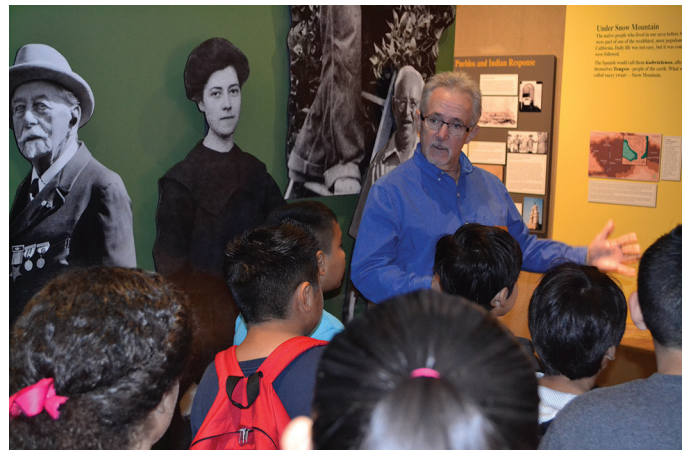
His main focus had been the museum's Route 66 historic exhibit, *Road Ways*.

"I love doing it because Route 66 has always been a real interest for me, having crossed the country by car several times," said Steve, who had lived in Ontario for about 31 years.

And every tour is an adventure, he said, especially with young people.

"I love the little kids," explained Steve, himself the father of young boys, "They have simple thoughts, pure thoughts, and ask such interesting questions."

To learn more about volunteer opportunities at the museum call (909) 395-2510.



Sadly, soon after the writing of this article, Museum volunteer Steve Gell passed away. The Museum Staff and Docent Volunteers will dearly miss him and send condolences to his family.

Event and Program Calendar

JANUARY

EXHIBITION

THROUGH DARKNESS TO LIGHT: PHOTOGRAPHS ALONG THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

Thursday, November 30, 2017 to Sunday, January 7, 2018

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION: THE INFLUENCE OF AFRICAN AMERICAN ART IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Thursday, January 25 to Sunday, February 25, 2018

ARTIST RECEPTION

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION: EXHIBIT RECEPTION AND ARTIST TALK

Saturday, January 27, 2018 (2 PM to 4 PM)

PROGRAMS

BOOK CHAT THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD: A NOVEL

Saturday, January 6, 2018 (12 PM to 4 PM) RSVP

LECTURE: THE CITRUS INDUSTRY IN THE INLAND EMPIRE

Thursday, January 11, 2018 (6 PM to 8 PM) RSVP

ON THE DANCE FLOOR: AFRICAN DANCE

Friday, January 19, 2018 (6:00 PM to 7:30 PM) RSVP

FEBRUARY

EXHIBITION

LUNAR NEW YEAR: BLOSSOMS OF SPRING

Thursday, February 8 to Sunday, March 4, 2018

ARTIST RECEPTION

LUNAR NEW YEAR EXHIBIT RECEPTION

Saturday, February 10, 2018 (2 PM to 4 PM)

PROGRAM

HANDMADE JOURNAL WORKSHOP

Thursday, February 15, 2018 (6 PM to 8 PM)

MARCH

EXHIBITION

SEARCHING FOR THE SEVENTIES: THE DOCUMERICA PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT

Thursday, March 15 to Sunday, April 22, 2018

PROGRAM

LECTURE: KAY PRESTO ON MOTOR SPORTS AND THE MEDIA

Saturday, March 17, 2018 (2:00 PM to 3:30 PM) RSVP

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE COLLECTION: HOTPOINT

Sunday, March 25, 2018 (2 PM to 3:30 PM)

GREAT ADVENTURE ENRICHMENT PROGRAM: SPRING BREAK EDITION

Begins Monday, March 26, 2018 (8:30 AM to 4:00 PM) for an application call the museum at (909) 395-2510.



ONTARIO
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ASSOCIATES

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- ☐ New
☐ Renewal
☐ Gift Membership

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone () _____ Email _____

Category (check one) ☐ Student **\$15** ☐ Educator **\$20** ☐ Individual **\$25** ☐ Family **\$35**
☐ Contributor **\$100** ☐ Sponsor **\$250** ☐ Corporate **\$500** ☐ Benefactor **\$500**

Please make checks payable to: Ontario Museum of History & Art, Associates.

Clip this and send it with your check for membership. Mail to: The Ontario Museum of History & Art, 225 South Euclid Avenue, Ontario CA 91762.
Please make checks payable to the Ontario Museum of History & Art, Associates, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

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Museum hours: noon - 4 PM
Thurs. - Sun
Admission Free
Office hours: 9 AM - 5 PM, Mon. - Fri.
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