

Losing Eden?

January 8 - March 20, 2022





An Exhibition Curated by Niagara University's AHM252: Introduction to Museum Studies

"Nature has spread for us a rich and delightful banquet. Shall we turn from it?

We are still in Eden; the wall that shuts us out of the garden is our own ignorance and folly."

—Thomas Cole, 1836

"We stand now where two roads diverge. But unlike the roads in Robert Frost's familiar poem, they are not equally fair.

The road we have long been traveling is deceptively easy, a smooth superhighway on which we progress with great speed, but at its end lies disaster.

The other fork of the road — the one less traveled by — offers our last, our only chance to reach a destination that assures the preservation of the earth."

— Rachel Carson, Silent Spring, 1962

The students of Fall 2021's Introduction to Museum Studies course (AHM252) selected a variety of works from the Castellani Art Museum's collection that suggest a dialog on the relationship between people and the Earth.

The unspoiled majesty of America's wildernesses led many early 19th century artists and writers to see it as a mythical garden: a new Eden.

Inspired by pioneers like conservationist and nature writer Rachel Carson, more recent works reflect on environmental degradation and our consequential impact on nature.

From idyllic landscapes to abstract sculptures, students sought to reflect this multifaceted dialog through a mix of styles, periods, and mediums.

Symbolic of humanity's sprawling colonization of nature, these works fill the gallery walls, blotting out the empty spaces.

Losing Eden? invites you to reflect on this legacy and our ever-shifting relationship with the natural world.

What is your Eden and what would you do to protect it?

(cover) Melissa Miller (b.1951), *Wall of Fire*, 1986, acrylic on paper, 48 1/8 x 38 1/8 in. (detail) Philip Elliott (1903-1985), *Seven P.M.-June*, 1969, oil on canvas, 39 x 52 in.





(detail) Susan Copley (b. 1939), Before the Falls, 2016, acrylic on canvas, 48 x 48 in.

AHM252: Introduction to Museum Studies

This course serves as an introduction to the purpose and organization of museums including historical origins, philosophy, and the societal role of museums.

Course Instructor: Professor Marian Granfield

Student Curators: Stephanie Chandler | Jordyn Fisher | Aubrey Halloran | Sean Hein | Derek Moran | Stephanie Toohey | Tyler White

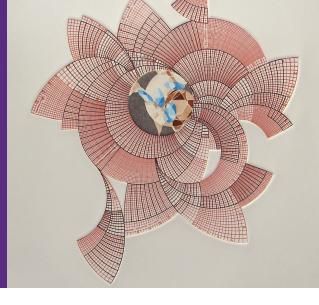
Art History with Museum Studies Program

Art History with Museum Studies is both an academic and professional program that provides students with a scholarly study of art, culture and museums while focusing on the area of professional museum work such as curatorship, education, collections management, museum administration and development.

Our partnership with the Castellani Art Museum of Niagara University, centrally located on campus, is an integral part of the museum studies component and provides opportunities for museum internships and exhibition-based courses.

Exhibited Artworks

All works are from the Castellani Art Museum of Niagara University Collection, unless otherwise noted.



Albert Bierstadt (1830-1902), Red Mountain Peaks, n.d., oil on canvas, 22 ½ x 17 in. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Armand J. Castellani. 1989.

Jerome Blum (1884-1956), Landscape in Provence, 1912, oil on canvas, 18 x 15 in. Gift of Linda Hyman, 1998.

Malcolm Bonney (b. 1953), The Whole Day Will Tumble and Out the Night Will Spill, 1979, oil on canvas, 48 x 78 in. Gift of the Artist, 1989.

John Buck (b. 1946), Waterfall Man, 1981, acrylic on wood, 96 x 72 x 4 in. Gift of Martin Sklar, 2002.

Hans Gustav Burkhardt (1904-1994), *Abstract Forms* (*Sea Birds*), 1946, oil on canvas, 20 ½ x 24 ½ in. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Armand J. Castellani, 1989.

Christo (1935-2020), Wrapped Painting, 1969, serigraph, 23 x 31 in. Gift of Anne Incorvia and Family, 2011.

Susan Copley (b. 1939), *Before* the Falls, 2016, acrylic on canvas, 48 x 48 in. Gift of the Artist, 2016.

Arthur Dove (1880-1946), Ducks, 1933, crayon on paper, 6 x 7 ¼ in. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Armand J. Castellani, 1982.

Allan D'Arcangelo (1930-1998), Composition, 1968, serigraph, 29 ½ x 23 ½ in. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Armand J. Castellani. 1987. Philip Elliott (1903-1985), Seven P.M.-June, 1969, oil on canvas, 39 x 52 in. Gift of Virginia Cuthbert Elliott in memory of the artist Philip C. Elliott, 1991.

Emile A. Gruppe (1896-1978), Winter Landscape, 1947, oil on board, 12 x 16 in. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Armand J. Castellani, 1981.

Jean Baptiste Armand Guillaumin (1841-1927), *Le Paysage*, n.d., 10 x 12 ¾ in. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Armand J. Castellani, 1989.

Keith Haring (1958-1990), Untitled, 1981, sumi ink on paper, 38 x 46 in. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Armand J. Castellani, 1989.

Barbara Hepworth (1903-1975), Four Hemispheres, 1974, lead crystal, various. Gift of Carborundum Company, 1979.

Roy Lichtenstein (1923-1997), Seascape, 1965, serigraph on Iaminated plastic (Rowlux), New York 10, New York: Tanglewood Press, Inc. 20 ½ x 17 in. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Armand J. Castellani, 1978.

Melissa Miller (b.1951), Wall of Fire, 1986, acrylic on paper, 48 1/8 x 38 1/8 in. Cift of Dr. and Mrs. Armand J. Castellani, 1996.

Joe Neill (b.1944), Earth Structure with Red Shift, 1981, embossed lithograph, 24 ½ x 24 ¼ in. Gift of Robert Freidus, 2002. (above, detail) Pat Owens, *Reproduction*, 2005, flameworked soft glass, copper electroplating, 9 ³/₄ in. Gift of the Artist, 2007.

Robert Rauschenberg (1925-2008), *Earth Day*, 1970, offset lithograph, 33 5/8 x 25 ½ in. Cift of Dr. and Mrs. Armand J. Castellani, 1989.

Robert Rauschenberg (1925-2008), *General Delivery*, 1971, lithograph with collage, Captiva, FL: Untitled Press., 30 x 40 in. Gift of Mr. Savino Nanula, 1981.

Man Ray (1890-1976), A L'Heure de L'Observatoire: Les Amoureux, 1967, lithograph, Paris: Jean Pithory. 25 x 39 ½ in. Gift of Wade Stevenson, 1993.

Christy Rupp (b. 1949), *Life in a Landfill*, 1990, welded steel with newspapers, 38 x 43 x 43 in.
Museum purchase, 1994.

Ellen Steinfeld (b. 1945), *The Four Graces*, 1983, handmade paper, 25 x 42 ¾ in. Gift of Anne Incorvia and Family, 2011.

Loren Stump, *Forest Vision-Nature*, 2005, flameworked soft glass, 10 x 4 x 3 ¾ in. Gift of the Artist, 2007.

Please see the following related works in adjacent exhibitions:

Of Their Time: Hudson River School to Postwar Modernism

Jasper Francis Cropsey (1823-1900), Landscape with Sheep, 1889, oil on canvas, 8 x 13 in., Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Armand J. Castellani, 1981.

Gerry G. Griffin (1858-1918), The Delaware River and Falls, 1875, oil on canvas, 30 x 40 in. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Armand J. Castellani, 1983.

George Inness Jr. (1853-1926), The Sunburst, n.d., oil on canvas, 35 ¼ x 48 in. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Armand J. Castellani, 1983.

Of Their Time: Abstraction, Hardedge and Op Art

E. Ainslie Burke (1922-1991), Cerrulean Sea, 1978, oil on canvas, 50 x 72 in.
Purchased under the auspices of the Henry W. Ranger Fund, Gift of the National Academy of Design, 2016.

Acquisition Highlights: 2010-2020 Paintings and Sculpture

on view through Jan. 28, 2022

Seymour Drumlevitch (1923-1989), Feste Romani, Respighiana, 1986-7, mixed media on canvas, 70 x 59 in. Gift of David and Gay Campbell, 2013.

Introduction to Folk Arts - Permanent Exhibition

Musa Saracoğlu, Untitled Ebru with orange, brown, and gold serpmeli gel-git (light stone-spread, come-and-go) and dalgalı (shifted) pattern, 2017, mixed media, 19 ¼ x 27 ¼ in. Cift of İpek Saraçoğlu, 2017.





Council on the Arts

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