

Writing on the Wall:

Text-based Works from the Collection,
Curated by Niagara University Faculty

March 4-July 29, 2018



Jean-Michel Basquiat, *Jimmy Olsen*, 1981, crayon and oil stick on paper, 18x24 $\frac{1}{4}$ in. Castellani Art Museum of Niagara University Collection, Gift of the Castellani Family, 1999.

CASTELLANI
ART MUSEUM
OF NIAGARA UNIVERSITY



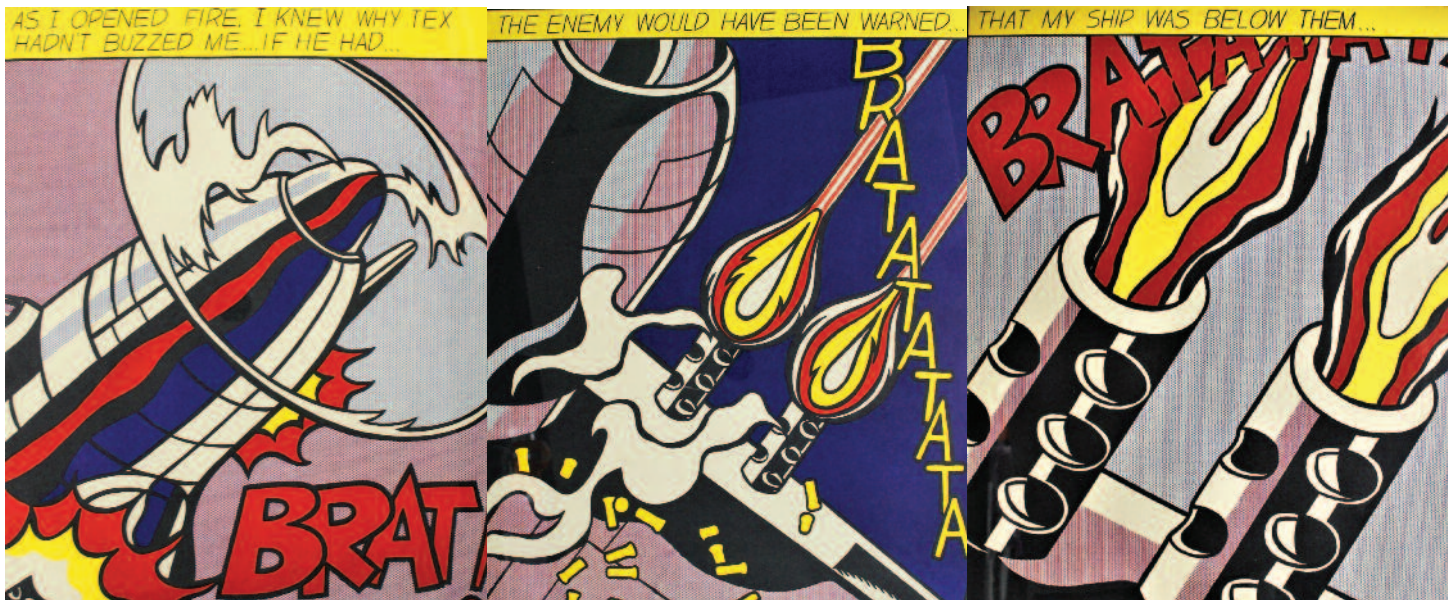
Robert E. Dorksens, *Dignity*, 1972, silver print, 10 x 14 in. Gift of Robert Freidus, 1996.

Writing on the Wall: Text-based Works from the Collection, Curated by Niagara University Faculty means to highlight the potential dialogues between visual arts and academics, between museum and classroom, between image and text. Indeed, by combining image and text, the artists selected for this exhibition already offer us a multi-dimensional experience in which we simultaneously see and read, allowing for a dynamic dialogue between our emotions and our intellect.

With well over 5,000 artworks in its permanent collection, the Castellani Art Museum of Niagara University is a veritable goldmine for university professors who wish to engage their students from and across multiple disciplines. Niagara University is dedicated to providing our students with an active and integrative learning experience. As educators in the Vincentian tradition, we believe in a holistic approach to learning, where we challenge students to think critically both in and outside the classroom and across disciplines. We focus not only on the facts and theories of our own disciplines, such as Biology and English, but on how they relate to other fields of study in an interactive and multi- or inter-disciplinary teaching model. A giant sculpture of an insect may provide an interesting springboard for an analytical discussion of Franz Kafka's *Metamorphosis*; images of optical illusions may elucidate theories of human cognition and mental

processes in a Psychology course; an exhibition of contemporary paintings of Niagara Falls may serve as an educational complement to a course in Environmental Science focusing on sustainable energy and environmental conservation.

A little over one year ago, a group of Niagara University faculty members from a range of different disciplines met with the Curator of Exhibitions and Special Projects at the Castellani Art Museum to discuss and eventually organize a new exhibition that would specifically explore the intersection between art and academics. Over the years, faculty from all four colleges have incorporated individual pieces from the Castellani Art Museum collection in their coursework; however, there has never been one curated exhibition specifically showcasing the museum as an academic and pedagogical resource. With a broad-based focus on words, images, and ideas, intersections between various disciplines and perspectives emerge in this unique collaboration. As you explore the different sections of the exhibition and the various classroom assignments that are paired with artworks from the Castellani Art Museum collection, we invite you to think about how we see and read images and words together, and how this joining of the visual and the written allows for a more effective learning experience.



Roy Lichtenstein, *As I Opened Fire*, 1964, lithograph, 25½ x 21 in. each. Gift of the Castellani Family, 2013.



Muhammad Zahin Zaman, *Refuge* (World Refugee Day in WNY 2017 Community Creation), 2017, acrylic on canvas, 36 x 36 in. On loan from the artist.



Honoré Daumier, *Un Père heureux. Voila donc mon enfant vacciné...je suis certain maintenant qu'il conservera désormais toute sa beauté!...* from *Les Beaux Jours de la Vie (The Best Days in Life)*, 1843-1846, hand colored lithograph, 12½ x 9½ in. Castellani Family Collection.



Robert Rauschenberg, *Earth Day*, 1970, offset lithograph, 33½ x 25½ in. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Armand J. Castellani, 1989.



Andy Warhol, *\$1*, 1982, silkscreen on Lenox Museum Board, (no edition number noted), 19½ x 15½ in. Gift of the Andy Warhol Foundation, 2014.

Participating Faculty

C. Henrik Borgstrom, Ph.D.
Professor of French

Jamie Carr, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of English

Amelia Gallagher, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Religious Studies

Marian Granfield, M.A.
*Director of Art History with Museum Studies,
Faculty Fellow, Department of Theatre Studies
and Fine Arts*

Paula Kot, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of English

Alison Lytle, MS. Ed.
*Adjunct Faculty, Department of
Theatre Studies and Fine Arts*

Edward Yong Jun Millar, M.A.
*Curator of Folk Arts, Castellani Art Museum
Adjunct Faculty, Art History with Museum
Studies, Department of Theatre Studies
and Fine Arts*

EXHIBITION CHECKLIST

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

Bruce Adams, *Restoration*, 1988-95, acrylic on hand-stitched canvas pieces, 75½ x 48¾ in. Gift of the Artist, 1996.

Jean-Michel Basquiat, *Jimmy Olsen*, 1981, crayon and oil stick on paper, 18 x 24¼ in. Gift of the Castellani Family, 1999. (*This work is on view in the Knox Gallery*)

Page from *Book of Hours (Gospel Readings)*, Paris, France, 1530, ink on paper, 6¼ x 3¾ in. Gift of Rev. Msgr. Walter Kern, Niagara University, Our Lady of Angels Seminary Alumni, 1994.

Page from *Book of Hours (Prayers to the Virgin Mary)*, Paris, France, ca. 1497-98, ink on parchment, 4¼ x 6¾ in. Gift of Rev. Msgr. Walter Kern, Niagara University, Our Lady of Angels Seminary Alumni, 1994.

Page from *Book of Hours*, France, 1530, ink and gold leaf on parchment, 7¼ x 5½ in. Gift of Rev. Msgr. Walter Kern, Niagara University, Our Lady of Angels Seminary Alumni, 1994.

Page from *Book of Hours (Penitential Psalms)*, Paris, France, 1488, ink, gold leaf and woodcut on parchment, 7½ x 5½ in. Gift of Rev. Msgr. Walter Kern, Niagara University, Our Lady of Angels Seminary Alumni, 1994.

Mary Cassatt, *Looking into the Hand Mirror*, 1904, drypoint etching, 12 x 9½ in. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Armand J. Castellani, 1987.

Honoré Daumier, *Oh Patrie!!!* from *Émotions Parisiennes (Parisian Emotions)*, 1842, lithograph, 12¾ x 9¾ in. Castellani Family Collection.

Honoré Daumier, *Un Monsieur qu'on rajeunit trop. Encore deux ou trois petites séances chez moi, Monsieur, et celui qui parviendra à vous trouver un seul cheveu blanc sera bien malin!* from *Les Beaux Jours de la Vie (The Best Days in Life)*, 1843-1846, hand colored lithograph, 12½ x 9¾ in. Castellani Family Collection.

Honoré Daumier, *Un Père heureux. Voila donc mon enfant vacciné...je suis certain maintenant qu'il conservera désormais toute sa beauté!...* from *Les Beaux Jours de la Vie (The Best Days in Life)*, 1843-1846, hand colored lithograph, 12½ x 9¾ in. Castellani Family Collection.

Honoré Daumier, *Un soir de fête nationale. Ça ne manque jamais.... On sort pour aller voir le feu, et on ne jouit que de l'eau!...* from *Les Beaux Jours de la Vie (The Best Days in Life)*, 1843-1846, hand colored lithograph, 12½ x 9¾ in. Castellani Family Collection.

Lesley Dill, *A Spider sewed at Night...ED #1138*, 2005, steel wire, 42 x 13 x 10 in. Purchased in honor of Laurene Buckley's tenure (2003-2008) as director of the Castellani Art Museum. Additional funds provided by Michael and Gina Beam, Mary Borgognoni, Susan Braun, Mary Brimmer, Eleanor and Carla Castellani, Regina Cecconi, Susan Clements, Joan Dolce, Kathy Fraas, Gottfriede Fuerst, Rose Gellman, Marian Granfield, Thomas Jambro, Sandy Knapp, Kate Koperski, Anne LaBarbara, Nancy P. Lange, Tom and Candace Lytle, Fay Northrop and Jerry McGuire, Ceil Rodino, Barbara Traver, Kurt Von Voetsch, Marn Weld and Shirley Winters. (*This work is on view in the Knox Gallery*)

Robert E. Dorksen, *Dignity*, 1972, silver print, 10 x 14 in. Gift of Robert Freidus, 1996.

John Giorno, *Untitled* from the *On the Bowery* portfolio, 1971, screenprint, edition 93/100, 25 x 25 in. Marie and Thomas O'Donnell Collection.

Toshie Kenney, *Yume 夢 (Dream)*, 2017, ink on hanshi rice paper, 13 x 8¾ in. On loan from the artist.

Muhammad Zahin Zaman, *Refuge (World Refugee Day in WNY 2017 Community Creation)*, 2017, acrylic on canvas, 36 x 36 in. On loan from the artist.

Barbara Kruger, *Untitled (We Will No Longer Be Seen And Not Heard)*, 1985, color lithograph using photo-lithograph and silkscreen, edition 23/50, 20½ x 20½ in. each. Castellani Art Museum Purchase Fund.

Stephanie Lederman, *The Lady and the Stick (A Story)*, 1978, mixed media, 30 x 40 in. Gift of Robert Freidus, 2000.

Roy Lichtenstein, *As I Opened Fire*, 1964, lithograph, 25½ x 21 in. each. Gift of the Castellani Family, 2013.

George Miller, *Blackboard IV, Reading Proof*, 1976, offset lithograph, 15 x 20 in. Gift of Robert Freidus, 1996.

George Miller, *Blackboard II, Reading Proof*, 1976, offset lithograph, 15 x 20 in. Gift of Robert Freidus, 1996.

Richard Pettibone, title unknown (Mondrian painting, Picasso drawing), 1985, mixed media, edition 40/50, 23¾ x 28¾ in. Promised gift of Robert Freidus.

Jim Pomeroy, *Untitled (Apollo Jest)*, 1983, stereoscopic photographs, 24 x 18 in. each. Museum Purchase.

Robert Rauschenberg, *General Delivery*, 1971, lithograph with collage, edition 207/300, 30 x 40 in. Gift of Mr. Savino Nanula, 1981.

Robert Rauschenberg, *Earth Day*, 1970, offset lithograph, 33¾ x 25¼ in. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Armand J. Castellani, 1989.

Ad Reinhardt, *Untitled* from the portfolio *Artists and Writers Protest against the War in Vietnam*, 1967, silkscreen, edition 57/100, 23¾ x 15 in. Museum Purchase, 1991.

Tim Rollins & K.O.S. (Kids of Survival), *Red Badge of Courage (South Bronx)*, 1986, oil on book pages on linen. Gift of the Lawrence and Joan Castellani Family, 2008. (*This work is on view in the central gallery through March 30*)

Barbara Rowe, *Emperor's New Clothes*, 1989, etching, artist made frame, edition 1/5, 19¾ x 14¾ in. Castellani Art Museum Purchase Fund, 1991.

Barbara Rowe, *Girl Who Trod on the Loaf*, 1989, etching, screenprint on glass, artist made frame, edition A.P., 25 x 19¾ in. Castellani Art Museum Purchase Fund, 1991.

Ed Ruscha, *News, Mews, Pews, Dues, Brews, Stews*, 1970, organic silkscreen, edition 78/125, 23 x 31¾ in. each. Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Armand J. Castellani, 1987.

Asa Smith, *View of the Meteoric Shower*, as seen at Niagara Falls on the Night of the 12th and 13th of November, 1833 from Smith's *Illustrated Astronomy, Designed for the use of the Public or Common Schools in the United States*, 1863, wood engraving, 11¼ x 9½ in. Museum Purchase Fund, 2008. (*This work is on view in the Tops Gallery*)

Kiki Smith, *Fog, Excerpt from Section 12*, 2009, lithograph with letterpress, edition 10/60, 14 x 19 in. Gift of Dr. Laurene Buckley, 2011.

Andy Warhol, *\$1*, 1982, silkscreen on Lenox Museum Board, (no edition number noted), 19¾ x 15¾ in. Gift of the Andy Warhol Foundation, 2014.



Council on the Arts

This exhibition is organized by Michael J. Beam, Curator of Exhibitions and Special Projects, with Dana Tyrrell, Installation Assistant and Jacob Schloss, Assistant Preparator, in partnership with Niagara University Faculty members. *Writing on the Wall: Text-based Works from the Collection, Curated by Niagara University Faculty* is made possible, in part, by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

CASTELLANI
ART MUSEUM
OF NIAGARA UNIVERSITY
www.castellaniartmuseum.org

Museum and Shop

7 Varsity Drive, Niagara University, NY
14109, 716.286.8200
Tuesday-Saturday 11:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Sunday 1:00-5:00 p.m.

Guided tours available upon request. Call 716.286.8295 for additional information.

Visit our satellite gallery at the Niagara Falls Conference Center to see the exhibition **300 Years of Niagara Falls Imagery**

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