

WoodmereArtMuseum

TELLING THE STORY OF PHILADELPHIA'S ART AND ARTISTS

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Woodmere Art Museum Winter Exhibition Celebrates

“The Storybook Magic of Jerry Pinkney”

January 21-March 26, 2017

PHILADELPHIA, PA--- Philadelphia born watercolorist and renowned illustrator Jerry Pinkney is one of the most beloved artists in children's literature. He has illustrated more than 100 children's books, as well as a number of adult novels, and is the recipient of numerous book awards. Last July 19 was proclaimed Jerry Pinkney Day in Philadelphia in recognition of his remarkable, five-decade career.

At heart, Pinckney considers himself a storyteller.

Woodmere's exhibition explores the different ways Pinkney combines words and art to tell stories. Color, line and composition are considered in the numerous sketches and preparatory painting for the two books featured in this exhibit. The elegant paintings of ***Black Cowboy, Wild Horses***—a story from the life of former slave Bob Lemons—immerse viewers in action by capturing the sweep of the American West. Pinkney added collage to his paintings for the first time in ***Sweethearts of Rhythm***, resulting in kinetic images that express the syncopation and energy of the music of the late 1930s and 1940s as played by the country's first female interracial band.

“Illustration has been an important aspect of Philadelphia's unique artistic climate,” says William Valerio, PhD., executive director of Woodmere Museum. “Jerry Pinkney is part of a direct line that leads to Violet Oakley, N.C. Wyeth and the many great Philadelphia artists who worked as illustrators. We are thrilled to present Pinkney's work at Woodmere.”

Related activities

Friday, March 3, 2017 6:00 p.m. Friday Night Jazz

A tribute concert to the Sweethearts of Rhythm, the first interracial women's swing band, which broke racial barriers and performed throughout the United States in the 1930s and 1940s, and toured Europe during World War II. The group generated excitement wherever they went. In conjunction with *The Storybook Magic of Jerry Pinkney*.

March 4, 2017 3:00 p.m. Lecture

The Long Ride Home: The African American Cowboy Experience in America

Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer Ron Tarver, the grandson of a working cowboy, discusses his years spent traveling throughout the United States documenting the lives of men and women who continue the legacy of black cowboy culture.

March 26, 2017 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Family Festival and Closing Reception

The circus comes to the museum! Listen to book readings, create art projects and delight in performances by mimes, stilt walkers, and performers from the Philadelphia School of Circus Arts and artists from the Little Circus.

A full listing of events are located on our website www.woodmereartmuseum.org or contact Woodmere Art Museum at 215-247-0476

About Woodmere Art Museum

Housed in a 19th-century stone mansion on six acres in the Chestnut Hill neighborhood of Philadelphia, Woodmere tells the stories of the art and artists of Philadelphia. The Museum first opened its doors to the public in 1910. The building, grounds, and core of the permanent collection are the gifts of Charles Knox Smith (1845 – 1916). A passionate collector of contemporary art in his day, Smith was a civic leader of wealth and stature, serving on Philadelphia's Common Council (the precursor to today's City Council). Born of modest means, Smith's first job was that of "grocer's boy," but he eventually built a successful mining company that was active in Mexico. He lived in downtown Philadelphia most of his life and purchased the Woodmere estate in 1898 with the grand ambition of providing a spiritual experience to the people of Philadelphia through encounters with great works of art in the context of the green beauty of the Wissahickon and Chestnut Hill. Woodmere continues to honor and interpret Smith's vision of bringing art and nature together, and in recent years has acquired important examples of outdoor sculpture. Woodmere's Collection consists of more than 6,000 works of art.

Exhibitions and education programs “tell the stories” of the artists of Philadelphia, with special attention to 19th-century landscape painting, the circle of Violet Oakley, the circle of Arthur B. Carles, and Philadelphia’s unique brand of modernism. Woodmere’s collection can be viewed online, and the museum encourages artists and their friends and families to use our website to share information about works in the collection.

Studio classes, family activities, tours, lectures, music and film programs, and other special events are scheduled throughout the year.

The Museum is open to the public Tuesday – Thursday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. – 8:45 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m., and Sunday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Admission is \$10; FREE on Sunday. For more information: woodmereartmuseum.org