ICYMI: Glass and Ceramics from The Newark Museum of Art’s Decorative Arts Collection on Display at Drumthwacket this Fall

September 13, 2023 – January 10, 2024

Ronny May Henderson Gordon, Newark, NJ. Epiag Royal, Czechoslovakia

Vase, 1928. Porcelain, enamel, pigment, gilded,
6 ½ x 6 ¼ in. (16.5 x 15.9 cm)
Gift of Elizabeth Henderson Boswell, 2004 2004.59.3


The Drumthwacket Foundation showcases New Jersey-related historic and contemporary visual art and thematic exhibitions. Installed in the 1905 wood-paneled library, this exhibition presents nineteen beautifully-crafted artworks and functional objects made by diverse New Jersey artists in the 19th and 20th centuries that reveal a wide range of styles and artistic vision. Artists used sand and clay from the state’s varied landscapes, although the high-quality clay is long gone.
From North to South Jersey, this exhibition highlights the diversity of artists, craftspeople, and designers who created decorative and functional objects. Nine women and eight men, including Black, Hispanic, Japanese American, and Jewish artists from across eight N.J. counties, made these artworks. These artists include Christine Barney and D. & J. Henderson Flint Stoneware Manufactory from Hudson County; Ott and Brewer and Fulper Glazes, Inc. from Mercer County; Leonard DiNardo, Ronny May Henderson Gordon, and Anne Kraus from Essex County; Victor Durand, Jr. for Durand Art Glass and an unrecorded artist from Cumberland County; Fulper Pottery Company, Don Manuel Gonzalez, and Toshiko Takaezu from Hunterdon County; Ina Golub from Union County; Marion Munk and Clara Louise Poillon for Poillon Pottery from Middlesex County; and George Wolfkiel from Bergen County.

“On behalf of the Drumthwacket Foundation, I look forward to exhibiting incredible historic pieces showcasing unique glass and ceramic artworks crafted by New Jersey natives,” said First Lady Tammy Murphy. “We are so excited to open the People's House to everyone across the state and look forward to seeing you this fall!”

After a long postponement in 2020 due to the pandemic, the public will have the opportunity to see glass and ceramic artworks from the Museum's Decorative Arts collection up close in Drumthwacket’s historical setting and to learn more about New Jersey’s history, heritage, and art.

“Increasing access to our vast Museum collections for all New Jerseyans, especially school groups, is a priority for the Museum. We couldn’t be prouder of our partnership with the First Lady’s office and the Drumthwacket Foundation in this much-anticipated exhibition. We hope the public gains a new understanding of our unique Decorative Arts collection through the magnificent craftsmanship of these artists.” said Linda Harrison, Director and CEO of The Newark Museum of Art.

Registration for timed tours opens on August 7, 2023. For tickets and more information, visit https://drumthwacket.org/visit/

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About Drumthwacket Foundation

Founded in 1982, the Drumthwacket Foundation is a 501c3 non-partisan, non-profit organization. Its mission is to increase a sense of pride in New Jersey by preserving the Drumthwacket property and broadening access, furthering awareness and support of the Foundation and its activities and expanding civic understanding amongst New Jerseyans.

About The Newark Museum of Art

Founded in 1909 and located in New Jersey, The Newark Museum of Art (NMOA) is the state's largest museum and ranks twelfth nationally in terms of collection size. Global and diasporic, the collection includes more than 130,000 artworks, as well as significant holdings of science and natural history. From the ancient world to the art of today, NMOA boasts exceptional quality and depth in the Arts of Global Africa; Arts of Global Asia, featuring a renown Tibetan collection and Buddhist altar; Arts of the Americas, with particular strength in Native American art; Arts of the Ancient Mediterranean, and Decorative Arts. Visitor- and community-centered, NMOA responds to the evolving needs and interests of the diverse publics it serves by offering exhibitions, programming, a research library, paid internships, and local and global partnerships. A four-acre campus includes the National Historic Landmark Ballantine House (1885); the Ward Carriage House (1860); the Old Stone School House (1784); the Alice Ransom Dreyfuss Memorial Garden; and Horizon Plaza. Under the leadership of Director and CEO Linda C. Harrison, NMOA has launched an era of transformation to create an engaged citizenry by reimagining the role of the art museum for the 21st century.