



FRAMEWORK

THE DORIS ULMANN GALLERIES AND BEREA
COLLEGE ART COLLECTION NEWSLETTER



A NOTE FROM THE CURATOR

The Fall semester seems to have flown by! The September opening of “Rediscover: Highlights from the Berea College Art Collection” marked a pivotal moment as the Doris Ulmann Galleries welcomed visitors for the first time since March 2020.

Since arriving at Berea College in August, I have been overwhelmed by the support and enthusiasm that the students, faculty, and staff have shown towards the Galleries, and I could not be more honored to steward this incredible art museum at this moment. It is difficult to encapsulate all that our team has accomplished this semester in this brief note, but a few key numbers are helpful in summarizing how we have sought to grow our presence and engagement with students, faculty, staff, and beyond the Berea College community.

This term, we have led a record-breaking total of **sixteen** class visits, expertly coordinated by BereaCorps Art Gallery and Collections Associate Elizabeth Ronilo. We worked closely with **seven** professors teaching across **five** different disciplines and pulled a total of **187** artworks from our collections storage to share with **nearly 200** students. We led **three** group gallery tours for individual departments across campus, hosted **two** visiting artist exhibitions and **one** artist talk, and organized our first annual Alumni Gallery Tour over Homecoming Weekend. The Doris Ulmann Galleries were represented for the first time at this year’s Mountain Day and served as the gathering space for a post-Convocation networking event with distinguished alumni organized by the Office of Internships and Career Development. These events and others are discussed in the following pages of this newsletter.

Ms. Ronilo has also worked diligently to update our online collections database with over **354** new object records that include museum-quality photographs of each artwork, greatly expanding the accessibility of our collection and contributing to our ongoing mission of making objects in our expansive collection more available to researchers worldwide. Towards that effort, we have utilized our social media platforms as an additional resource to showcase artworks from the permanent collection, promote exhibitions and museum programming, and share behind-the-scenes museum action. With an average of **three** posts a week, we have seen our audience grow by **over 25%** since September. *[Continued on pg. 2]*



Prof. Mike Litzau's printmaking students visited the Masterpiece Gallery in September to learn about the history of printmaking and view works by Albrecht Dürer, Rembrandt, Romare Bearden, Kara Walker, and more!

... a note from the curator, continued



Labor students Dante Stewart (left) and Florence Wright carefully hang an artwork by visiting artist Michael Reedy in the Upper Traylor Gallery prior to the opening of his show in November. Labor students learn all aspects of exhibition install as part of their work at the Doris Ulmann Galleries.

Our **three** labor students have contributed in countless ways to the reopening of the Galleries that numbers simply cannot represent, from prepping artworks for display to assisting with exhibition install (and everything in between!). In the process, they are gaining invaluable experience in museum work and mastering skills that most aspiring art and museum professionals do not have the opportunity to learn until graduate school. It has been such a joy to watch as their confidence in taking on these tasks - and eagerness to learn new skills - has grown this semester.

We are excited to showcase work by **six** artists in the Spring term and are currently reviewing applications to select visiting artists for the upcoming academic years. The year ahead promises to be full of opportunities for more student engagement and collaboration across campus programs. It is truly an exciting time to be a part of the Doris Ulmann Galleries!

All my best,

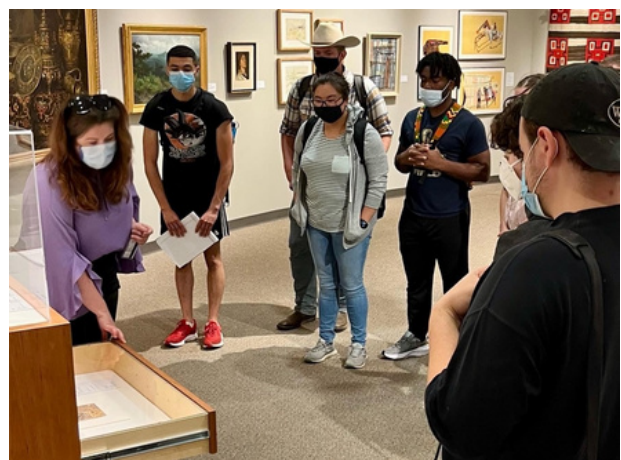
Kelsey Frady Malone, PhD

CLASS VISITS AT THE GALLERIES

Are you a faculty member looking for creative ways to bring an interdisciplinary focus to your classes? Are you interested in integrating more primary source materials into your lessons? The artworks in the Berea College Art Collection are an incredible resource that are available to faculty teaching in all disciplines.

In a world in which we are increasingly bombarded with all kinds of visual messaging, studying art in a hands-on way is not only useful for art and art history students! Visual analysis and critical looking are crucial skills that benefit all students, regardless of their major. For example, this year, we partnered with an English professor to share Surrealist artworks with his students who were learning about dreams and fantasy in creative writing. We practiced slow looking strategies with advanced Spanish students, analyzing Latin American artworks in ways similar to how they were learning to closely read Spanish texts, making connections between visual and literary media along the way.

To learn more about how the Berea College Art Collection can support your course learning objectives, or reserve a class visit for next semester, contact Elizabeth Ronilo (roniloe@berea.edu).



Above: Students in Dr. Jasmine Jones' GSTR 110 class complete a reflective writing assignment in the Lower Traylor Gallery. Below: Elizabeth Ronilo shares some medieval manuscripts with Dr. Ashley Elston's Italian Renaissance Art and Architecture class.

FALL 2022 EXHIBITIONS

"REDISCOVER: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BERIA COLLEGE ART COLLECTION"

The artworks and artifacts on display in "Rediscover: Highlights from the Berea College Art Collection," located in the Dimitrie Berea and Masterpiece galleries, celebrate the much-anticipated reopening of the Doris Ulmann Galleries. Each object was carefully selected to support the Art & Art History curriculum and to showcase the richness and depth of Berea College's permanent art collection, which contains more than 15,000 objects that represent over 5,000 years of human creation, from the ancient world to the present.



Curator Dr. Kelsey Malone (seated center) talks with students from Prof. Mike Litzau's GSTR 110 class about the "Rediscover" exhibition and strategies for crafting a written argument with visual evidence.

BENJAMIN CIRGIN: RE-(C)LEAVE OCTOBER 26 - DECEMBER 11

Benjamin Cirgin is a multi-media artist currently serving as the Ceramics Area Head and Assistant Professor of Ceramics at Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond. The works on view in re-(c)leave are inspired in part by Cirgin's experience working as a designer, carpenter, cabinet maker, stone fabricator, art preparator, and life negotiator. He merges this background with his ceramic process to create abstract forms and casts of significant objects, functional pottery, and multi-medium constructed scenes.

MICHAEL REEDY: PRODIGIOUS PIFFLE NOVEMBER 2 - DECEMBER 11

Michael Reedy is a multi-media artist based in Ann Arbor, Michigan, whose work focuses on representing the human figure in ways that lie outside of the art historical tradition. The large-scale artworks in "Prodigious Piffle" pull from imagery one might see in cartoons or anatomical illustrations like those found in medical textbooks, and all serve, as Reedy says, "to underscore the comedic tragedy of physical existence, as well as the frailties that increasingly define our sense of self as we age."



EVENTS



BUTTON MAKING AT MOUNTAIN DAY, OCTOBER 12

The Doris Ulmann Galleries team hosted a table alongside other campus departments, programs, and organizations at this year's Mountain Day, braving cold temperatures to take part in the campus's 100-year-old tradition. We distributed free posters to students depicting an artwork by Romanian painter Dimitrie Berea (the namesake of our largest gallery) and shared information about this semester's visiting artist exhibitions. Students were also invited to make buttons depicting artworks currently on view in the "Rediscover" exhibition.



"CONSIDERING HOME," NOVEMBER 12

In November, the Forestry Outreach Center and the Archaeology Department co-hosted a panel in honor of Native American Heritage Month called "Considering Home: Changing Narratives About the Land Through Education and Conversation." In attendance were several leaders of the Shawnee Tribe, who travelled from Oklahoma to take part in this day of learning and discussion, as well as students, community members, and scholars from across the country.

At the event, Curator Kelsey Malone spoke about educational programming at the Doris Ulmann Galleries and the recent acquisition of three prints to the permanent collection by Wendy Red Star (Apsáalooke/Crow, b. 1981), an internationally renowned artist committed to working against negative stereotypes of Native American peoples that have been perpetuated for centuries in popular culture and in museum spaces.

ARTIST TALK WITH MICHAEL REEDY NOVEMBER 16

Over forty students, faculty, and staff gathered to hear visiting artist Michael Reedy speak about the artworks in the exhibition, "Prodigious Piffle." Reedy talked about his artistic process - including sourcing and incorporating unique materials such as glitter, glow-in-the-dark paint, and googly eyes into his drawings - and the overarching influences behind his artwork, from historical anatomical drawings to clip art.



THE DORIS ULMANN GALLERIES TEAM

ELIZABETH RONILO | Art Gallery and Collections Associate

Elizabeth Ronilo is from Birmingham, Alabama, and she graduated from Berea College in 2019 with a degree in History and a focus in Archaeology and Classical Studies. She has worked at the Doris Ulmann Galleries since her freshman year and has loved every minute of it, especially installing exhibitions and doing object photography. "There are so many objects in the collection to love," she says, "so it is hard to choose a favorite, but my two current favorite objects are the print *Retour de Pierrot* and a set of dolls titled *Seated Boy with Fish* and *Seated Boy with Bird*."



DANTE STEWART | Labor Student, Class of 2023

Dante Stewart is a senior Art History major and Computer Science minor. Her favorite part of her labor position is "exploring our expansive collection, which is the largest university art collection in the state!" Dante says, "Being able to view these objects in-person has changed the way that I view the world, as well as my role in it. As a Kentucky native, I hope to incorporate my fascination with history and visual media with my skills in software design to increase accessibility to local museum spaces and enable more Appalachian people to discover and interact with their rich history."



FLORENCE WRIGHT | Labor Student, Class of 2025

Florence Wright is a sophomore from Toccoa, Georgia. She is majoring in Engineering Technologies and Applied Design (ETAD). After graduation, she wants to work in product design. Florence says, "My favorite part of working in the Doris Ulmann Galleries is helping put up art for exhibitions. It is exciting to get to show off what we have to give. There are so many beautiful and fascinating pieces that we get to work with, and I love all of them." Some of her favorite objects in the collection are the Japanese Noh masks, one of which is on display in the Dimitrie Berea Gallery this year.



NICOLE ELLER | Labor Student, Class of 2024

Nicole Eller is a junior transfer student from Versailles, Kentucky. She is a Studio Art major with a concentration in drawing and painting. After graduating, Nicole plans to either pursue a Master's degree or work as a conservator in a museum. At the Galleries, her primary project has been processing an archive of materials that belonged to Romanian painter Dimitrie Berea. She says, "I haven't been working in the gallery long, but I have really been enjoying the environment. I am working on organizing the Dimitrie Berea collection, and I never know how a day is going to go, which makes the job so much fun."



RECENT ACQUISITION



Last year, the Berea College Art Collection acquired a photograph by Vietnamese-American artist An-My Lê, which was made possible by generous gifts to the Friends of the Doris Ulmann Galleries fund. Lê is an internationally recognized artist whose work is held in many prestigious collections, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Art Institute of Chicago. *Night Operations III* is part of the *29 Palms* series that Lê made at a U.S. Marines training facility in a California desert. She is interested the consequences of violent battle on the natural landscape and the ways that war is represented in popular media and our collective memory. To support the Doris Ulmann Galleries and contribute to future acquisitions, visit www.dulmann galleries.berea.edu/support.

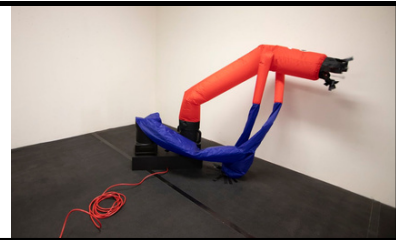
An-My Lê (Vietnamese-American, b. 1960), *Night Operations III*, 2003-2004, gelatin silver print, Friends Purchase, 2021

UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS - SPRING 2023

KATIE HARGRAVE : FLAG WAVING

Upper Traylor Gallery, January 11 - February 10

Artist Talk - Wednesday, January 11 at 12:00



MOLLY JO BURKE & NATHAN GORGEN : WHAT'S WORTH KEEPING

Rogers Gallery, January 11 - February 17

Artist Talk - Friday, February 17 at 12:00

HANNA VOGEL : CRADLING

Lower Traylor Gallery, January 18 - March 17

Artist Talk (Zoom) - Wednesday, March 1 at 4:00



LESLIE SMITH & KATIE WIGGLESWORTH : UNUSUAL CARE

Upper Traylor Gallery, February 22 - March 24

Artist Talk - Tuesday, March 21 at 3:00

