



NEWS RELEASE

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Canton Museum of Art's *Dancing in the Light* Exhibition Showcases Masters of American Impressionism

On View November 27, 2020 through March 7, 2021, *Dancing in the Light* Features Many Rarely Exhibited American Impressionism Works from Private Collections

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Canton, OH): October 26, 2020 – The Canton Museum of Art (CMA) today announced that timed entry tickets are now on sale for the CMA original exhibition *Dancing in the Light: Masterworks from the Age of American Impressionism*, which will open on November 27, 2020 and will be on view through March 7, 2021. Due to COVID-19 health and safety protocols and procedures, limited capacity restrictions remain in place, and advance reservations are required. Timed-entry tickets can be reserved on the CMA website at cantonart.org/reservetickets. Admission availability without advance reserved tickets is not guaranteed. Regular CMA admission prices apply. Free Thursdays offer free admission to all, courtesy of PNC Foundation. CMA members always receive free admission.

A Virtual Opening, with commentary from the curators and contributors to the exhibition, as well as a select virtual tour, will be held on Friday, December 4, from 5 – 6pm. This will be a Zoom event, and the Museum will post the link to the exhibition web page at cantonart.org/exhibits/dancing-light-masterworks-age-american-impressionism and on the Museum's social media outlets.

The centerpiece exhibition in celebration of the Museum's 85th Anniversary, *Dancing in the Light: Masterworks from the Age of American Impressionism* features paintings and works on paper assembled from private collections, museum collections, and CMA's own collection to tell the story of the movement of American Impressionism from its beginnings in France to the shores of America – and why it is still relevant and approachable today as one of the finest artistic periods. Several works by major artists held in private collections and rarely seen in public will be featured in the exhibition.

This exhibition is presented with generous support in part from: The Timken Foundation of Canton, PNC Bank, Visit Canton, Stark Community Foundation, The Anthony J. and Susan E. Paparella Family Foundation, and The Hoover Foundation.

"This is an important and impressive assembly of American Impressionism works," said Museum Director Max R. Barton II. "Paintings by John Singer Sargent, Edward Potthast, Robert Blum, and Jane Peterson, to name a few, will take visitors on a journey through the evolution of American Impressionism, including themes such as 'American Impressionists at Home and Abroad' and 'Women Take the Stage.' We look forward to welcoming visitors, safely, inside our galleries to experience these marvelous works of art."

"While it's been a challenging year, we are grateful for the support of our community, sponsors, donors, members, and our cultural collaborators that have helped to keep art and the arts alive in our digital space, making art accessible for all. This includes our Free Thursdays sponsor, PNC Foundation."

"At PNC, we understand how engagement in the arts can enrich lives and build stronger, more vibrant communities," said Joe Luckring, PNC regional president for Akron. "During this difficult time, we felt it was important to find ways to help our friends and neighbors stay connected to the arts."

More About the Exhibition

This CMA original exhibition, *Dancing in the Light* features works of American Impressionism, 1878 – c. 1930, and highlighting the uniquely American medium of watercolor. More than 50 works assembled from private collections, museum collections, and CMA’s own collection capture the brilliant effects of light and color in everyday scenes. From dancing light across a summer pond to energetic cityscapes, lush cottage gardens, and tranquil seaside settings, American Impressionists sought to capture the story around a composition and place the viewer directly into the scene, as if being a part of it.

“*Dancing in the Light* is one of the most major shows to address the immensely popular subject of American Impressionism in a mid-western venue in several decades, and the first to showcase a comprehensive survey of American Impressionism highlighting the numerous masterpieces owned by Ohio collectors and regional institutions,” said Guest Curator James Keny of Keny Galleries in Columbus, Ohio, which is well known for its expertise in Ohio art and American Impressionism. “We are pleased to feature several works from major artists held in private collections, some rarely exhibited.”

Some the preeminent American masters represented will include: Robert Blum, Theodore Butler, William Merritt Chase, Ralph Curtis, Childe Hassam, Winslow Homer, Jane Peterson, Edward Potthast, Maurice Prendergast, John Singer Sargent, Alice Schille, John Henry Twachtman, and James McNeill Whistler.

Major museums represented include: The Butler Institute of American Art, Cincinnati Art Museum, The Cleveland Museum of Art, Columbus Museum of Art, Dayton Art Institute, Flint Institute of Art, Huntington Museum of Art, Toledo Museum of Art, and Westmoreland Museum of American Art.

A full-color print catalogue, published in limited quantity, accompanies the exhibition.

Keny has guest curated over a 20 museum exhibitions devoted to aspects of American Impressionism. Contributions to the catalogue and the exhibition are from Dr. William Robinson, a world-renowned art historian and expert on the American Impressionism period, currently the Senior Curator of Modern European Painting and Sculpture, 1800 – 1960, at The Cleveland Museum of Art and adjunct professor of art history at Case Western Reserve University. Robinson organized the 2015/2016 Cleveland exhibition of *Painting the Modern Garden: Monet to Matisse*, to much international acclaim.

Accompanying Event: “ILLUMINATION: Canton Light Festival

In collaboration with the *Dancing in the Light* exhibition, Visit Canton and ArtsInStark will be presenting “ILLUMINATION: Canton Light Festival,” which will be a series of immersive light shows and art exhibitions on Friday and Saturday nights in January and February 2021. These will be displayed at various Downtown Canton locations, inside the Cultural Center for the Arts, and projected outside between the Cultural Center and the Canton Civic Center for an exciting drive-through experience. For more information, get enlightened at www.cantonlightfestival.com.

Museum Hours & Visiting Information

CMA’s gallery operating hours beginning November 27, 2020 will be: Tuesday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. The Museum will be closed to the public on Mondays. Limited capacities and advance timed-ticketed reservations will remain in effect. Tickets can be reserved on the CMA website at cantonart.org/reservetickets.

CMA continues to follow guidelines from the Ohio Governor’s Office and Ohio Department of Public Health, CDC, the American Alliance of Museums, and best practices set forth by museum directors across the state and country for safe operations amid COVID-19. To learn what to expect, please read “[Visiting CMA with COVID-19 Precautions](#)” at cantonart.org. CMA is monitoring the COVID-19 situation regularly and will modify its protocols and processes as new information becomes available.

About PNC Bank

PNC Bank, National Association, is a member of The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. (NYSE: PNC). PNC is one of the largest diversified financial services institutions in the United States, organized around

its customers and communities for strong relationships and local delivery of retail and business banking including a full range of lending products; specialized services for corporations and government entities, including corporate banking, real estate finance and asset-based lending; wealth management and asset management. For information about PNC, visit www.pnc.com.

About the Canton Museum of Art

The Canton Museum of Art is recognized for powerful original exhibitions and national touring exhibitions focused on American art – and making the discovery and exploration of art accessible to all. The Museum’s education outreach programs, classes, and workshops serve thousands of students of all ages. CMA’s collection focuses on American works on paper, primarily watercolors, and contemporary ceramics. Founded in 1935, CMA is one of three museums in Stark County accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and serves more than 45,000 visitors each year. CMA receives operating support in part from ArtsInStark and the Ohio Arts Council. CMA is celebrating its 85th Anniversary in the 2020 – 2021 season. Visit cantonart.org to learn more.

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