

# The University Museum

Sharing the Arts, Humanities, and Sciences with Southern Illinois and Beyond

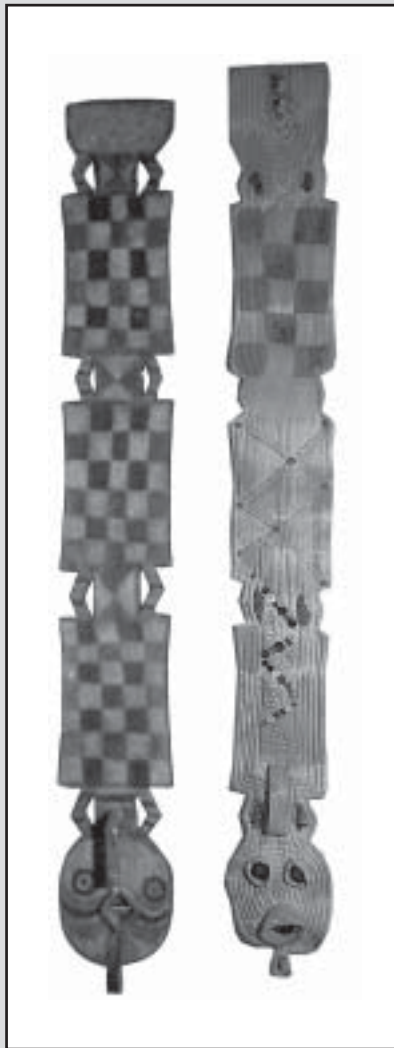
Southern Illinois University Carbondale

Fall 2002

## Fall Blockbuster: Conversations Across the Atlantic

### CONVERSATION

African Art from the Reginald Petty Collection and the Works of Edna J. Patterson-Petty



(Left) Bwa Hawk Mask (right) Mask quilt, Edna J. Patterson-Petty.  
(Photo by Leonard Gadzekpo)

By Dona Bachman  
Museum Director

"CONVERSATION: African Art from the Reginald Petty Collection and the Works of Edna J. Patterson-Petty" opens on August 15 in the Museum's Mitchell Gallery. Outstanding works of historic and contemporary African art "converse" with Edna Petty's contemporary quilts.

Guest curator Dr. Leonard Gadzekpo, SIUC Black American Studies, coordinated the exhibit with Najjar Abdul-Musawwir, SIUC School of Art and Design, assistant curator, and Dr. Joseph Brown, S.J., director, SIUC Black American Studies. Professor dele jegede of Indiana State University, Terre Haute, served as consultant.

Major funding for the exhibition came from the Southern Illinois University Foundation.

The exhibition is distinct in featuring two artistic impulses: the African artistic ethos and an African American's individual artistic statement and response to her African source.

SIUC College of Liberal Arts' alum Reginald Petty began collecting African art during his tenure as a Peace Corps administrator in the 1960s and '70s.

Dr. Gadzekpo notes that as Petty traveled in almost all the African countries during his years as African Regional Director, "... his appreciation for the people, the art they produced and their relation to African Americans was affirmed and deepened."

Edna J. Patterson-Petty is an artist and art therapist. She studied at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and received an M.F.A. degree in studio arts as well as a masters in art therapy. As a textile artist and sculptor, she has exhibited nationally. Two of her mosaic pieces decorate Metro Link stations in East St. Louis and Fairview Heights. Drawing inspiration from her husband's African art collection, Patterson-Petty responded with her own contemporary works.

The Pettys will be honored at a Public Reception on Sunday, August 25 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the University Museum. As part of the event, Professor dele jegede of the Art Department at Indiana State University, Terre Haute, will give a talk on the state of African art today.

"African art reveals the ingenuity of the African peoples across time and space. The notion of an ossified continent — or of peoples who are mired in poverty and wanting in ideas — is contradicted by the power of imagination that African art continues to manifest. Now, as in previous epochs, African artists create art that encapsulates the lores and canons, the aspirations and conflicts, the tribulations and triumphs, of their own cosmos. It is this, the ability to be assertive and creatively independent, that amplifies the relevance of African art at several levels: educational, aesthetic, didactic, and conversational."

— dele jegede, Ph.D.,  
Chair, Department of Art, Indiana State  
University - Terre Haute

## EXHIBITS

*The Miner* by Fred Myers  
(Photo by Gene Moehring)



### North Hall Mitchell Gallery

*CONVERSATION*, see cover story, through October 20

Fred Myers: WPA Woodworker, November 1 – 22

Combined Faculty Art Exhibit, December 6 – January 26, 2003

### Sculpture Court & Atrium Gallery

Works by Ernest Trova, Thomas Walsh and others from the Museum's collection

*Empty Bowls: A Benefit Exhibition For Good Samaritan House*, October

*Architectural Studies*, November

*Glass Works*, December

### South Hall South One

*Contemporary Heartland Quilts Of Illinois*, through August 18  
8<sup>th</sup> Biennial Exhibit – Carbondale Community Arts, September 3 – October 11

*Rescue of the Danish Jews*, October 15 – November 22  
Organized for The University Museum by Jonathan Weisen of the Department of History

MFA Preview, Dec. 6, 2002 – Jan. 26, 2003

### Permanent Collection Gallery

*A Modern Institution: Design at SIU During the Delyte Morris Era: 1948 – 1970*, through November 17

*Devonian Seas/Museum Studies*, December 3 – March 14, 2003

### Southern Illinois Gallery

*The Lands of the Cache: The Vanishing Human Presence in the Cache River Basin*, through October 20

*Opening of Newly Reinstalled Pioneer Dioramas, Southern Illinois Folk Artists*, opens November 1

### South Seven

*Young Earth Scientists — Discovering A Prehistoric World*, through December 14

## PROGRAMS

Sunday, August 25

Public Reception for *CONVERSATION*, 2 – 4 p.m. Lecture by Dr. dele jegede, Professor of African Art, Indiana State University, Terre Haute.

Friday, September 20

Public Reception for the 8<sup>th</sup> Biennial Exhibit, 4 – 8 p.m.

Saturday, October 12

10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Family Fossil Hunt: Fantastic Fossil Forest led by Adjunct Curator Harvey Henson, SIUC School of Geology. Lab session followed by a field trip. Children 6 – 14. Cost: \$25 per child/adult pair (\$15 for each additional child). Advanced registration required. Call Bob DeHoet at 618/453-5388.

Wednesday, October 16

The University Museum hosts museums from across the state for the Illinois Associations' Annual Statewide Meeting.



### Completely Free Saturday Afternoon Programs

Limit for each program is 15, ages 7 and up. Small group enrollments are welcome. All programs are 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. To register, just call the University Museum, at 453-5388.

Saturday, October 5

**Printmaking Extravaganza.** Students discuss artwork from the Museum's collection and then make their own monoprints.

Saturday, October 19

**Extra! Extra! Making The News: Five Star Edition.** Students become MIR's (Museum Investigative Reporters), tracking down Museum objects by figuring out visual riddles. Then they write a story about the object they find. Their article will be printed in the Museum's *Saturday Paper*.

Saturday, October 26

**Southern Illinois or Bust!** As part of our Illinois history game, students become hearty pioneers who brave the hardships of a little known land to travel to and settle early Illinois!

Saturday, Part 1: November 2, Part 2: November 9

**Making Metropotamia.** In the first session, students discuss and design the layout and buildings of the city of Metropotamia. In the second session they build a model of the city.

Friday, November 1

Public Reception for the opening of the Southern Illinois Gallery, 4 – 6 p.m.

Thursday, November 7

Public Reception for *The Rescue of the Danish Jews* exhibit, time TBA and lecture by Professor Therkel Straede, University of Copenhagen.

Friday, December 6

Public Reception for Combined Faculty and MFA Preview art exhibits, 4 – 7 p.m.

Sunday, December 8

Public Reception for *Young Earth Scientists*, 2 – 4 p.m.



# MYSTERIOUS MUSEUMS

By Dona Bachman  
Museum Director

The book sellers tell us each year that summer is a great time to catch up on light reading. I don't know about you, but I find my summers packed to the brim. Nevertheless, I came across a number of my favorite type of mysteries this summer: those involving museums!

I've added these new books to my library. Let me know if you discover others or if you'd like to borrow any.

Aaron Elkins is the author of a goodly number of mysteries. Some feature his archaeologist Gideon Oliver. He is also the author of a series that showcases the talents of museum curator Chris Norgren, a specialist in Renaissance and Baroque Art. Elkins' *Loot* presents Ben Revere, an art historian who becomes embroiled in art stolen by the Nazis.

Jane Langton's Homer and Mary Kelly often find themselves looking into murders at museums and historical sites. Her witty books have been set at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum and Monticello, which includes a Lewis and Clark theme.

James Bradberry writes about Jamie Ramsgill's adventures in architecture and art. *Eakins' Mistress* is very clever.

Other recent works include Tracy Chevalier's *Girl with a Pearl Earring*, which speculates about the model for Vermeer's painting. Arturo Perez-Reverte writes about *The Flanders Panel* and an art restorer. Marcia Muller's Joanna Stark investigates the theft of a Frans Hals painting. Thomas Hovig, former director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, has written several mysteries including *Masterpiece* and *Discovery*.

Elizabeth Peters, best known for her Victorian archaeologist sleuth, Amelia Peabody, is also the author of a series featuring art expert Vicky Bliss; *Night Train to Memphis* is a recent book in the series. Earlene Fowler writes about Benni Harper, the curator of a folk art museum in California.

Well, the list could go on and on. The same cannot be said for summer, but if you find a little spare time, you might want to dip into these. Happy reading!

## Reception Coordinator Sought

Looking for a creative outlet for your catering or reception skills? The University Museum is looking for a volunteer Reception Coordinator. Responsibilities will involve making certain, if appropriate, alcohol permits have been secured,

keeping track of supplies, planning menus, and hosting the events. The individual who takes on this responsibility must be 21 or older. Please call Dr. Dona Bachman, museum director, if you're interested: 618/453-5388.

## Recent Acquisitions

By Lori Huffman  
Curator of Collections

Donations to the University Museum's collections are one way that our constituency shows their support of our mission. If you are interested in donating items in the arts, sciences and humanities to the Museum, please contact Dr. Bachman.

**Estate of Douglas Brown by Margaret and Donald Brown:** 28 photographs by professional photographer Douglas Brown.  
**Betty Crowder, Whitehall, Illinois:** WWII memorabilia of her late husband, Loren "Gene" Crowder.

**Estate of Jay Friedline, Massachusetts:** a mixed wood secretary made by the donor's grandfather, Abraham Friedline (1830 - 1905), a resident of Carbondale.

**Mary Jane Robbins, Carbondale, Illinois:** a mangle iron purchased by the donor's mother, Mary Jane Prather, in the 1930s and used by the donor through the 1980s.

**Alisa Shin, formerly of Carbondale, Illinois:** one of her wedding kimonos and two Kabuki theater-inspired paddles. Mrs. Shin's husband, Wanghsik, was a professor at SIUC.

**SIU Foundation, Carbondale, Illinois:** over 560 prints from a number of significant artists of the 20<sup>th</sup> century including Robert Indiana, Richard Anuszkiewicz, Leonard Baskin, and Lee Krasner. The collection also includes limited edition posters of the 1972 and 1976 Olympics.

**A.G. Snelgrove, Lake Jackson, Texas:** eleven spears from the West Sepik River of New Guinea. This is a significant donation to our Melanesian collection, which numbers over 2,000 artifacts.

**Sally Taylor, Mill Valley, California:** diplomatic uniforms and accessories of the donor's great, great-grandfather, Frederico Luciano Barreda, who served as Minister from Peru to the United States in 1861 - 1864 and 1866 - 1867.



Loren "Gene" Crowder in his recently donated World War II uniform. (Photo courtesy of Betty Crowder)

# Museum Says "Yes!" to Young Earth Scientists

By Bob DeHoet  
Museum Education Coordinator

What was southern Illinois like more than 300 million years ago? Fourth graders from Davie School in Anna and Ellis School in Belleville were asked to answer this question when they took part in the Young Earth Scientists (YES) project during the 2001 - 2002 school year. The YES project was funded by a \$43,000 Scientific Literacy Pilot Project grant from the Illinois State Board of Education for 2001-2002.

Visitors to the University Museum may try to answer some of the same questions that were posed to these intrepid young earth scientists in the "YES" exhibit, which runs August 15 through December 20, 2002.

The SIUC Department of Geology and the University Museum cooperated in bringing the YES project to life. Department of Geology Research Specialist Harvey Henson and Museum Education Coordinator Bob DeHoet have worked together for over 10 years on earth science outreach programming for southern Illinois.

Led by University Museum Adjunct Curator of Geology Harvey Henson and myself, students, instructors, and interested parents from Anna and Belleville, visited their respective sites in October 2001. Students were encouraged to ask questions about what they had found. After returning to their schools from the site, students were able to pose additional questions to us using the Internet. Using the information from many yes or no questions, the students were able to make educated, scientifically supported guesses about their sites' appearances 300 million years in the past.

The YES project has established a permanent hub at Southern Illinois University Carbondale with The University Museum and Department of Geology serving as the hub's core. As additional schools become part of the YES project, the hub will distribute information and coordinate activities. Harvey Henson and I hope that the YES program will eventually be national and even international in scope.



Young Earth Scientists at work. (Photo by Bob DeHoet)



Sports Campers from the SIUC Rec Center stand by their 7 foot sculpture. (left to right) Brian, Jonathan, and Michael Suaraz, Ben Alstat, Robby Finley. (Photo by Bob DeHoet)

## Over 400 Young People Enjoy Summer Programs

The Museum has had an active summer of cooperative educational programming with the College of Education, the SIUC Rec Center's Youth Sports Camps, and the Rainbow's End Summer School.

Seventh to tenth graders from the College of Education's Challenge to Excellence program took part in the Museum's Sculpturama Challenge, enjoying an art appreciation experience in the Museum's Sculpture Court and Atrium Gallery; then they created their own abstract relief sculptures.

Sports Campers from the Rec Center created Styro Gyro sculptures more than 7 feet tall.

Rainbow's End students took part in a variety of Summertime Learning Fun programs ranging from Montage-Omatic, in which students created image montages of their Museum experience, to Making the News, 2nd Edition, in which students became Museum Investigative Reporters, journalistic sleuths locating art and artifacts in the Museum and writing stories about them.

Sundays at the Museum programs introduced children to three books: *Snowflake Bentley*, *Linnea in Monet's Garden*, and *Somebody and the Three Blairs*. Art activities accompanied each book.

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# Gallery Growth Goes On

By William Snyder  
Museum Exhibits Designer



William Snyder became the Museum's Exhibits Designer on August 1

Over the course of the last few months visitors to the Museum may have noticed a change here and there in the galleries. Spring cleaning took on a whole new meaning as years of accumulated nooks and crannies used for storage were stripped away to reveal larger, and in some cases new, spaces to add to the areas that can be utilized for exhibits.

Certainly the most visible change took place in the North Hall with the unveiling of the new Atrium Gallery. Removing a storage area for unused pedestals allowed us to uncover the windows facing directly on Faner Circle and add over 500 square feet of gallery space. While we seek funding for UV filters for the windows, we can exhibit the Museum's excellent collection of metal sculpture, which will serve as an attention grabber for passers-by in Faner Circle.

Also in the Mitchell Gallery in North Hall, a 250 square foot storage area at the back of the room was removed which allows the gallery to read as a pleasing and continuous space. This added 16 lineal feet of wall space and increased the beautiful view to the Museum's Sculpture Garden through the window-wall that is now nearly 50 feet long!

South Hall galleries have not been neglected either. Prior to the installation of the Delyte Morris exhibit in the Permanent Collection Gallery, two separate storage areas were removed to add nearly 200 square feet of space. The "Life Through Time" exhibit in the Fraunfelter Gallery also received a make-over as more than 260 square feet were added in July. This converted storage area will also add an additional 150 square feet to the Permanent Collection Gallery when the Morris exhibit closes in November.

Perhaps our most dramatic improvement to the galleries is the on-going work to create the Southern Illinois Gallery. Central to this newly dedicated space will be the re-installation of the Southern Illinois Pioneer Dioramas. Since the Museum's move to Faner Hall in the mid-1970s, these long-time visitor favorites have been exhibited in a

small, nearly hidden gallery. These wonderful models created during the Works Progress Administration of the 1930s and '40s will now be exhibited with state-of-the-art lighting, additional artifacts from the Museum's collection, and hands-on educational activities.

The dioramas' relocation has opened up a space of nearly 225 square feet that will serve as the Museum's Orientation Room for visiting tour groups. We hope to add state-of-the-art video projection equipment to this space if funding becomes available.

The new Southern Illinois Gallery will open November 1, 2002 after the Dioramas have received a thorough, professional cleaning from a Carbondale model expert Paul McRoy.



Director Dona Bachman and volunteer Paul McRoy discuss work on the pioneer dioramas. (Photo by Bob DeHoet)

So, what are the final figures? By November 1, 2002 when these gallery renovations will be complete (for now!), more than 1600 square feet of visible, visitor-accessible, space will have been added! Not only space has been added, but also these renovations will provide visitors with a more organized and visually appealing environment. Exhibitors will enjoy more wall space with fewer bumps and jogs.

Just what did we do with all of the stored "stuff"? Well, in the museum workshop work has been going on as well. We were able to consolidate all of the above spaces into two storage areas of less than 350 square feet each. This also left us with a separate, secure space for storing art and artifacts that are in transit between exhibits.

A great big "thank you" goes to our graduate assistants: Colby Smith, Jim Weiler, Nathan Blank, and Leo Vournelis. Also, undergraduate students Claire Reynolds and Mercedes Wyant have pitched in to help. Thank you all!

## NEW MUSEUM HOURS BEGIN AUGUST 15

Tuesday – Friday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday, Sunday, Monday: 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Closed November 23 – 29, December 21 – January 12, 2003

Limited Hours: December 16 – 20

Closed during University breaks and holidays

Admission: Free, donations welcomed

The Museum is located in the north end of Faner Hall

For information: 618/453-5388

Fax: 618/453-7409

e-mail: [museum@siu.edu](mailto:museum@siu.edu)

website: [www.museum.siu.edu](http://www.museum.siu.edu)

### Museum Staff:

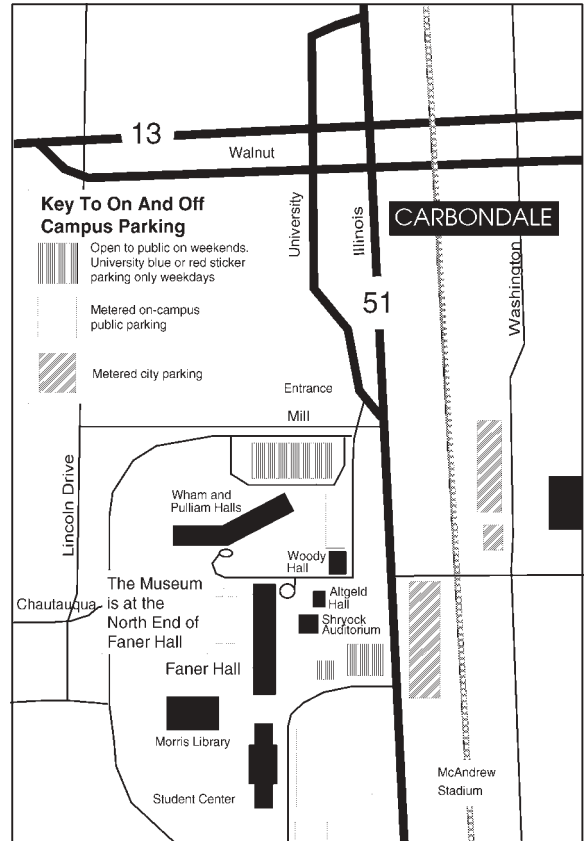
Dr. Dona Bachman, Director

Lori Huffman, Curator of Collections

Bob DeHoet, Education Coordinator

William Snyder, Exhibits Designer

## Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Illinois



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