



Georgia Museum of Art Fact Sheet University of Georgia, Athens, Ga.

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Overview: The Georgia Museum of Art is the official state art museum of Georgia and part of the Performing and Visual Arts Complex located on the East Campus of the University of Georgia (UGA). The move to the present site in 1996 doubled exhibition space and vastly improved the museum's ability to educate the public and preserve works of art. The current gallery space allowed the museum to display only a portion of its permanent collection of more than 8,000 objects in between hosting national and international touring exhibitions on a regular basis.

On March 3, 2009, the Georgia Museum of Art held a ground-breaking ceremony for its Phase II expansion and renovation and launched GMOA on the Move, a state- and nationwide initiative of off-site programs and exhibitions. Due to construction, the museum's offices are currently located in the former Visual Arts Building on Jackson Street on UGA's North Campus, and the Carlton Street building is closed to the public. The museum shop now has an online presence that can be accessed from www.uga.edu/gamuseum.

The Phase II project will add approximately 16,000 square feet of gallery space, more storage, an expansion of the first-floor reception hall and a sculpture garden. The third-floor library will be renovated to create study centers for the humanities open to the public. The entire project will add 29,970 square feet to the existing building.

GMOA on the Move features a series of events sponsored by the Young at Art committee of the Friends of the Georgia Museum of Art titled "The Art of"

celebrating creativity in areas beyond the traditional fine arts, such as gardening, cinema, brewing beer and more. Each event takes place at a venue that corresponds with the highlighted craft and is followed by a reception with refreshments and a live performance. The museum continues to host various Family Days, films, exhibitions and workshops at participating Athens sites such as the Lamar Dodd School of Art, the State Botanical Garden of Georgia and the Lyndon House Arts Center. In addition to in-state activities, GMOA on the Move includes ongoing traveling exhibitions around the United States.

The Georgia Museum of Art is scheduled to reopen in early 2011.

Location: University of Georgia
90 Carlton St.
Athens, GA 30602-1419

Architects: Thompson, Ventulett, Stainback and Associates of Atlanta, Ga., and Craig, Gauden & Davis Inc. of Greenville, S.C. (1996 building)
Gluckman Mayner Architects of New York, N.Y., and Stanley Beaman and Sears of Atlanta, Ga. (2011 expansion and renovation)

Building Footage: 84,025 square feet with approximately 24,780 square feet of gallery space after expansion

Building Features: The world-renowned firm of Gluckman Mayner Architects has created a stunning design for Phase II of the Georgia Museum of Art. The wing will comprise 30,000 square feet devoted to the long-term display of the permanent collection. Audiences will have access to many more works than ever, with portions of the museum's collection on permanent display. "Light bars," structural vertical openings that extend through the building from top to bottom, allowing daylight to illuminate the art spaces and the parking lot located on the ground floor below the galleries, punctuate the 14 new galleries. The existing galleries will be reconfigured to house temporary exhibitions. An expanded lobby on the ground floor will connect the new wing to the present building, forming a reception space where up to 300 people can be seated. The construction will also establish the east entry as the museum's main entrance, strengthening its connection with the Performing and Visual Arts Complex and the Lamar Dodd School of Art.

Phase II includes increased storage and preparation space, both desperately needed. The study centers will house the Pierre Daura Center for the Study of European Art; a study center for graphic arts that includes the Jacob Burns

Foundation Archives; the Henry D. Green Center for the Study of the Decorative Arts; and the C.L. Morehead Jr. Center for the Study of American Art. Additional teaching, classroom and work areas will allow the museum to increase and enhance its service to the university and to the community at large. The Prints and Drawings Study Room will be moved to the second floor and will remain available by appointment only.

Alfred Holbrook's decision to present his collection of art to the University of Georgia to create a museum began a pattern of private support that still sustains us. With such support the museum advances its mission of teaching, research and service as it adds resonance and meaning to the lives of its audiences every day. The museum's \$20 million expansion and renovation is supported entirely by external funds contributed by more than 350 individuals, foundations and federal agencies.

Date of Founding: 1945, Open to the public 1948

Director: William U. Eiland

Deputy Director: Annelies Mondt

Web Address: www.uga.edu/gamuseum

New Media:

Blog: <http://www.gmoa.blogspot.com>

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/pages Search: *Georgia Museum of Art*

Flickr: www.flickr.com/photos/gmoa

Second Life: www.secondlife.com Search: *Georgia Museum of Art*

Twitter: www.twitter.com/gmoa

Museum Information:

706.542.GMOA (4662) Main Line

706.542.1051 Fax

706.542.3254 Exhibition Line

706.542.9078 Department of Communications, contact Jenny Williams, public relations coordinator

Membership: The Friends of the Georgia Museum of Art is the museum's membership program, which comprises individuals, families, businesses, companies and corporations with an interest in the visual arts and a desire to contribute to the growth of the museum. Activities the Friends support include lecture and film series; Family Days; special events such as galas, fundraisers and

opening receptions; exhibitions; publications; trips; acquisitions and workshops. The benefits of joining the Friends include a subscription to the quarterly newsletter describing exhibitions and events, a 10% discount on Museum Shop items, invitations to exhibition openings and programs, advance notice of museum events and reduced or free admission for select openings and programs. For more information, please call Tim Brown at 706.542.4662 or visit www.uga.edu/gamuseum.

Collections: The Georgia Museum of Art's permanent collection consists of primarily 19th- and 20th-century American paintings and European and American prints and drawings. The holdings also include a Samuel H. Kress Study Collection of Italian Renaissance paintings and a collection of Japanese prints, Asian and African art and a rapidly growing collection of decorative arts with a primary focus on works made in Georgia.

ORGANIZATIONAL PROFILE

The Georgia Museum of Art was founded in 1945 when Alfred Heber Holbrook, a retired lawyer from New York, chose the University of Georgia as the site for a museum in memory of his late wife, Eva. He served as museum director for 25 years and presented more than 900 works of art to the permanent collection. Upon its founding, the museum became an integral part of the community, and in 1982 it was designated the official state museum of art. The Georgia Museum of Art shares the mission of the University of Georgia to support and to promote teaching, research and service. Specifically, as a repository and educational instrument of the visual arts, the museum exists to collect, preserve, exhibit and interpret significant works of art. The staff is also sensitive to the museum's dual nature as a university museum and as an educational institution for the entire state of Georgia.

American painting is the core of the collection. A passionate collector, Holbrook was advanced among his contemporaries, and the intervening years have proved his judgments sound. A survey of the collection reveals his remarkable sensitivity to a continuum of historical periods and artistic styles. Nineteenth-century works include those of Albert Bierstadt, Thomas Eakins, Winslow Homer, George Inness, John Frederick Kensett, Theodore Robinson, Albert Pinkham Ryder and James Abbott McNeill Whistler. The collection is especially strong in early-20th-century paintings with important works by, among others, Stuart Davis, Reginald Marsh, Georgia O'Keeffe, Ben Shahn, Lucy May Stanton and Andrew Wyeth. Late-20th-century works painters in the collection include Charles Burchfield, Alice Neel, Helen Frankenthaler and Elaine de Kooning.

The Georgia Museum of Art has an exemplary collection of works on paper ranging from the 16th to the 21st centuries, the largest of its kind in the Southeast. The collection of prints and drawings is especially strong from the period of the 1930s and early 1940s. Other important holdings are 19th-century European prints, including “L’Estampe Originale” and William Blake’s “Book of Job”; Italian master drawings; and prints by Japanese artists like Hokusai, Hiroshige and Kuniyoshi.

The collection benefits from various extended loans: the West Foundation collection of British watercolors; a group of more than 900 drawings, primarily Italian Renaissance and Baroque, from the collection of Giuliano Ceseri; and a collection of important paintings by artists of the American Scene from the Schoen Collection. The museum also collects decorative arts, acquiring silver, furniture and textiles by Georgia artisans; American art pottery; Chinese export porcelain; and animalier bronzes.

The Pierre Daura Center was established in 2002 with a gift from Martha R. Daura in honor of her father, the Catalan-American modern artist Pierre Daura (1896–1976), to further the life and works of Pierre Daura in context. Painter, printmaker, sculptor, draftsman and teacher, Pierre Daura was one of the founders of the influential group *Cercle et Carré*, which in 1929 promoted geometric abstraction over the prevailing forces of Surrealism. Along with Daura, other members of the short-lived “Circle and Square” were co-founder Joaquin Torres-Garcia, Jean Arp, Wassily Kandinsky, Fernand Leger and Piet Mondrian. The Pierre Daura Center comprises a large collection of art by Pierre Daura from throughout his career and extensive archival materials. A digital database is currently under production. In addition to the study of Daura’s art, the center is dedicated to scholarship in modern European and American art.

In 2000, the museum established the Henry D. Green Center for the Study of the Decorative Arts, with a focus on the history of the decorative arts in Georgia and the South within the context of American art history and its European influences. The department sponsors a biennial symposium on the decorative arts of Georgia that presents recent findings on topics of interest by various scholars in the decorative arts field, with the symposium’s attendance ranging from 300 to 400.

As the only free-admission major museum in the state, the Georgia Museum of Art serves its university and lay public through a schedule of innovative exhibitions featuring works of established and emerging artists from a large variety of cultures and historical periods.

Educational programming serves both the academic community and statewide audiences. For example, a biennial conference on early Italian art and architecture draws scholars from around the country and the world, providing a forum for new research and discoveries. The museum often hosts symposia and panel discussions in conjunction with major exhibitions. Programs of general interest include monthly Family Days, evening films and gallery talks. Community programs are created for specific audiences, such as Senior Outreach and Art Adventures, a summer program for community children's groups. In one-hour workshops, children learn about the subjects, techniques and materials folk artists use and create their own art inspired by the works they see. The museum serves people all over the state with "Just My Imagination," in which Georgia artists travel to community centers and libraries to lead hands-on studio activities for families. Volunteer docents undergo extensive training in order to give tours for groups from schools and the community. All of these programs are continuing while the museum is under construction in the context of GMOA on the Move.

The Georgia Museum of Art has received 61 awards since 2000 for its exhibitions, publications, educational programs, staff and volunteers. A complete list of awards can be found in PDF format at www.uga.edu/gamuseum/press. The museum is accredited by the American Association of Museums and is a member of the Association of Art Museum Directors.

(Updated 9/24/09)