

LASM

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2007

QUARTERLY

A PUBLICATION OF THE LOUISIANA ART AND SCIENCE MUSEUM

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THE COLLECTORS

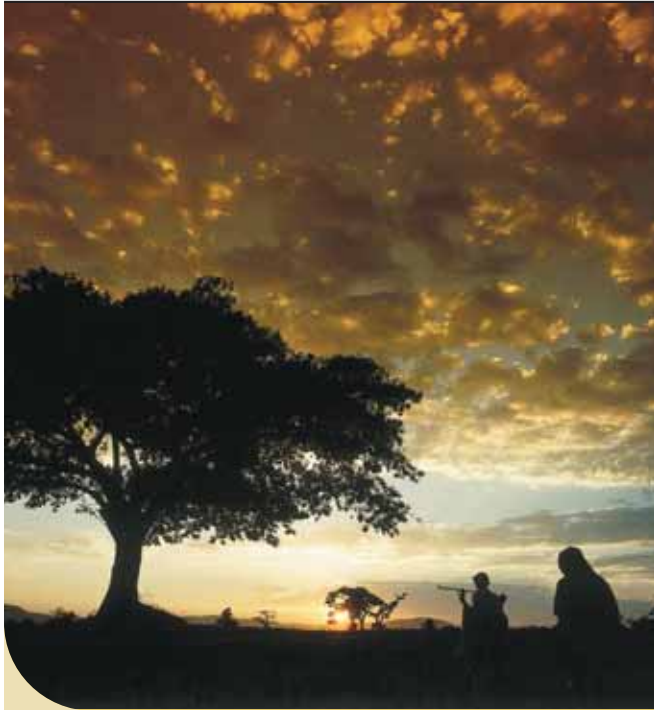
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COVER STORY: PAGE 4

Image from *Tradition in Transition:
Russian Icons in the Age of the Romanovs*

PLANETARIUM



Coral Reef Adventure: An Underwater Film Like No Other

**NOVEMBER 23, 2007–
JANUARY 6, 2008**

Featuring songs written and recorded by Crosby, Stills, and Nash, and narration by Liam Neeson, *Coral Reef Adventure* takes you to some of the largest, most beautiful and endangered coral reefs in the world. You will follow the courageous expedition of a dedicated, real-life husband-and-wife team who risk their lives to bring back powerful, unimaginably beautiful images in an effort to help save the world's coral reefs. From Australia's Great Barrier Reef to the majestic islands of Fiji and Tahiti and the mysterious Rangiroa Atoll, the journey is breathtaking!



LARGE-FORMAT FILMS

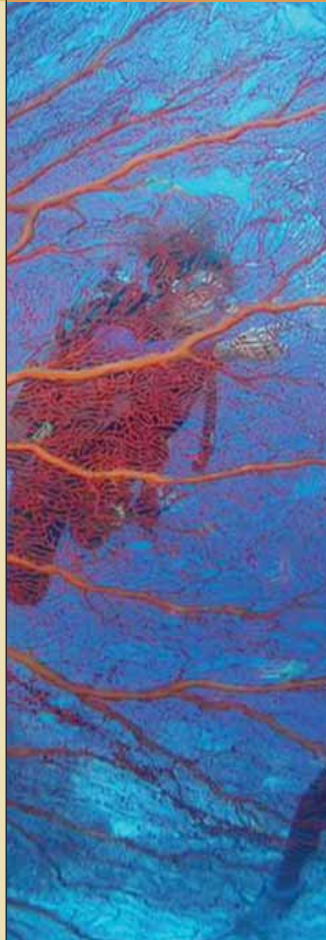
Mystery of the Nile

THROUGH FEBRUARY 29, 2008

Finding the source of the Nile River is a quest that consumed explorers from the ancient Egyptians to Napoleon to the legendary Sir Richard Burton and David Livingstone. Astonishingly, this epic journey eluded humankind for centuries—until 2004. *Mystery of the Nile* describes the adventure of two intrepid explorers who became the first in history to conquer all 3,260 miles of the world's greatest river in a single descent from its source in the Ethiopian highlands to the Mediterranean Sea. For 114 days, the explorers and their crew faced nearly insurmountable challenges as they made their way down the river in two rafts and a kayak, traversing three countries in some of the world's remotest regions.

You will witness the team's 16-foot rafts crashing through the rapids in Ethiopia's remote desert canyons, feel the intense heat as the team crosses the desert plains of Sudan on the way to Khartoum, where the Blue Nile merges with the White Nile to form the Nile proper. The film also reveals a wondrous region of abundant historical, cultural, and natural treasures.

Today, we associate the Nile with pyramids, pharaohs, and the ancient Egyptians, and with good reason. Without the Nile, especially its annual summer floods, ancient Egypt's advanced civilization, which lasted for more than 3,000 years, would have been impossible. Due to the river's power to provide everything they needed, the Egyptians called it "the river of life" and revered its annual floodwaters as a god. But the ancient Egyptians were just one of many peoples of the region who would come to rely on the Nile for sustenance and power. *Mystery of the Nile* explores the intriguing relics of the lesser-known Nubian kingdoms, which created their own spectacular black pyramids at Meroe in Sudan, and the 12th century Copts, who carved early Christian churches out of sheer rock in the sacred Ethiopian city of Lalibela.



SKY SHOWS ***Oasis in Space***

THROUGH NOVEMBER 21

The planetarium's newest full-dome, immersive-theater sky show, *Oasis in Space*, takes you on a startlingly beautiful voyage through the solar system and the Milky Way Galaxy in search of the key ingredient for life on earth—liquid water. The journey reveals the stark differences between the atmospheres, temperatures, and composition of our neighboring planets and of Earth, emphasizing why Earth, with its vast oceans that make life possible, is so special.

But is Earth the only world possessing life? Is there life on some distant planet that also possesses water? Do all of the favorite conditions for life exist elsewhere? Learn why the search for water is a key to answering these questions and why our own planet Earth is truly an "oasis in space." This show is presented via the planetarium's high-resolution video projection system and in surround sound. *Oasis in Space* includes a guided tour of the seasonal evening sky, identifying constellations and visible planets.

Sponsored by *The Real Yellow Pages*

On weekdays, planetarium shows between 10:00 AM and 12 noon are frequently booked by school groups and are therefore subject to change. For up-to-date information, please call 225-344-5272 or check www.lasm.org before you visit.



Infinity Express

**SEPTEMBER 1, 2007–
JANUARY 6, 2008**

A remarkable blend of science, art, and entertainment, *Infinity Express* takes the audience on an exciting journey of discovery, from the nearby worlds of our solar system to mapping the structure of the universe. Dramatically communicating the latest breakthroughs in our quest to understand the cosmos, this sky show, elegantly narrated by actor Laurence Fishburne, uses the planetarium's state-of-the-art digital projection system to convey truly wondrous images from some of the best space visualization agencies throughout the world. Included with *Infinity Express* is a tour of the seasonal evening sky, identifying constellations and planets.



Fright Light!

**A Halloween Rock Laser Show
OCTOBER 6–OCTOBER 28
SHOW TIME: EVERY
SATURDAY, 8:00 PM**

Saturday nights in October bring out Frankenstein's monster, Godzilla, aliens, giant spiders, and a purple people eater! And if that's not scary enough, how about Ozzy Osbourne? *Fright Light* is rated PG (not recommended for children under the age of 12 years) and features a collection of monster hits from Edgar Winter's *Frankenstein* to Will Smith's alien rap from *Men in Black* and The Who's *Boris the Spider*—all set to laser graphics and images.



VISUAL MUSIC SHOWS *Cosmic Rock Hall of Fame*

**THROUGH APRIL 26, 2008
SHOW TIME: EVERY SATURDAY, 7:00 PM**

This intense and revolutionary entertainment material brings down the house with full-dome, high-resolution computer animation. Based on a Rock Hall of Fame theme, this show appeals to everyone from teenagers to baby boomers!

FAMILY SHOWS *Legends of the Night Sky: Perseus and Andromeda*

**SEPTEMBER 1– NOVEMBER 18
SHOW TIMES: SATURDAY 10:00
AM & 5:00 PM; SUNDAY 5:00 PM**

This is a lighthearted and imaginative tale about the myths and stories associated with the constellations of the late summer and autumn skies. Narrated by Aesop the owl and Socrates the mouse, this animated show is as educational as it is entertaining. Also included is a brief tour of the seasonal evening skies, identifying visible planets and deep-sky objects.

Star of Bethlehem

**NOVEMBER 23, 2007–
JANUARY 6, 2008**

Join us on a journey in search of the celestial object that led the wise men to the Christ Child. Along the way you will learn who the wise men really were, where they came from, and what they saw in the night sky so long ago.

Some 2,000 years ago, a planet was called a "wandering star," a meteor was a "shooting star," and a comet was a "hairy star" because its tail looked like a beard. Any of these celestial objects might have been the Star of Bethlehem. Using the planetarium's digital star field, we can re-create the night sky at that time to see what the wise men could have seen. Also included is a seasonal tour of the evening sky, identifying constellations and visible planets.

SonicVision: How Do You See Your Music?

**THROUGH SEPTEMBER 29
SHOW TIME: EVERY
SATURDAY, 8:00 PM**

Rocketing the planetarium music show into the 21st century and beyond, *SonicVision* takes audiences on a fantastic roller-coaster ride through vivid 3-D graphics environments that pulsate to the rhythm of a high-energy music mix featuring today's most popular bands. In collaboration with the American Museum of Natural History, MTV2, and world-famous musical artist Moby, this show has revolutionized the future of dome music entertainment.

Pink Floyd: The Wall

**NOVEMBER 3, 2007–
FEBRUARY 23, 2008**

**SHOW TIME: EVERY
SATURDAY, 8:00 PM**
Experience one of rock's all-time favorite groups in a new, full-dome digital presentation. The best tracks of this album are choreographed to computer graphics and are in 5.1 surround sound.

Laser Holidays

**NOVEMBER 24, 2007–
JANUARY 6, 2008
SHOW TIMES: SATURDAY 10:00
AM & 5:00 PM; SUNDAY, 5:00 PM**

This seasonal favorite returns to delight the whole family with laser graphics choreographed to popular tunes such as *Sleigh Ride*, *Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy*, *Jingle Bell Rock*, and many others by artists such as Tchaikovsky, Bing Crosby, Enya, and Nat King Cole.

TRADITION IN TRANSITION

RUSSIAN ICONS IN THE AGE OF THE ROMANOV

COVER IMAGE: *Iverskaia Mother of God* (detail), c. 1875–1900, oklad by firm of Pavel Ovchinnikov, tempera on wood with silver gilt, filigree enamels, and seed pearls, 4 1/4 x 4 5/16 in. Collection of Hillwood Museum & Gardens, bequest of Marjorie Merriweather Post.

RIGHT: *Mother of God "Pledge of Sinners,"* Russia, c.1912, tempera on wood with gold, pearls, diamonds, and emeralds, 5 x 3 13/16 in. Collection of Hillwood Museum & Gardens, bequest of Marjorie Merriweather Post.



SEPTEMBER 29, 2007–JANUARY 6, 2008

Tradition in Transition tells the rare story of Russia's most emblematic artistic expression—the icon—during the 300 years of Romanov rule from 1613 to 1918. Soviet art historians dismissed the importance of these small, captivating religious paintings, favoring instead the large church icons made earlier, during Russia's golden age of the 15th to the 17th centuries. As a result, these late icons became readily available to Western collectors, and they are finally receiving serious scholarly attention.

This exhibition reveals the impact of Russia's increasing contact with Western culture throughout the Romanov dynasty. By tracing the evolutionary assimilation of European painting styles, the display points out the extent to which these late icons absorbed and reflected both the traditional Orthodox and the modern secular influences. On display are 45 icons from three major American collections of Russian art in the permanent collection of the Hillwood Museum & Gardens in Washington D.C.: the bequests of Marjorie Merriweather Post, Frances Rosso, and the Laurence A. Steinhardt-Sherlock Trust.

Unlike other liturgical arts, the icons of Orthodox Christianity function as direct intermediaries between the viewer and the sacred realm. Every icon is a faithful copy of a prototype—an original image of Christ, the Mother of God, or the saints—to whom the faithful direct their prayers. Orthodox believers communicate with the divine personages depicted in the icons through acts of veneration—kissing and adorning the icons, and burning candles and incense before them. With their mystical style and raised frames, icons are often likened to windows through which heaven is glimpsed.

The Russians developed their own tradition of icon painting by building upon the early Byzantine prototypes. *Vladimir Mother of God* (1600–1700) is one copy among thousands made of one of the earliest Byzantine icons brought to Russia in the 1100s. It faithfully reproduces the gesture of tenderness and the expressive facial features that make its prototype the most revered icon among Russians. The medieval origins of the Russian icon style remained strongly evident until the Romanovs came to power and Russia belatedly entered the modern world. A new secular culture and Westernized elite emerged to challenge the values of the Orthodox tradition.

By the 1650s icon painters at the tsar's Army Workshops were conversant in styles, colors, and symbols popular in Western Europe.

Changes in taste are also evident in icon adornment. Until the end of the 1600s, icon artists largely confined decoration to the borders surrounding the sacred figures. With tiny nails they attached thin strips of metal embellished with precious stones, pearls, or other decoration to the frames and backgrounds. The sacred figure might also be decorated with a halo, collar, diadem, or earrings. By the 1700s, a new sumptuous style of adornment was the norm. *Iverskaia Mother of God* (c. 1875–1900) is adorned with silver gilt, filigree enamels, and a multitude of seed pearls. Oklads, or metal covers, came into vogue, serving as both decoration and protection.

Most icon painters, however, continued to produce icons for the general population using traditional methods and styles. They mastered the techniques of tempera painting and gilding on wood, inscribed outlines from tracings of old icons, and faithfully transcribed inscriptions from the Old Church Slavonic of the Bible.

Icon painting declined in the 19th century, as mass-produced religious imagery made in Russian villages and by French and German manufacturers flooded the market. In an effort to restore spiritual unity between the tsar and the Russian people, Nicholas II passionately defended genuine Russian icons as the link between the country's past and future. However, this was to no avail. During the Soviet era, the icons of the Romanov era, considered of little artistic or historical value, were offered for sale to foreigners. As a consequence, Western museums such as the Hillwood Museum & Gardens, now offer unparalleled opportunities to explore their story.

Organized by the Hillwood Museum & Gardens in collaboration with the Steinhardt-Sherlock Trust. Tour by International Arts & Artists, Washington D.C.

The exhibition is supported in part by the Baton Rouge Area Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, and the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge, in addition to the East Baton Rouge City-Parish Government and members of LASM.

www.VisitBatonRouge.com
BATON ROUGE AREA CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU



MARC CHAGALL THE BIBLE SERIES

GUIDED TOURS IN THE
ART GALLERIES EVERY
SATURDAY & SUNDAY
AT 2:15 AND 3:15 PM



SEPTEMBER 29, 2007–
JANUARY 6, 2008

Marc Chagall: The Bible Series features 30 hand-colored etchings from a series of 105 prints in which the artist translates Old Testament stories into compelling images that combine the gravity of black and white with the joy of color. In *The Bible Series* etchings, visitors already familiar with Chagall's

art will recognize the endearing figural style and chromatic exuberance that characterize his paintings.

One of the most successful artists of the 20th century, Marc Chagall (1887–1985) came from a large, devout Jewish family. He was a painter, printmaker, and designer who also created theater sets and costumes, murals, stained-glass windows, and tapestries. He was born in the small Russian town of Vitebsk and studied art in St. Petersburg and Paris. After the Russian Revolution of 1917, he became commissar for the arts in Vitebsk and later the stage designer for the Jewish State Theater in Moscow. In 1923, Chagall fled the Soviet Union and settled in France, where he began working with the Parisian art dealer and publisher Ambroise Vollard. After commissioning Chagall to illustrate Nicolai Gogol's *Les Ames Mortes* (dead souls) and Jean de La Fontaine's *Fables*, Vollard asked the artist to begin a series of prints based on the Bible.

Chagall worked on the Bible series etchings over a 25-year period. He first painted the gouaches that served as models for the finished works while on a visit to Palestine in 1931. He completed 66 of the etching plates before Vollard's death in 1939. After a brief period of imprisonment under the Vichy government, Chagall made his way to New York, where he lived until the end of World War II. He settled permanently in France in 1948 and returned to the Bible series four years later, finishing the black and white portfolio in 1956. The following year, Chagall hand-colored 100 sets of the entire series. The etchings on display at LASM come from edition number 65 of the original 100.

The individual scenes come from 12 books of the Old Testament, including Genesis, Exodus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Samuel, Kings, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, and Ezekiel. Chagall once said, "Ever since early childhood, I have been

captivated by the Bible. It has always seemed to me to be the greatest source of poetry of all time." Many of the plates illustrate the tribulations of the Jewish people, from their escape from Egyptian slavery to the struggles of Joshua, David, and Solomon to establish a homeland for the Israelites. Chagall deliberately emphasized these episodes of hardship to reflect the abject situation of Jews in Europe during the first half of the 20th century. The resulting imagery is sensitively rendered, often tender, and always poignant.

The selections on display in *Marc Chagall: The Bible Series* are on loan from the Patrick and Beatrice Haggerty Museum of Art, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

LEFT: *David and the Lion*, hand-colored etching.

"And David said unto Saul . . . there came a lion . . . and took a lamb out of the flock; And I went out after him, and smote him, and delivered it out of his mouth." (1 Samuel 17:34–35)

ENDURING VISIONS RECENT LANDSCAPES BY NEW ORLEANS ARTISTS

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 16
Enduring Visions: Recent Landscapes by New Orleans Artists celebrates the unique and often mystical beauty of the Louisiana landscape and the resilient nature of the artistic spirit. Organized by LASM, this exhibition focuses on recent work by five painters and two photographers who have chosen to continue producing stimulating images of the local environment despite their dramatically altered surroundings and personal hardships.

Two weeks prior to Katrina in 2005, photographers George Yerger and Leslie Addison completed a portfolio entitled *Phantom Winds, a Mystic Hymn of Louisiana*. Intended as poetry, some of these dreamlike, black and white photographs, taken in such places

as Delacroix, Pierre Part, and Bayou Sauvage, now act as documentaries. To reinforce the images' narrative appeal, the photographers have paired them with writings by Lafcadio Hearn, a New Orleans writer from the 1870s.

The work of Adrian Deckbar and Allison Stewart reveal the landscape as a fragile and threatened entity. Deckbar, known for photorealistic depictions of dramatic scenes, began to focus her paintings on the natural world three years ago. These mysterious works, whether close-ups of brambles and moss or gloriously colored sunsets, exude a sense of foreboding. Stewart, a mixed-media artist trained as a biologist, presents an abstract approach. She uses color, light, form, and texture to address issues of time and transformation, beauty and loss.



Ron Bechet depicts the intertwined branches and roots of trees in a colorful expressionist manner. Bechet sometimes paints trees, a recurrent metaphor found in many religions, on canvases shaped like tabernacles. Indeed, the artist intends his landscapes as sacred, contemplative spaces.

A native of Australia, Simon Gunning finds inspiration not only in swamps and bayous but also in the city, in the gritty industrialism of the maritime industry along the Mississippi River and in the dirty streets of the Marigny district. Phil Sandusky, a *plein air* painter, finds beauty in the distinctive architecture of New Orleans neighborhoods.

The lush, hot, and humid atmosphere and exotic culture of Louisiana has lured artists and writers for centuries.

Images of magnolias, moss-draped oak trees, and sinuous bayous are nothing new. Curiously, however, interpretations of our native scenery continue to find resonance, and not just with tourists. Now two years since Katrina, these evocative pictures of our environment act as reminders of what is at stake.

ABOVE: Allison Stewart, *Through the Pond* (diptych), 2007. acrylic and mixed media on canvas. Courtesy of the artist and Arthur Roger Gallery.



ABOVE: Scott Purdin in front of his favorite artwork, a Norman Rockwell painting bought when he and Suzanne Turner first married. After seeing the painting at someone else's home over the course of 15 years, he finally talked the owner into selling it. "My taste has changed a lot but I still love this one!"



A small sampling from the collection of miniature furniture donated to LASM by Mrs. H. Payne Breazeale. The collection contains many different international styles. The piece in the center is 7.75 inches tall.

why we collect stuff

Part 1 of this article discussed various theories on collecting. Here the focus is on the collectors. Like it or not, we all succumb to our natural impulse to collect stuff. As children, we automatically hoard things with wild abandon, or at least to the limits of parental patience. When asked what they collect, a class of four- and five-year-olds on a recent visit to LASM proudly admitted to having collections ranging from "play bugs" and Barbie dolls to square objects and pretend food.

As adults most of us become too self-conscious to admit to such fetishes. Nonetheless, we are intrigued by those who are unafraid to harbor the rare, weird, or wonderful. A fellow in New Hampshire is housing a growing fleet of 90 Mack trucks. In New Jersey, an inspired schoolteacher encouraged students to save bits of aluminum foil, resulting in a 6-foot-tall ball weighing 38 pounds. A young woman who has saved 6,439 banana labels to date has her own Web site with photos of the Banana Label Convention she attended in Munich last December.

Not all collections are quite so quirky; nonetheless, all of them reflect the personality of the owner. Over the course of her lifetime, Mrs. H. Payne Breazeale Sr. acquired all types of decorative and functional objects, from silver to pressed glass and from paintings to antiques. However, her love of miniatures is what many Baton Rougeans remember most. Ranging from handsomely carved armoires to porcelain candlesticks and silver bowls, these tiny objects meant so much to Mrs. Breazeale that she gave more than 300 of them to LASM to preserve for the enjoyment of future generations.

Children and adults alike also are enjoying the antiquities given to LASM by Margaret Geddes, many of which are installed in LASM's newly reopened Ancient Egypt Gallery. The donation of 40 ancient artifacts came from the collection of her late husband J. Clyde Geddes. Unable to fulfill his dream of traveling to Egypt due to failing health, he surrounded himself with antiquities ranging from a Sumerian cuneiform artifact and a

Greek spear to Egyptian mummy masks and scarab beetles.

Personal taste is particularly evident when it comes to acquiring fine art. As local collector Scott Purdin says, "I have some art that *only* I like." Because one's taste often changes over time, museum curators and gallery directors advise collectors to look, look, then look some more, and read all they can to learn about the desired objects. Purdin, who has been collecting art since high school, also stresses the need to train the eye. "I know now what lasts for me, so I know when it's worth the money. . . . Everyone has a limited amount of money to spend." Sometimes the hunt for something affordable can make collecting all the more enjoyable, or so says Purdin. Buying less-expensive pieces permits you to test whether you can love them over time.

While art that moves you can be found just about anywhere, auction houses offer unique opportunities for collectors with refined palettes and deep pockets. Whether you have a penchant for dog portraits, cricket



Fritz Bultman, *Untitled (Still Life)*, 1939, oil on canvas

part 2: the collectors

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

paraphernalia, or Elton John's shoes, there is something for everyone at Christie's and Sotheby's. While bargains can be obtained, the perceived emotional attachment between a buyer and the object can drive price tags sky high. A vintage corkscrew sold for \$2,336 at Christie's recently, and the most expensive painting on record, Gustave Klimt's *Adele Bloch-Bauer* (1907), sold for a jaw-dropping \$135 million in 2006.

But after all, isn't it the comfort, delight, and nourishment of the soul that our favorite things provide us more important than their monetary value? Dorian Bennett, of New Orleans and Baton Rouge, whose collections range from Louisiana antiques to men's cufflinks and contemporary sculpture, finds that the energy he perceives in art to be most fascinating. "Some see [this energy]. Some feel it.... It is what charges me every day. It's the spark that keeps me going."

—Elizabeth Weinstein
LASM ART CURATOR

ABOVE LEFT: Margaret Geddes was an honored guest at the reopening of LASM's Ancient Egypt Gallery in late July. She donated 40 antiquities to LASM in 1997, including this gilded mummy mask and many other objects presently on view, all collected by her late husband, J. Clyde Geddes. Margaret Geddes is a native Pennsylvanian and her husband was a Floridian. His career with Ethyl brought them to Baton Rouge as young adults, and they stayed. Mr. Geddes's treasures help to tell the story of Ptolemaic Egypt, and LASM is grateful for Mrs. Geddes's generous donation of them.

ABOVE: Dorian Bennett pictured with two of his favorite things—a painting he commissioned George Schmidt to do for his 50th birthday that includes cameos of himself, his wife Kell, and daughter Delia, and a large clay bowl of vegetables by artist Bradley Sabin.

LASM has recently acquired several excellent works for its permanent collection, thanks to the generosity of the donors named below. A selection of these works will be on view September 29, 2007–January 6, 2008.

- Gift of Jeanne Bultman
Fritz Bultman, *Untitled (Figure Drawing)*, 1939, charcoal on paper
- Bequest of Mary Thomson Curry in memory of Dr. Gerri Curry Clementine Hunter, *Baptism*, ca. 1960s, oil on board
- Gift of Rob Erdle
Rob Erdle, *Landscape Forms*, 1993, watercolor/gouache on D'Arches Elephant 555 lb. paper
- Purchased through the L. Cary Saurage II Fund in honor of Alma Lee and H. N. Saurage Jr. of the Baton Rouge Area Foundation.
Fritz Bultman, *Untitled (Still Life)*, 1939, oil on canvas
Fritz Bultman, *Untitled (Figure Drawing)*, 1939, charcoal on paper
Will Henry Stevens, #1289 (*Untitled*), 1947, oil on canvas on board
- Gift of the Janet Stevens McDowell Revocable Trust
Will Henry Stevens: nine pastels on paper, one charcoal on paper, and one crayon on paper
- Gift of Michael D. Robinson and Donald J. Boutte
Frank Hayden, *In Flight*, 1985, mahogany sculpture
- Gift of Henry and Pat Shane
Hunt Slonem, *Red Butterflies*, 2002, oil on canvas
Hunt Slonem, *Shanti*, 1989, oil on canvas
- Gift of Charles Edward Slonim
Hunt Slonem, *Hyacinth Macaws*, 2004, oil on canvas

BULLETINS

P R O G

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Kazan Mother of God, Russia, c. 1600–1650, tempera on wood with gilding, silver gilt, and paste gemstones, 13 1/4 x 10 5/8. Collection of Hillwood Museum & Gardens. Bequest of Marjorie Merriweather Post.

THE MUMMY'S SECRETS: A LECTURE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27,
6:00–8:00 PM

During the recent renovation of the Ancient Egypt Gallery, a team of researchers investigated the secrets of LASM's mummy. Mary Manhein, director of the FACES Laboratory at Louisiana State University, a forensic anthropology unit, will discuss what she discovered. The Ancient Egypt Gallery will be open for viewing before and after the talk, which will begin at 6:30.

X-ray of LASM mummy, 2007, FACES Laboratory, LSU



THE 22ND ANNUAL LASM GALA

From Russia with Love

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 7:30–10:00 PM

Premiering at the 22nd Annual LASM Gala are two exceptional exhibitions featuring devotional art—*Tradition in Transition: Russian Icons in the Age of the Romanovs* and *Marc Chagall: The Bible Series*. Also featured will be a sumptuous buffet and drinks by top restaurateurs and caterers, tempting silent and live auctions, and music by Righteous Buddha.

Your beautiful Gala invitation will be arriving shortly, so make plans to attend with friends. You won't want to miss the event of the season. It benefits LASM's art and science programs for the enrichment of our community.

Business and individual sponsorships are still available beginning at \$500. Donors of \$1,500 and above will be invited to a special pre-Gala reception. Member tickets are \$100 per person, and nonmember tickets are \$150 per person. Program recognition tickets are \$200 per person. There is still time to make a donation to the Gala auction! For all Gala information, please contact Katie Allen, 344-5272, ext. 151, or kallen@lasm.org.

THE CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RUSSIAN ICON: A LECTURE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7, AT 2:15 PM

Wendy R. Salmond, organizer of *Tradition in Transition: Russian Icons in the Age of the Romanovs*, will speak on the cultural significance of the icon in Russian history and describe how increasing contact with the West during the Romanov reign changed the icon tradition. Salmond is chair of the Art Department at Chapman University in Orange, California, where she has been on the faculty since 1989. Sponsored by the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities.

R A M S & E V E N T S

FINE ART, FINE WINE

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1,
5:00–7:00 PM

Learn more about Russia's emblematic artistic expression—the icon—while sampling fine wine. Artist Marisela Gutierrez will demonstrate the age-old tradition of *repouso*, a technique used in many of the icons on display. Following the demonstration, LASM curator Elizabeth Weinstein will lead a brief tour of the exhibition *Tradition in Transition: Russian Icons in the Age of the Romanovs*. Wine complimentary with admission: \$5 members, \$10 nonmembers. Sponsored by Christian Street Furniture.



REPUJADO WORKSHOP

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3
AND SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Marisela Gutierrez, noted icon artist from San Miguel, Mexico, will present a two-day workshop at LASM on *repouso* (*repousse*), a form of decoration seen in many of the icons in *Tradition in Transition: Russian Icons in the Age of the Romanovs*.

The term *repouso* refers to the Old World technique of hammering silver or tin alloy into flat sheets and then engraving both sides to create form and design. This technique is still widely used to embellish icons, as is the incorporation of semiprecious stones, pearl inlay, and filigree.

Gutierrez has taught *repouso* workshops at the Pinland School of Art in North Carolina and also in Baton Rouge. Pre-registration and payment is required. For more information and to register, contact art education curator Tammy Johnston at 225-344-5272, ext 117, or tjohnston@lasm.org.



READY... SET... SHOP!

The Museum Store at LASM Gears Up for the Holidays

Coming to the Museum Store at LASM in September are angels, icons by Marisela Gutierrez, and other things divine, coinciding with the opening of *Tradition in Transition: Icons in the Age of the Romanovs* and *Marc Chagall: The Bible Series*! As the holiday season approaches, why not replace the mall with the museum as your shopping destination? The Museum Store at LASM offers you an opportunity to make a difference when you buy. You probably already realize that your purchase contributes to the support of LASM's programs and exhibitions, but you may not have considered the power of your purchase. Many items featured in the museum store are the work of talented, budding craftspeople, artists, and minority-owned businesses. We seek out the unusual, the intriguing, and the extraordinary. So as your thoughts turn to giving, delight your friends and family with something beautiful that can't be found in national chain stores. Visit the Museum Store at LASM for a gift that gives in multiple ways.

DON'T FORGET— MEMBERS RECEIVE 10 TO 20 PERCENT DISCOUNTS ON ALL PURCHASES!

ABOVE LEFT: This beautiful Mexican icon created by Marisela Gutierrez using the techniques of pewter *repouso* and egg tempera is one of many that may be purchased in the Museum Store at LASM.



LASM board members and staff welcome Senator Cleo Fields as he tours the planetarium. Senator Fields is a member of the Senate Finance Committee, which supported a supplemental appropriations bill, passed by the Louisiana legislature, that provided funding for cutting-edge digital technology in the LASM planetarium.

L. TO R.: LASM Board of Trustees member Malcolm Myer; LASM Advisory Council member Kris Kirkpatrick; Senator Cleo Fields; LASM president and executive director Carol Gikas; planetarium director Jon Elvert.

NEW DIGITAL EQUIPMENT WILL ENHANCE PLANETARIUM CAPABILITIES FAR INTO THE FUTURE

In early January of 2008, the Irene W. Pennington Planetarium will upgrade its digital projection equipment to a cutting-edge digital technology that will result in superior image quality and creative educational content. The installation of two SXR Sony video projectors with *definiti* high-definition lenses will produce an amazing 16 million pixels onto our 60-foot dome. This ultra-high resolution provides for higher image contrast, brightness, and long-term stability in image quality.

LASM's desire is to deliver the best possible program content in the most exciting planetarium environment possible, and this new system will create a totally immersive, three-dimensional environment that will enhance both our audiences' appreciation of the night sky and the quality of all astronomy-related programming. The system will bring out unprecedented image quality in our existing digital-related software, refine and expand our capability to deliver the most current astronomical information available, and create stunning visuals related to the areas of earth and space sciences and the humanities. In addition, this delivery system will keep the Irene W. Pennington Planetarium in the forefront of planetarium education quality and will enable partnerships with similarly equipped planetariums throughout the world to create new digital content.

The technological trend in the planetarium field is rapidly moving toward designing and delivering programs in all-dome video environments such as LASM's. The Sony and *definiti* lens system, developed in connection with Sky-Skan, Inc., represents a truly new technology that will be current and relevant for many years to come. The Irene W. Pennington Planetarium will be the first such facility in the South to have this kind of projection system and one of only seven in the world.

JOIN LASM TODAY!

LASM MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NEW MEMBER PAST MEMBER GIFT MEMBERSHIP

PLEASE RETURN WITH YOUR PAYMENT TO: LASM, Attn. Membership, P.O. Box 3373, Baton Rouge, LA 70821-3373. You can also join by phoning 225.344.9478.

Membership Category STUDENT/TEACHER \$25 DUAL \$50 FAMILY I \$75 FAMILY II \$100 BEST VALUE!
 CONTRIBUTOR \$150 PATRON \$300 SUPPORTING \$500 SUSTAINING \$1,000

Member or Gift Recipient Information Please print clearly

(MR., DR., MRS., MS.) _____
 ADDRESS, APT. NO. _____
 CITY, STATE, ZIP + 4 _____
 PHONE (WORK) _____ (HOME) _____
 E-MAIL _____

Gift Giver's Information for Gift Membership

NAME _____
 ADDRESS, APT. NO. _____
 CITY, STATE, ZIP + 4 _____

Please send membership packet or renewal to: GIFT GIVER GIFT RECIPIENT
 GIFT CARD SHOULD READ: _____

Payment Check payable to LASM enclosed Charge \$ _____
 to: VISA MASTERCARD AM EX DISCOVER

ACCOUNT NO. _____

EXP. DATE _____

NAME ON CARD (PLEASE PRINT) _____

SIGNATURE _____

Matching-gift forms are enclosed. Please send additional information about volunteering at the museum.

MEMBER BENEFITS

Privileges

- Free admission to the museum and planetarium galleries for one full year
- Discounts on sky shows, laser shows, films, and special exhibitions
- Invitations to special members-only events
- Birthday party privileges
- Free subscription to *LASM Quarterly* and e-mail bulletins
- 10 percent to 20 percent discounts in the Museum Store at LASM
- Discounts on workshops and classes
- Invitations to museum openings, receptions, and lectures, and to buy tickets to the annual gala

Levels

- Student/Teacher (\$25):** All privileges for ONE person
 NOTE: Student/Teacher membership must be purchased at the LASM ticket desk with a valid i.d.
- Dual (\$50):** All privileges for TWO persons
- Family I (\$75):** All privileges for SIX persons
- Family II (\$100):** All privileges for EIGHT persons, plus free or discounted admissions to more than 200 participating science museums worldwide
- Contributor (\$150):** All the preceding privileges plus TWO one-time family passes
- Patron (\$300):** All the preceding privileges plus FOUR one-time family passes, invitations to preview films, and a 20 percent discount in the Museum Store at LASM.
- Supporting (\$500):** All the preceding privileges plus SIX one-time family passes and invitations to behind-the-scenes tours with museum curators
- Sustaining (\$1,000):** All the preceding privileges plus EIGHT one-time family passes and invitations to major donor events



Renovations to LASM's Ancient Egypt Gallery were funded in part by the Good Family Foundation and the Junior League of Baton Rouge. Donors Peggy Good, L., and Junior League president Dede Ferrara, R., at the opening of the new gallery.

THANK YOU!

NEW AND RENEWING DONOR MEMBERS

Sustaining

Leslie and Michael Albritton
 Laurie and Mark Aronson
 Carole and Charlie Lamar

Supporting

William Roth
 Suzanne Turner and Scott Purdin

Patron

Insa and Leo Abraham
 K. C. Anison and Margaret Altazin
 Robin Kilpatrick and Harold Clausen
 Gresdna Doty and Jim Traynham
 Renee and Brett Furr
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 Luzmaria and Harald Leder
 Jennifer and Bruce Lilly
 Claudia and Gary Phillips
 Camilla and Gordon Pugh
 Esther and Victor Sachse
 Rene Salomon
 Joann and Scott Thurston

MEMBERSHIP UPGRADES

Family II

Arlene and Kevin Ballenger
 Shelley Joachim and Byron Basco
 Linda and Ben Gibson
 Diane and Walter Kirtland
 Monya and Doug Paul
 Melissa and Donald Peroyea
 Sybil Rhodes
 Winnie and Douglas Scruggs

Family I

Barbara Jones
 Shirley Owens
 Cary Saurage

MATCHING GIFTS

Albemarle

Ferol Foos

ExxonMobil

Leroy Clavenna
 George Gallagher
 Gerald Glahn
 Cynthia Hartgerink
 Lawrence Kronenberger
 Patsy Moser
 Lloyd Pine

JPMorgan Chase

Kevin Knobloch

CALENDAR



SEPTEMBER

1 SATURDAY

- **First day**, *Legends of the Night* Sky family show
- **First day**, *Infinity Express* sky show
- *Mystery of the Nile* large-format film continues
- *Oasis in Space* sky show continues
- *Cosmic Rock Hall of Fame* visual music show continues
- *SonicVision* visual music show continues
- *Enduring Visions* art exhibition continues

2 FIRST SUNDAY

16 SUNDAY

Final day, *Enduring Visions* art exhibition

28 FRIDAY

22nd Annual LASM Gala
From Russia with Love

29 SATURDAY

- **First day**, *Tradition in Transition* art exhibition
- **First day**, *Marc Chagall: The Bible Series* art exhibition
- **Final day**, *SonicVision* visual music show

OCTOBER

6 SATURDAY

First day, *Fright Light!*
Halloween rock laser show

7 FIRST SUNDAY

Russian Icons lecture

27 SATURDAY

Mummy's Secrets lecture

NOVEMBER

1 THURSDAY

Fine Art, Fine Wine

3 SATURDAY

- **First day**, *Pink Floyd: The Wall* visual music show
- **First day**, repujado workshop

4 FIRST SUNDAY

Final day, Repujado workshop

18 SUNDAY

Final day, *Legend of the Night* Sky family show

21 WEDNESDAY

Final day, *Oasis in Space* sky show

23 FRIDAY

- **First day**, *Coral Reef Adventure* large-format film
- **First day**, *Star of Bethlehem* sky show

24 SATURDAY

First day, *Laser Holidays* family show

BIRTHDAY PARTIES AT LASM

MUSEUM PARTIES

TIMES Saturdays, 10:30–12 NOON
and 2:00–3:30 PM

Sundays, 2:00–3:30 PM

PLACE Discovery Depot

PARTY THEMES

Digging Dinosaurs Art Box Artists
Hawaiian Luau Mad Scientist
Pirates Princess Tea Party

PLANETARIUM PARTIES

TIMES Saturdays & Sundays,
3:00–4:30 PM

PLACE Josephine Pugh Lamar
Classroom II
(upstairs in the planetarium)

PARTY THEMES

Space Odyssey Alien Invasion

COST

LASM members \$120*
Nonmembers \$180*
(includes a 1-year Family I membership)

*Price includes up to 10 children.
Each additional child is \$8. Max. 20

For your convenience, we offer:

Paper goods \$18
Helium balloons \$1 per or \$10/doz

Extras

Planetarium show \$4 per child
\$5 per adult

There is *no* place like a museum or planetarium to have fun! You and your child choose one of the above themes, and LASM will entertain the partygoers with stories, activities, and projects centered on the theme. You provide the refreshments, LASM will provide the fun! **Museum parties** are programmed for children **ages 4–10**. **Planetarium parties** are programmed for children **ages 5–12**.

Call **344-9478** for more information or to make reservations.

The Museum Store at LASM offers Gift Registry! Simply stop in and have your birthday child choose from our complete selection. We will provide you with cards to slip into party invitations informing party guests that your child is registered.

COMING THIS SPRING
Jim Henson's
Fantastic World

FRIENDS FOREVER

LASM is proud to have the support of members who have been loyal for many years. Because they believe in LASM's mission to enhance the understanding and appreciation of art and science, they derive great satisfaction from their generosity. Many friends would like to do even more. LASM can suggest gift-planning ideas for generous donors who wish to continue their support for generations to come. For more information about a legacy gift, please contact Pam Sills, 344-5272, ext. 130, or psills@lasm.org.

SMART CHOICES

LASM needs your help in keeping its programming first rate for you and for the whole community. You can make our community richer by boosting your support in one of the following ways:

- Upgrade your membership
- Request additional support through your employer's matching-gift program
- Make an additional gift to the LASM Annual Appeal
- Support your planetarium by purchasing a seat in the ExxonMobil Space Theater or a personalized star in the Universe Gallery's Donor Galaxy
- Include LASM in your will and estate planning
- Honor or remember a friend or family member with a gift in their name.

For these and other ways of helping LASM, please contact Pam Sills, development director, at 225.344.5272, ext. 130, or psills@lasm.org.



LOUISIANA ART & SCIENCE MUSEUM
IRENE W. PENNINGTON PLANETARIUM

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Jeff and Edy Koonce

LASM FAVORITES *a spotlight on LASM members and friends*

We at LASM are honored to include Edy and Jeff Koonce among our special friends and loyal supporters. For the second year in a row, Edy is serving as chair of the LASM Gala, and for many months Jeff has lent his legal skills to LASM, reviewing documents and providing *pro bono* counsel. Edy says, "I am proud to be a part of LASM because it is a wonderful place to enjoy with my children. I find it rewarding to play with them and watch them learn in Discovery Depot and Science Station, and they love the large-format films. My youngest still surprises me by reciting facts he learned watching *The Dinosaur Prophecy!* LASM is a fun, readily accessible art museum and educational playground for kids (and kids at heart)."

LOUISIANA ART & SCIENCE MUSEUM
100 S. River Road
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802
225.344.5272
www.lasm.org

HOURS

Closed Mondays
and major holidays

TUESDAY-FRIDAY 10 AM-4 PM

SATURDAY 10 AM-5 PM
(Planetarium
open till 8 PM)

SUNDAY 1-5 PM

Discovery Depot and Science Station
close at 3 PM from September
through May.

Irene W. Pennington Planetarium *All show times subject to change.
Children 3 years of age and under are not permitted in planetarium shows*

TUESDAY-FRIDAY	Sky Show	10 AM, 12 NOON, 2 PM, 4 PM
	Large-Format Film	11 AM, 1 PM, 3 PM
SATURDAY	Sky Show	10 AM, 12 NOON, 2 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM
	Large-Format Film	11 AM, 1 PM, 3 PM
	Family Show	5 PM
	Visual Music Show	7 PM
	SonicVision Show	8 PM
SUNDAY	Sky Show	2 PM, 4 PM
	Large-Format Film	1 PM, 3 PM
	Family Show	5 PM

GENERAL ADMISSION		Adults	Children & Seniors
		MUSEUM	\$6
	SKY SHOW + MUSEUM	\$8	\$7
	LARGE FORMAT FILM + MUSEUM	\$8	\$7

MEMBERS ADMISSION		Adults	Children & Seniors
		MUSEUM	FREE
	SKY SHOW + MUSEUM	\$5	\$4
	LARGE FORMAT FILM + MUSEUM	\$5	\$4

FIRST SUNDAY ADMISSION		Adults	Children & Seniors
		MUSEUM	FREE
	SKY SHOW + MUSEUM	\$5	\$4
	LARGE FORMAT FILM + MUSEUM	\$5	\$4

LASM

Upper and Lower Art Galleries
Bert S. Turner Family Atrium
Ivan Městrovic Gallery
Soupçon Gallery
Children's Galleries
Discovery Depot
Science Station
Irene W. Pennington Planetarium
ExxonMobil Space Theater
Solar System Gallery
McMains Universe Gallery
Planet Tower
Josephine Pugh Lamar Classrooms
Ancient Egypt Gallery
Adalié Brent Auditorium
The Museum Store at LASM

ADMISSION

Group rates are available.
Call 225-344-5272, ext. 137.

EDITOR
CATHERINE MCKENZIE

DESIGNER
NICOLE DUET LATIOLAIS

LASM receives generous operating support from East Baton Rouge City-Parish Government, the members of LASM, the Community Fund for the Arts Campaign, and the Louisiana Division of the Arts, Office of Cultural Development, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.



LASM is fully accredited in accordance with the standards of excellence prescribed by the American Association of Museums.