

Painting Takes the Spotlight in New Exhibition at Tacoma Art Museum

IMAGES AVAILABLE

March 4, 2021 (Tacoma, WA)— On February 13, Tacoma Art Museum (TAM) premiered a new online exhibition that will also be on view in the galleries for an extended period once the Museum reopens to the public. *Painting Deconstructed: Selections from the Northwest Collection* is a celebration of painters and painting. Drawn from TAM's collection, it is designed to encourage visitors to look more closely at the elements that have come together to create a finished artwork.



“Painting is probably the most familiar of art forms but I think sometimes we are so used to looking at paintings that we stop noticing the details and thereby overlook some of the artistry that went into them,” notes exhibition curator Margaret Bullock.

The exhibition is organized around four components that are key to every painting: the medium and support, color palette, composition, and technique. It begins with the elemental building blocks of the materials used (medium) and the surface (support) that was painted on, then explores the visual, emotional, and psychological impacts of color choices. Other sections of the exhibition look in depth at how the parts of an artwork are arranged (composition) and the techniques the artists used to apply their medium and how both affect the final image.

“The Northwest is home to a diverse and multi-talented group of painters, and TAM is fortunate to own a collection of more than 700 Northwest paintings. We want to make sure great works by artists of our region are always on view for our visitors and this exhibition is an opportunity to spotlight many talented individuals,” said David F. Setford, Executive Director. “I’m particularly pleased that we are able to offer it both online and in the galleries to reach audiences wherever they may be.”

Painting Deconstructed is currently available as a web-based exhibition [on the museum's website](#). It includes a [resources page](#) with links to additional information on the artists in the exhibition such as links to their websites, video interviews, and more. Each work on the website is also linked to TAM's online [collection database](#), [eMuseum](#), where visitors can find short artist biographies, more information on each work, and the rest of the museum's painting collection.

Please contact publicrelations@TacomaArtMuseum.org for more information.

Related Events:

Virtual Event | In Conversation: Paint, Painters, Paintings

Sunday, March 21

1 pm - 2:30 pm

Free to the public

Zoom™ event

[Register here](#)



The infinite possibilities and challenges that painting offers have kept artists inspired throughout history. Join us for a lively conversation about the elements of painting with Interim Chief Curator Margaret Bullock and Public Programs Manager Amelia Layton as they take a closer look at their favorite works from [Painting Deconstructed: Selections from the Northwest Collection](#).

Margaret Bullock is Chief Curator and Curator of Collections and Special Exhibitions at Tacoma Art Museum. Prior to joining the Tacoma Art Museum in 2007, she was curator at the Harwood Museum of Art in Taos, New Mexico and Associate Curator of American Art at the Portland Art Museum, Oregon, and a research fellow in American art at the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, Alabama. Her specialty is late 19th and early 20th-century American art with a particular focus on the art of the Pacific Northwest.

Amelia Layton is the Public Programs Manager at Tacoma Art Museum. She holds an MFA in Painting from the San Francisco Art Institute and a BFA in Painting and Printmaking from Cornish College of the Arts. Her paintings focus on color and material while blurring the lines between painting and sculpture.

IMAGE CREDIT: Margie Livingston. *Wacked Grid*, 2017. Acrylic paint and string, 59 x 42 x 17 in. (149.9 x 106.7 x 43.2 cm). Tacoma Art Museum. Gift of Greg Kucera.

Virtual Event | Cocktails with Curatorial

Thursday, March 25

5:30 pm - 7 pm

Member - No Cocktail Kit: Free

Member + Cocktail Kit: \$15

Non-Member - No Cocktail Kit: \$5

Non-Member + Cocktail Kit: \$20

Zoom™ event

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Tacoma Art Museum remains closed to the public.

About Tacoma Art Museum

Celebrating over 80 years, Tacoma Art Museum is an anchor in Tacoma's downtown with a mission of connecting people through art. TAM's collection contains more than 5,000 works, with an emphasis on the art and artists of the Northwest and broader Western region, 25% of which consists of studio glass. The collection includes the largest retrospective museum collection of glass art by Tacoma native Dale Chihuly on permanent view; the most significant collection of studio art jewelry by Northwest artists; key holdings in 19th century European and 20th century American art; and one of the finest collections of Japanese woodblock prints on the West Coast. In 2012, TAM received a gift of more than 300 works of western American art from the Haub Family Collection, one of the premier such collections in the nation and the first major western American art museum collection in the Northwest. The Haub family also contributed \$20 million for an endowment and expansion completed in 2014. In January 2019, TAM inaugurated the Rebecca and Jack Benaroya Wing that features the extensive Benaroya collection of studio glass as well as TAM's own collection of studio glass, which was started in 1971. TAM is located in the heart of Tacoma's vibrant Museum District which consists of six museums including the Museum of Glass, a frequent collaborator.

CURRENTLY CLOSED

ADMISSION – \$18 Adult, \$15 Student/Senior (65+), \$40 Family (2 adults and up to four children age 6-18), Children 5 and under free every day. Children 18 and under free every Saturday. TAM Members; active duty military, reservists, veterans, and their families always free.

CONTACT – 253-272-4258/ www.tacomaartmuseum.org