

ONVIEW

SPRING 2012



THE FLEMING MUSEUM OF ART



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COVER: James Hope (American, born Scotland, 1819- 1892), *Wedding Cake House, Iron Furnace Road, Pittsford, Vermont*, early 1850s. Oil on canvas. Collection of J. Brooks Buxton '56.

INSIDE: Unknown (French, active late 19th century), *Jerusalem*, c. 1870. Albumen print. Collection of J. Brooks Buxton '56.



The menu of exhibitions at the Fleming this winter and spring exemplifies the cultural breadth that members and visitors have come to expect from the Museum: from contemporary Iranian photography and video, to 19th-century photographs of the Middle East, to a surprising group of objects from the collection highlighting the theme of “smoke.” And we are delighted to present a stellar private Vermont collection spanning Eastern and Western art.

J. Brooks Buxton, a University of Vermont alumnus and member of the Fleming Museum’s Board of Advisors, has been collecting fine art, decorative arts, and furniture in the Middle East, London, and Vermont, for over forty years. On view will be a selection of Brooks’s vast collection, a large part of which has been generously promised to the Fleming Museum to augment our permanent collections. Presented in our Wolcott Gallery as an intimate, personal expression of the collector’s discerning eye and historical interests, the striking installation includes a diverse selection of works, from Vermont landscape paintings to Asian ceramics.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our donors to the 2011 Annual Appeal for your ongoing support. If you have not yet given to the Appeal, please consider doing so in the new year. As economic challenges continue to affect individuals and institutions alike, we are gratified to report that Museum attendance is up, not just at the Fleming, but nationally as well. As Ford Bell, President of the Association of American Museums noted this past spring, “In times of financial and emotional stress, . . . museums offer affordable, rewarding experiences for families and individuals.”

The exhibitions that we open this February: *A Discerning Eye, Persian Visions, Imaging the Islamic World*, and *Up in Smoke*, indeed offer rewarding experiences, with exquisite objects and provocative ideas to enjoy throughout the winter and into the spring. Come join your creative community!

Janie Cohen, Director



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PERSIAN VISIONS

Contemporary Photography from Iran

EAST GALLERY

JANUARY 25 - MAY 20, 2012

The universal appeal of art is powerfully mediated both by the culture producing it and by the culture in which it is received. Of all the art forms, the medium of photography delivers detailed specifics that make cultural differences all the more interesting. The artistry presented in this exhibition is crafted by some of the most renowned and articulate photographers of Iran. Its fortunate arrival (in the U.S.) is most timely because of our growing interest in – and distance from – the breathtaking beauty of the Islamic arts.

Gary Hallman, Co-Curator and Associate Professor
Department of Art, University of Minnesota

Iran has distinguished itself with the spectacular quality and international presence of its film and visual arts. Given the backdrop of attention increasingly focused on the art and culture of Iran, and the current political crisis in that part of the world, an exhibition of this kind is most timely.

Persian Visions introduces nearly 60 works of photography and video by 20 of Iran's most celebrated photographers. The perspective of these artists contradicts that of many foreign photographers use of the medium – which is to represent Iran and its people as purely exotic. In expressing different visions of their world, the artists offer a glimpse into both private and public realms. This exhibition builds a visual bridge between Iran and the United States as it leads viewers to become aware of other ways of being and seeing.

A complementary photography exhibition in the adjacent gallery, *Imagining the Islamic World*, provides a visual counterpoint to the contemporary photographs on view in this exhibition.

Persian Visions was developed by Hamid Severi for the Tehran Museum of Contemporary Art, Iran, and Gary Hallman of the Regis Center for Art, University of Minnesota, and is toured by International Arts & Artists, Washington, D.C.

This exhibition was made possible in part by the ILEX Foundation, University of Minnesota McKnight Arts and Humanities Endowment, and the Department of Art, Regis Center for Art, University of Minnesota. At the Fleming Museum, we are grateful for the generous support from the Kalkin Family Exhibitions Endowment Fund.

Ahmad Nateghi (Tehran, Iran, b. 1958), *Untitled*, 1998. Gelatin-silver print.
Courtesy of International Art & Artists

RELATED PROGRAMS (See pages 6-8 for details)

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| March 14 /12:15pm | Noontime Café & Program: <i>Felix Bonfils and the Middle East</i> |
| March 22 /6:00pm | Film: <i>Women Without Men</i> |
| March 25 /1 -5:00pm | Family Program: <i>Nowruz: Celebrating the Persian New Year</i> |
| April 4 /6:00pm | Music Performance: <i>Lokum</i> |



THE
PROFESSIONAL
CHOICE



JANUARY

17 EXHIBITIONS OPEN

Up in Smoke

New Media Niche: *Happy Meal*

25 EXHIBITIONS OPEN

Persian Visions: Contemporary Photography from Iran

Imagining the Islamic World: Early Travel Photography from the J. Brooks Buxton Collection

25 THE PAINTED WORD POETRY SERIES

Nicole Sealey, 6:00-7:00 PM

The Fleming Museum presents *The Painted Word* poetry series, organized by Major Jackson, Richard Dennis Green & Gold Professor, UVM Department of English. The series highlights established and emerging poets and is a collaboration of the Fleming museum of Art and the UVM Department of English with support from the James and Mary Brigham Buckham Fund.

FEBRUARY

7 EXHIBITION OPENS

A Discerning Eye: Selections from the J. Brooks Buxton Collection

8 NOONTIME CAFÉ AND PROGRAM

Iran: A Personal Journey, 12:15 PM

with Steve Zind, Senior Reporter & Special Projects Manager, Vermont Public Radio
Lunch is available for purchase from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM.

9 OPENING RECEPTION

Spring 2012 Exhibitions, 5:30-7:30 PM

Hosted by Interim President John Bramley
Cash Bar and Hors d'Oeuvres

9 UVM FILM SERIES

Rosenstrasse, 6:45 PM

Director Margarethe von Trotta's moving film focuses on a little known act of resistance in Germany during World War II. In 1943 Berlin, a group of several hundred Aryan women staged a rebellion in front of the detention center on Rosenstrasse where their Jewish husbands were being held before deportation to concentration camps. (136 min.)

FEBRUARY CONTINUED

16 SPECIAL PROGRAM

PechaKucha Night, Vol. 6, 6:00 PM

PechaKucha Night (PKN) is a worldwide phenomenon that offers the opportunity for a broad range of participants to present their projects, ideas, thoughts and designs at a fun, informal, and fast-paced gathering. Drinks and snacks will be on hand.

18-20 MUSEUM CLOSED

Presidents' Day Weekend

22 NOONTIME CAFÉ AND PROGRAM

A Conversation with a Collector, 12:15 PM

with J. Brooks Buxton, and Aimee Marcereau DeGalan, Curator of Collections and Exhibitions, Fleming Museum of Art

Lunch is available for purchase from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM.

29 NOONTIME CAFÉ AND PROGRAM

Vermont Antiques, 12:15 PM

with Duane Merrill, auctioneer and appraiser

Lunch is available for purchase from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM.

THE PAINTED WORD POETRY SERIES

29 Evie Shockley, 6:00-7:00 PM

The Fleming Museum presents *The Painted Word* poetry series, organized by Major Jackson, Richard Dennis Green & Gold Professor, UVM Department of English. See January 25 for details.

MARCH

3-12 MUSEUM CLOSED

University of Vermont Spring Recess

14 NOONTIME CAFÉ AND PROGRAM

Felix Bonfils and the Middle East, 12:15 PM

with Makeda Best, Associate Professor, UVM Department of Art and Art History

15 UVM FILM SERIES

An Angel at My Table, 6:45 PM

The true-life story of Janet Frame, New Zealand's most distinguished author. The film follows Frame along her inspiring journey, from a poverty-stricken childhood to a misdiagnosis of schizophrenia and electroshock therapy to, finally, literary fame. (128 min.)

MARCH CONTINUED

22 FILM

Women without Men, 6:00 PM

Acclaimed artist Shirin Neshat makes her directorial debut with this incisive and sumptuously filmed reflection on a pivotal moment in Iranian history. *Women Without Men* chronicles the intertwining lives of four Iranian woman during the summer of 1953; a cataclysmic moment in Iranian history when an American-led, British-backed *coup d'état* brought down the democratically elected Prime Minister and restored the Shah to power. (96 min.)

25 FAMILY PROGRAM

Nowruz: Celebrating the Persian New Year, 1:00 - 5:00 PM

The secular festivities of *Nowruz* (no-rooz) celebrate the coming of spring and the renewal of the Earth. Join us for a lively afternoon as we explore the themes of *Nowruz* through art, activities, and games including decorating eggs, planting *sabzeh* (spring sprouts) to grow at home, and learning about the symbolism of the holiday.

Children \$4, Adults \$5, Family \$12

28 THE PAINTED WORD POETRY SERIES

Tina Chang, 6:00-7:00 PM

The Fleming Museum presents *The Painted Word* poetry series, organized by Major Jackson, Richard Dennis Green & Gold Professor, UVM Department of English. See January 25 for details.

APRIL

4 MUSIC PERFORMANCE

Lokum, 6:00 PM

The Vermont-based musical ensemble *Lokum* performs an array of Arabic, Turkish-Gypsy, Armenian, and Baltic music using authentic instruments. Refreshments provided.

18 NOONTIME CAFÉ AND PROGRAM

Holy Smokes: Pipe, Incense, and Religion, 12:15 PM

with Erica Andrus, Lecturer, and Anne Clark, Professor, UVM Dept. of Religion

Lunch is available for purchase from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM

25 PANEL DISCUSSION

Contemporary Perspectives on the Vermont Landscape, 6:00 PM

Join the three featured artists in *Contemporary Voices from Vermont* — Galen Cheney, Peter Fried, and Curtis Hale — as they talk about their work and share their personal perspectives and artistic interpretations of the Vermont landscape. Curator Aimee Marcereau DeGalan will moderate the discussion.



Unknown (French, late 19th century), *Camel, Syria*, c. 1870s. Albumen print. Collection J. Brooks Buxton '56

IMAGINING THE ISLAMIC WORLD

Early Travel Photography from the J. Brooks Buxton Collection

EAST GALLERY ANNEX JANUARY 25 - MAY 20, 2012

Prior to the invention of photography in the mid 19th-century, Western interest in the Middle East had been whetted by widespread knowledge of the Bible, and by such travel literature as Alexander William Kinglake's *Eothen*, and William Makepeace Thackeray's *Notes of a Journey from Cornhill to Grand Cairo*. As a result, European and American travelers began to add Egypt and the Holy Land to their "Grand Tour" itineraries, and they in turn began to publish reminiscences and sketches that stimulated further interest in the Middle East and the Islamic world. This growing fascination with the Islamic world, coupled with the invention of photography and its eventual recognition as an art form, marked the beginning of the market for travel photography.

Imagining the Islamic World presents a selection of late 19th- and early 20th-century travel photographs from the collection of J. Brooks Buxton: a world traveler and former resident of several of the countries represented in this exhibition. Because of Islamic prohibitions against graven images, it was chiefly Westerners that made and collected these early photographs of the Middle East.

These photographs functioned not only as surrogates for travel, but they also spurred curiosity and inspired Westerners who flocked to the Islamic world to visit the monuments of the ancient and medieval past. Since then, however, many of the monuments have been altered through architectural restoration, damaged, or, in some cases, destroyed. These photographs offer a rare historical counterpoint to the contemporary photographs on view in *Persian Visions*.

This exhibition was organized by the Fleming Museum of Art, with generous support from the Kalkin Family Exhibitions Endowment Fund.

A DISCERNING EYE

Selections from the J. Brooks Buxton Collection

WOLCOTT GALLERY FEBRUARY 7 - JUNE 3, 2012

A seventh-generation Vermonter and University of Vermont alumnus, J. Brooks Buxton '56 lived and worked in the Middle East and London for nearly forty years before returning to Vermont where he presently resides. Over the past fifty years he has built one of the most important private collections in Vermont of fine and decorative arts from his home state, and from around the world, shown for the first time to the public. *A Discerning Eye* presents a wide-ranging selection of material including fine furniture; 19th-21st century Vermont landscapes by Charles Louis Heyde, James Hope, Thomas Curtin, Paul Sample, and Curtis Hale, among others; antique Chinese blue-and-white porcelain; ancient to modern decorative arts from the Middle East; and European paintings and prints by Eugène Delacroix, Edward Manet, Raoul Dufy, and Howard Hodgkin, among others.

Collecting is an art form that has been practiced within the Buxton family for four generations. Buxton's ancestors collected decorative arts from Vermont, including glass, pottery, and furniture, examples of which are featured in this exhibition. Living abroad expanded Buxton's horizon beyond the vistas of the Green Mountains. When Buxton moved to Saudi Arabia in the 1960s during his tenure in banking, he expanded the parameters of his family's collection to include art and objects from the Middle East. Subsequently, when he began work in the oil industry, Buxton lived in Dubai, Libya, and London, all of which are reflected in the art and objects he collected.

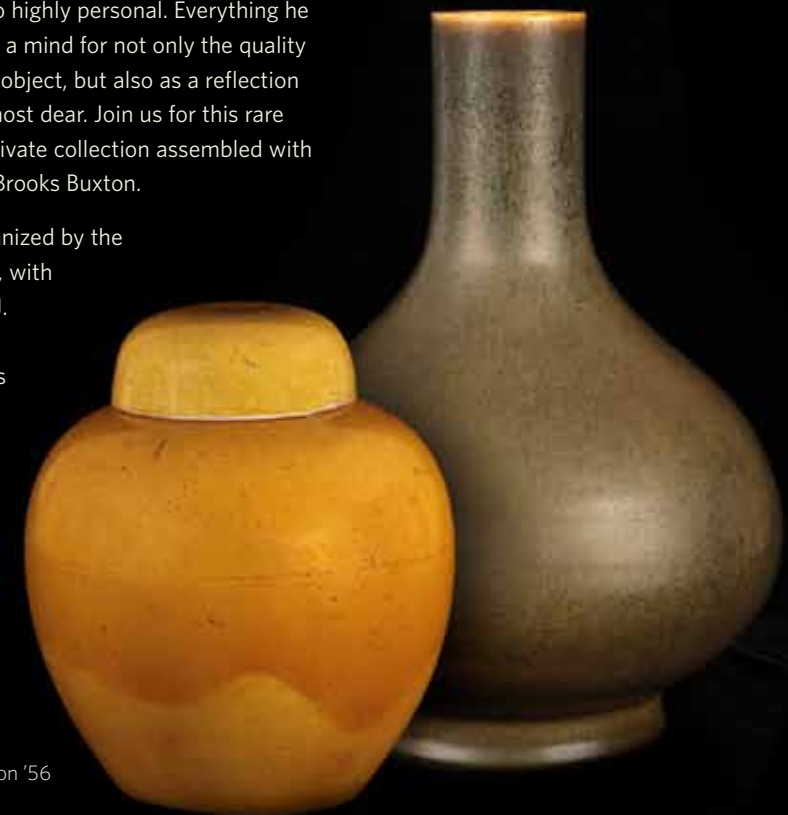
Collecting art can take many forms, with a focus defined by subject, medium, geography, or other criteria. For Buxton, collecting is also highly personal. Everything he collects is acquired with a mind for not only the quality and artistic merit of the object, but also as a reflection of the places he holds most dear. Join us for this rare opportunity to view a private collection assembled with the discerning eye of J. Brooks Buxton.

This exhibition was organized by the Fleming Museum of Art, with generous support from J. Brooks Buxton, and the Kalkin Family Exhibitions Endowment Fund.

LEFT: Unknown, (China), Chinese Imperial Yellow Ginger Jar. Porcelain.

RIGHT: Unknown, (China, active 18th century), Tea Leaf Gourd Vase. Porcelain.

Collection of J. Brooks Buxton '56



COMING
SOON



European and American Gallery

Come take a look at the exciting new additions to the European and American Gallery at the Fleming! Modern and contemporary giants from the Fleming Museum's own collection, including Roy Lichtenstein, Claes Oldenburg, Andy Warhol, and Pablo Picasso join the Old Masters for a lively update in our permanent collections gallery.

Roy Lichtenstein (American, 1923-1997), *Sandwich and Glass on Plate*, 1964.
Screen print. Museum purchase 1965.5.7

HAPPY MEAL

NEW MEDIA NICHE

JANUARY 17 -
JUNE 3, 2012

In a world of mounting tensions between the Middle East and much of the West, Iranian-born artist Shahram Entekhabi's film *Happy Meal* (2004), featuring a young Muslim girl wearing a chador - a full-body-length garment worn by Muslim women - and eating a McDonalds "Happy Meal," makes one question the stereotypes of both East and West. The film encourages one to think about the constant collision of cultures in today's world, and the possibility and excitement of a hybrid culture forming through this intersection.



This exhibition was organized by the Fleming Museum of Art, with generous support the Kalkin Family Exhibitions Endowment Fund.

Shahram Entekhabi (Beroujerd, Iran, b. 1963), *Happy Meal*, 2004 (film still). DVD.
Courtesy of Aaran Gallery, Tehran, and the artist



Pipe, c. 1900, Meerschaum, bakelite. Probably United States. Gift of Rev. Alfred Miller 1951.1.5

UP IN SMOKE

WILBUR ROOM JANUARY 17 - AUGUST 26, 2012

Smoke in various forms is a ubiquitous part of life around the world. It comes from numerous sources, such as pipes, fireplaces, factories, and infernos, and can convey a multitude of complex and contradictory meanings. For instance, images of cigarette smoke signal a leisure activity and convey the glamour of an earlier time, yet today call to mind the health hazards of such activity. When seen billowing out of factories, smoke can be a leitmotif representing industry and progress; and yet threats to the environment, public health, and quality of life often follow. When used in ritual, smoke can serve as an offering, a tangible symbol of the immaterial; it can connote transcendence into another state of being, or its plumes can indicate destruction.

These opposing themes abound in a selection of paintings, prints, and artifacts drawn from the Fleming Museum's collection, ranging from 17th-century Dutch painter Aert van der Neer, to works by modern and contemporary French and American artists including Charles Emile Jacques, James Abbott McNeill Whistler, Reginald Marsh, and Adrian Piper. A group of objects and implements in the exhibition represent smoke more literally, such as items used for smoking tobacco, opium, and other substances, including Chinese water pipes and elaborately carved European and African tobacco pipes. Also, incense burners from Asia and North America reflect the use of smoke as an offering and agent of purification.

We invite you to explore the many meanings of smoke across cultures and time periods.

This exhibition has been co-curated by Fleming Museum curator, Aimee Marcereau DeGalan and collections manager Margaret Tamulonis. It is made possible through the generous support of the Kalkin Family Exhibitions Endowment Fund.



CREATIVE INSPIRATION

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Students from the Renaissance School complete an exhibition-inspired art project.

Museum guests inspect one of Andrew Rafferty's prints during the opening of his exhibition last fall.

UVM Students with the University Concert Choir perform a holiday concert in the Museum's Marble Court.

Artist and illustrator Hal Mayforth presents his work at the most recent PechaKucha Night.

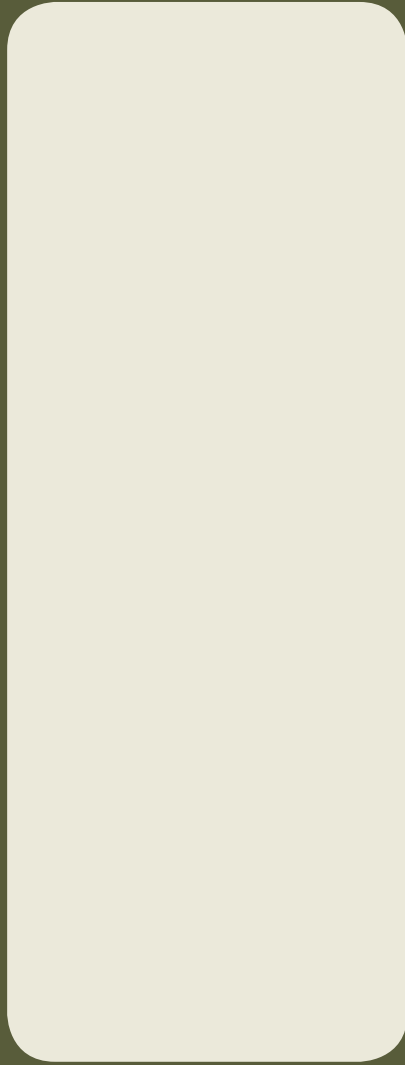
The FLEMING MUSEUM UNIVERSITY of VERMONT

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MUSEUM HOURS

The Museum is closed Mondays, major holiday weekends, and during UVM's spring and winter recess. Please check our website for up-to-date hours.

MAY 1 - LABOR DAY

Tues. - Fri., Noon - 4:00pm; Sat. and Sun., 1:00 - 5:00pm

LABOR DAY - APRIL 30

Tues., Thurs., and Fri., 9:00am - 4:00pm;

Wed., 9:00am-8:00pm; Sat. and Sun., 1:00 - 5:00pm

ADMISSION

Free to Museum members; faculty, staff, and students of UVM, Burlington College, Champlain College, Community College of Vermont, and St. Michael's College; and children 6 and under.

\$ 5Adults

\$ 10Family

\$ 3Students and Seniors

GROUP TOURS

Available during regular Museum hours. Reservations required.

THE MUSEUM SHOP AND COFFEE LOUNGE

Offering espresso, Speeder and Earl's coffee, refreshments, and a selection of books, cards, and gifts.

ACCESSIBILITY

The Fleming Museum is wheelchair-accessible and will provide reasonable accommodations to persons with disabilities. Please contact us in advance to arrange accommodations.



PARKING

Parking is available in the Visitor Lot located between the Museum and Fletcher Allen Health Care. Free weekend-only parking is available in the University's Votey Lot to the west of the Museum. Free weekday evening and weekend parking is available behind the offices at 46-48, 50-52 and 66 Colchester Avenue, across the street from the Museum.