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Cover image: Small Multiples
A LETTER FROM THE MUSEUM DIRECTOR:

Flaten Art Museum’s year opened with fanfare as we inaugurated “the Link.” Situated between Dittmann Center and the Hall of Music, the Link features expanded museum office space and a light-filled student lounge on the main level, and state-of-the-art collection storage and adjacent work/study room on the lower level. Already, the Link is living up to its name, serving as a crossroads among the fine arts and a popular space for informal performances, experimental art installations, study, and conversation.

During the 2015–16 academic year, more than 7,000 people visited Flaten Art Museum (FAM) exhibitions, openings, and events. Five hundred and sixty-six students used FAM as a classroom, and thirty seven artworks from the collection were used for object-based study. FAM’s website also supports teaching and learning. More than 14,400 online visitors encountered rich content, including a fully searchable collection and student-produced Collection Stories — thematic videos that bring the collection to life. Digital accessibility to the museum’s rich holdings serves as a platform for discovery and vital tool for collection research.

We are grateful for fruitful partnerships with St. Olaf faculty, staff, alumni, parents, and donors. Through these relationships, FAM will continue to foster cross-disciplinary learning, innovation, and the appreciation of fine art.

With gratitude,

Jane Becker Nelson ’04  
Director, Flaten Art Museum
2015–16 was a fabulous year at Flaten Art Museum! Here’s a glimpse:

New Digs
In September, museum staff moved into new offices located in the Link and began transferring the collection to a new 2,000 square foot state-of-the-art collection storage area, meeting the needs of the museum’s growing collection and educational programs.

Free Ink Day!
Nearly 200 artists of all ages and abilities pulled prints at our free, hands-on printmaking workshop hosted by Highpoint Center for Printmaking of Minneapolis. Participants got first-hand practice with the traditional processes featured in the exhibition *Pace Prints: A Master Printer’s Perspective*.

Life All Along
Presented by the St. Olaf College Artist Series, Flaten Art Museum co-hosted behavioral artist Marcus Young in an ambitious weeklong work of art that included 67 individual activities and engaged 790 participants.

Ape for Change
The internationally renowned Guerrilla Girls took over the Twin Cities as they celebrated their 30th anniversary. In conjunction, Flaten Art Museum hosted *Look Again: Expanding Feminist Possibilities* in Groot Gallery, curated by Taylor Davis ’16.

Museum as Classroom
Highlighting interdisciplinary collaborations and object-based learning, Director Jane Becker Nelson presented “Museum as Classroom: Teaching with Flaten Art Museum’s Collection” through the on-campus Center for Innovation in the Liberal Arts (CILA), spawning new faculty partnerships.

Valuable Volunteer
Kathy Born completed the reorganization of all sales, conservation, provenance, and research paperwork for the Richard N. Tetlie ’43 Estate bequest. Overseeing this massive project has taken six years – Kathy’s contribution is invaluable!

A Sea of Change
Macalester College’s Law Warschaw Gallery borrowed 60 objects of Modern Chinese ephemera from FAM’s collection for their exhibition, *A Sea of Change*. Inspired by FAM’s 2013 student-curated exhibition *Mixed Messages: Twentieth Century Chinese Prints*, this collaboration reveals how FAM’s collection and pedagogical innovations are making an impact well beyond our campus.

Math Art
Committee members for the *The Arnold Ostebee ’72 and Kay Smith Endowed Fund for Mathematical Art* met twice to plan for future acquisitions and foster interactions between mathematics and the visual arts.

Emerging Curator
FAM is thrilled to announce its first-ever *Fifth Year Emerging Curator*, Taylor Davis ’16. This pilot program offers mentorship and curatorial resources to a self-motivated recent graduate who wishes to make curatorial practice the core of her professional future.

Creative Space
In March FAM hosted a faculty reading with four members of the English Department: Diane LeBlanc, Juliet Patterson, Kaethe Schwehn and Sally Franson. Against the backdrop of *The Via Northfield*, they read from works in progress and held a Q & A session, finding syntheses among literary and visual arts.

By the Numbers
JUNE 1, 2015 – MAY 31, 2016

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<th>Attendance</th>
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<td>Website visits</td>
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<td>Flaten Art Museum exhibitions</td>
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<td>Students who used the museum as a classroom</td>
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<td>Objects photographed for digital collection access</td>
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<td>Instagram followers</td>
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</table>
In 2015-16, FAM expanded its on-campus collection storage space in order to meet the needs of its growing holdings. In preparation, FAM hired independent museum consultant Wendy Jessup to review existing collection storage spaces and preliminary renovation plans. Her report included renovation guidelines and preventive conservation practices, as well as recommendations for collections storage and furnishings.

The Link opened in September 2015. The expansion adds 2,000 square feet of state-of-the-art collection storage and work/study space, and 420 square feet of office and meeting space. This timely expansion accommodates FAM’s growing teaching collection, provides an outstanding professional environment for FAM’s student employees, and is enhancing interdisciplinary curricular projects.

Since the Link opened, over 1,100 objects have been rehoused with the help of 13 student workers contributing over 550 work hours. These students are gaining collection management experience in safe handling practices, object examination, condition reporting, object mount construction, and more – all transferrable and highly-marketable professional skills.
EXHIBITIONS

Nestled within a liberal arts college, Flaten Art Museum’s exhibitions complement the expansive academic diversity at St. Olaf College.
PACE PRINTS
A Master Printer’s Perspective
Fine art publisher Pace Prints issues work by some of the world’s most celebrated contemporary artists. Lesser-known are the master printers, whose technical expertise allows these artists to achieve the precise effects desired in their prints and whose innovations push the boundaries of the medium. This exhibition explored the intertwined relationship between artist and master printer through a collection of more than 20 prints on loan from Pace Prints. Curated by Bill Hall, master printer, Pace Prints; Justin Israels, master printer, Pace Prints; John Saurer, associate professor of art, St. Olaf College; Jane Becker Nelson, director, Flaten Art Museum.

Opening Reception and Gallery Talk
Pace Prints Master Printer Justin Israels revealed the techniques and tales behind the prints in this exhibition.

Free Ink Day
Two hundred artists of all ages and abilities pulled prints at this free, hands-on printmaking workshop hosted by Highpoint Center for Printmaking of Minneapolis.

Programming generously supported by the Arnold Flaten Endowed Fund.
2015-16 EXHIBITIONS
Celebrating the artistic career, creative influences, and upcoming retirement of Ron Gallas, associate professor of art at St. Olaf College, this exhibition examined the interplay between artist and creative community. New work by Gallas was presented alongside the work of Sam Chung, Michel L. Conroy, Jill Crosson, Paul Dresang, Joe Duffy, Peter Eide, Curtis Hoard, Randy R Johnston, Warren MacKenzie, Billy Mayer, Justina Ny, Judy Onofrio, Monica Rudquist, Mark Pharis, James L. Tanner, Janice D. Tanner, and Nancy Vaughn.

Opening Reception and Artist’s Panel Discussion
Ron Gallas was joined by Sam Chung, Paul Dresang, Billy Mayer, Judy Onofrio, and Monica Rudquist in a lively conversation about creativity and community, moderated by John Saurer, associate professor of art, St. Olaf College.
New Work: Fifth-Year Emerging Artists

DECEMBER 4, 2015 – JANUARY 17, 2016

This exhibition featured in-progress work by the 2015–16 Fifth-Year Emerging Artists: Liz Brindley, Daniel Bynum, Thomas Dunning, Gina Haugen, and Bridget Novak. In April, the artists mounted a revised exhibition titled Where We Fit In at Public Functionary in Minneapolis. The opening reception was hosted in conjunction with the Piper Center’s inaugural Ole Arts event for current students and alumni working in music, theater, dance, visual arts, arts management, arts education, art therapies, photography, creative and design careers.
FEBRUARY 9 - MARCH 6, 2016
CURATED BY TAYLOR DAVIS ’16

In conjunction with the Guerrilla Girls Twin Cities Takeover, this exhibition presented six women artists and one all-women collective whose works engaged with feminist themes. Ranging across several disciplines and reflecting an array of theoretical concerns, the exhibition rejected homogeneity and embraced the multiplicity of form and meaning that can be found in feminist art. Artists: Hend Al-Mansour, Sadie Benning, Mary Bergs, the Guerrilla Girls, Elizabeth Garvey, Jess Larson, Patricia Olson, and Kiki Smith

Curator’s Talk
Student curator Taylor Davis ’16 offered a glimpse into her curatorial process and the intricacies of each artist’s work in a well-attended talk in Groot Gallery.

Supported by the departments of Art and Art History and Women’s and Gender Studies at St. Olaf College.
Andy Sturdevant’s installation *The Via Northfield*, commissioned by Flaten Art Museum, built on the artist’s ongoing exploration of history, place, and walking in Minnesota. With its wall-sized map, interpretive publications, and specimens of interest, the gallery functioned not only as an archive of Sturdevant’s two-day pedestrian journey from Minneapolis to Northfield, but as a visitor’s center for southeastern Minnesota.

*Opening Reception and Artist’s Remarks*
Andy Sturdevant entertained a packed gallery as he discussed pilgrimages in the popular imagination, non-competitive pedestrianism, blister prevention and care, and other topics of interest to the medium-distance walker.

*Artist-led walk to Waterford, Minnesota*
Walkers of all ages took a 90-minute ramble with Andy Sturdevant, concluding for a picnic lunch and music at the Waterford Township Hall.

Generously supported by the *Glen H. and Shirley Beito Gronlund Annual Exhibition Series Fund*, which funds one FAM exhibition and related programming each year.

Photo credit: Small Multiples
MAY 8 - 29, 2016

These two annual exhibitions are culminating events in the curricula of St. Olaf studio art and art history majors. Cross-disciplinary themes ran through the young artist’s work in the Senior Show as they drew on academic influences from their four years on the Hill. Between You and Me, curated by senior art history majors, explored the communicative capabilities of portraiture and its role in constructing identity. Through the work of renowned artists Pablo Picasso, Andy Warhol, James Abbott McNeill Whistler, and others, this exhibition examined how artists over time have explored ideas of class, privacy, intimacy, and gender.
EDUCATION

Visual art enriches the liberal arts experience. Flaten Art Museum offers interdisciplinary learning opportunities and customized curricula to foster critical engagement with visual art.

John Saurer’s Intermediate Printmaking students participated in workshop with Pace Prints Master Printer Justin Israels, practicing monoprint techniques with a pro.

Jessica Keating’s Early Modern Art History students at neighboring Carleton College utilized FAM’s Albrecht Dürer collection, hypothesizing about attribution and authentication in a “connoisseurship exercise.”

Michon Weeks and John Saurer’s Foundations of 2D Media classes visited Pace Prints, examining form, content, and process in 20 prints by renowned contemporary artists.

Nancy Thompson’s Intro to Art History students received a guided tour of Look Again: Expanding Feminist Possibilities with student curator Taylor Davis ’16.

Mary Trull’s Writing 111: two sections of Personal Ecology utilized The Via Northfield for a course assignment, following up with a customized gallery visit with FAM Director Jane Becker Nelson.

Ed Pompeian’s Environmental History and Juliet Patterson’s creative writing courses collaborated on a partnered walk, research and writing, and mixed peer reviews focused on micro-regional histories inspired by The Via Northfield.

Carleton College’s David Lefkowitz’s junior art majors toured the Senior Show with FAM Director Jane Becker Nelson, considering technical and conceptual concerns faced by other student artists.

Lisa Whitlatch’s Golden Age of Greece students studied two terra cotta female figures, evaluating stylistic details in the context of ancient Greek cultural production.

Christopher Tradowsky’s African Art History course makes use of FAM’s African holdings every year. This year, students wrote formal analyses from direct object study, which they then expanded into short research papers.

Ka Wong’s Art of Calligraphy students studied the Yoshida Hodaka collection and curated an exhibition exploring the influence of traditional calligraphy on Hodaka’s modern aesthetic.
“My students were lucky to spend one class period visiting with artist Andy Sturdevant in connection with his exhibition The Via Northfield. Many students reported that this was a highlight of the semester. Many students also reported in self-assessments at the end of the semester that they were inspired by the visual aspect of Andy’s work and that it helped them to think outside the box when it came to writing. For many, the exhibit seemed to inspire and unleash permission to experiment and play within the creative process.”

— JULIET PATTERSON, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH, ENG 150, ENG 291

“Our Flaten Art Museum visit with Jane Becker Nelson was pivotal in helping the students recognize the gestalt between curator, audience, and content that together create context and perform a public good. My teaching partners, Jennifer Kwon-Dobbs, Sian Muir, and I had struggled to get these concepts across. It was the experiential learning in the museum itself that made all of the reading, discussion, and preparation come alive and ‘click.’”

— TIM HOWE, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, ENLG/HIST/MGMT 396 “THE SOUL OF STUFF”

“Through their guided tour of The Via Northfield, my students gained a concrete understanding of how ecological thinking could impact a person’s life, including simple decisions like choosing to walk rather than drive. Having read a number of writers who explained how personal experiences shaped their views of ecology, the students had a chance to see how such experiences could shape works of art. One of my students who was intrigued by the exhibit made the theme of how natural encounters affect the brain the topic of his final research essay.”

— MARY TRULL, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH, WRI 111, “PERSONAL ECOLOGY”
The collection is a valuable tool for teaching and learning across the curriculum. Thanks to the generosity of many donors, FAM acquired 246 outstanding objects with which to enhance our pedagogical mission.
Arnold Flaten ‘22
Each Tree is Known by its Own Fruit
pear wood
Gift of Chris and Jana Lind

H. F. Doyle
Garden at Bordighera
watercolor on paper
Gift of Dan ‘69 and Nancy Schneider

Philippe Mohlitz
Escale
engraving on paper
Gift of Dan ‘69 and Nancy Schneider

Pierre Fix-Masseau
Victoria Station London, Venice Simplon Orient Express, London Paris Venice
lithograph on paper
Gift of Dan ‘69 and Nancy Schneider

John Cosgrave II
Fortune Magazine Cover May 1939
lithograph on paper
Gift of Dan ‘69 and Nancy Schneider

Eugene Higgins
Pioneers Resting
etching on paper
Gift of Dan ‘69 and Nancy Schneider
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artist</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>David Itchkawich</td>
<td>Crime in Low Places</td>
<td>etching on paper</td>
<td>Gift of Dan ‘69 and Nancy Schneider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maurilio Minuzzi</td>
<td>Der Mude Pilz</td>
<td>colored engraving over soft ground on paper</td>
<td>Gift of Dan ‘69 and Nancy Schneider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacques Muron</td>
<td>La Halle</td>
<td>etching on paper</td>
<td>Gift of Dan ‘69 and Nancy Schneider</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ion Panaiteseu</td>
<td>Pointeseche - Compozite</td>
<td>drypoint and mixed techniques on paper</td>
<td>Gift of Dan ‘69 and Nancy Schneider</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miki Lee</td>
<td>Untitled 50</td>
<td>oil on unprimed canvas</td>
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<td>Jean Pierre Bedarrides</td>
<td>Unknown: Precisionist Still Life</td>
<td>oil on artist board</td>
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<td>John F. Aragon</td>
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<td>clay</td>
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<td>Nancy Moore Bess</td>
<td>Unknown: Woven Fiber with Curved Bamboo</td>
<td>fiber and bamboo</td>
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<td>Unknown: Three Piece Still Life</td>
<td>porcelain</td>
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<td>Luigi Camozzo</td>
<td>Unknown: Tribal Battuto Style</td>
<td>glass</td>
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<td>Lois Gutierrez</td>
<td>Unknown: Polychorome Pot</td>
<td>clay</td>
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<td>Tavo (Ocatvio) Silveira</td>
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<td>clay</td>
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<td>Jill Ewald ‘87</td>
<td>Untitled (stacked balls #3)</td>
<td>mixed media and charcoal on paper</td>
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<td>H. Lucas</td>
<td>Victoria Falls</td>
<td>watercolor on heavy paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Willem Van den Berg</td>
<td>Farm at Goen</td>
<td>graphite on paper</td>
<td>Gift of Edward A. Jr. ‘56 and Edith Nelson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Willem Van den Berg</td>
<td>Portrait of Man Reading</td>
<td>ink on paper</td>
<td>Gift of Edward A. Jr. ‘56 and Edith Nelson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Willem Van den Berg</td>
<td>Fisherman with Tray</td>
<td>graphite on paper</td>
<td>Gift of Edward A. Jr. ‘56 and Edith Nelson</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Willem Van den Berg
*Rural Good Farm*
ink on paper
Gift of Edward A. Jr. ’56 and Edith Nelson

Willem Van den Berg
*Jan Bresser*
graphite on paper
Gift of Edward A. Jr. ’56 and Edith Nelson

Unknown
*The Flight into Egypt*
gouache on paper
Gift of Mary Carlsen ’79 and Peter Dahlen

Steven and Sophia Mathonnet-VanderWell
*Asian Collection*
Gift of Steven and Sophia Mathonnet-VanderWell

Tom Maakestad
*Valley Grove (Part I, II)*
oil pastel
Gift of Thomas, McNerney & Partners

Wendell H. Arneson
*Dialogue #3, 57, 73*
ing on paper
Gift of Wendell H. Arneson

Wendell H. Arneson
*Reunion*
oil on canvas
Gift of Wendell H. Arneson

Unknown
*Alexander Hamilton*
engraving on paper
Trust of Brunhild “Bunny” Tetlie Sather ’40, distributed to Flaten Art Museum by inheritance from the Richard N. Tetlie ’43 Estate

William Merritt Chase
*Woman on Sea Wall*
oil on canvas
Trust of Brunhild “Bunny” Tetlie Sather ’40, distributed to Flaten Art Museum by inheritance from the Richard N. Tetlie ’43 Estate

Thomas Lawrence
*Portrait of Woman with Dark Finger Curls*
chalk on paper
Trust of Brunhild “Bunny” Tetlie Sather ’40, distributed to Flaten Art Museum by inheritance from the Richard N. Tetlie ’43 Estate

Unknown
*St. Fabriola or a Portrait of a Young Woman with Scarf*
off-set lithograph on paper
Trust of Brunhild “Bunny” Tetlie Sather ’40, distributed to Flaten Art Museum by inheritance from the Richard N. Tetlie ’43 Estate

John Henry Twachtman
*Waves Breaking a Coastline*
oil on canvas
Trust of Brunhild “Bunny” Tetlie Sather ’40, distributed to Flaten Art Museum by inheritance from the Richard N. Tetlie ’43 Estate

Kees Von Dongen
*Mediterranean Seashore*
oil on canvas board
Trust of Brunhild “Bunny” Tetlie Sather ’40, distributed to Flaten Art Museum by inheritance from the Richard N. Tetlie ’43 Estate
Student Worker Graduate School/Job Placement

Jack Bachmann ’17, Documentary Internship with Larry Price, Freelance Journalist

Ella Balke ’17, CURI Summer Research Student, St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota

Pumla Maswanganyi ’16, M.A. in Globalization and Development, Maastricht University, Netherlands

Cosimo Pori ’18, Flaten Art Museum Summer Assistant, St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota

Jabri Whirl ’18, CURI Summer Research Student, St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota

Keyu Yan ’18, Research and Project Assistant at W Ming Art, New York City and Beijing, China

Museum Staff

Jane Becker Nelson ’04, Director (.75 FTE)
Mona Weselmann, Collections Specialist (.67 FTE)

Student Museum Assistants

Jack Bachmann ’17
Ella Balke ’17
Jeanette Byrnes ’17
Josh Garver ’18
Lamar Gayles ’19
Chris Hager ’16
Stephanie Lewis ’16
Daniel Martinson ’16
Pumla Maswanganyi ’16
Prabana Mendis ’18
David Morrison ’19
Jordyn Myhran ’16
Cosimo Pori ’18
Kayla Skibbe ’16
Sophia Skoglund ’18
Madison Van Wylen ’16
Shivani Vyas ’17
Evan Weselmann ’17
Jabri Whirl ’18
Keyu Yan ’18

Advisory Task Force

Dan Dressen, Associate Provost, Professor of Music

Mary Griep, Professor of Art, Associate Dean of Fine Arts

Mary Titus, Professor of English and English Department Chair

Nancy Thompson, Associate Professor of Art History and Art and Art History Department Chair

Christopher Atkins, Curator of exhibitions and Public Programs, Minnesota Museum of American Art

Taylor Davis ’16, student

Jane Becker Nelson, Director, Flaten Art Museum
Museum Information
Flaten Art Museum is located in Dittmann Center at St. Olaf College, 1520 St. Olaf Avenue
Northfield, Minnesota, 55057
www.stolaf.edu/flaten
Facebook: St. Olaf Art
Instagram: @flatenartmuseum

Contact
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Hours
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
Thursday: 10 a.m.–8 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday: 2–5 p.m.
The museum is closed during the summer, college breaks, and on holidays.