Keeping Art Close While Maintaining Distance

Welcome back to campus! The Phillips has been working behind-the-scenes to refresh the rotation of art in our Nissley Gallery. Much of the artwork on exhibition is either making its “vault debut” or is a new gift to Franklin & Marshall College. We’re excited for the learning possibilities that these new pieces can offer. During this rotation, the visitor will find work inspired by poetry, storytelling, and celebrations of culture through art. Contemporary artwork, traditional crafts, and historical material culture tells some of the story of the Phillips’ permanent collection. As always, our complete collection can be found in our database online! You can also find even more information about the museum on our website.

Francie Lyshak: Mysterious Visions in the Dana Gallery, February 9—April 30, 2021

New York painter Francie Lyshak draws on her own lived experience—including the trauma of childhood abuse—to conjure hauntingly allusive scenes with something of the quality of modern myths. Aiming to transcend the purely rational by establishing spaces for dreaming and reflection, emotional exploration and release for the viewer, she also maintains her own indelible perspective, subtly advancing a feminist outlook and pursuing a foundational belief in the continuing power of image, color, and text. Exhibition organized through Katharine T. Carter & Associates. Please join us for the Virtual Opening Reception & Artist Talk, February 9, 2021, 5:30–6:30 p.m.

Thinking Outside the Museum: Bringing Art Into Your Home

The team at the Phillips Museum of Art could never have predicted that, just after premiering the spring 2020 exhibitions, they would close early due to a worldwide pandemic. But then they had an idea: If patrons couldn’t come to the museum, why not bring the museum to the patrons? The team achieved this by creating online exhibitions. Each exhibition features vibrant, colorful images of the gallery space and individual works alongside in-depth looks at the labels and publication content. This format allows patrons to picture themselves walking through the gallery space as if they were onsite—from the comfort of their own homes. Read more about this story in part of our #FandMArts series documenting how the campus community continues to bring the arts to life in a virtual setting.

Permanent Collections are the Foundation of the Phillips

The Phillips is dedicated to student engagement and support of F&M’s curriculum. The museum works to achieve this by making our permanent collections fully accessible to our students, faculty, professional staff, and scholars. Recent gifts have enhanced our evolving collection of contemporary photography, sculptures created by indigenous people, regional women’s craft, among others. The Phillips encourages students to use these collections for unique research projects that utilize art and material culture in creative ways. Gift highlights include Ralph Gibson’s Political Abstraction series (Liz Alford Hogan ’86 and Jedediah Hogan ’85), Inuit sculptures (Mark and Fran Hirschman), and contemporary daguerreotypes of Yosemite National Park (Binh Danh).