

LUMINARY

NEWS, EXHIBITIONS, & EVENTS FROM THE LOYOLA UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF ART



Art & Faith of the Crèche

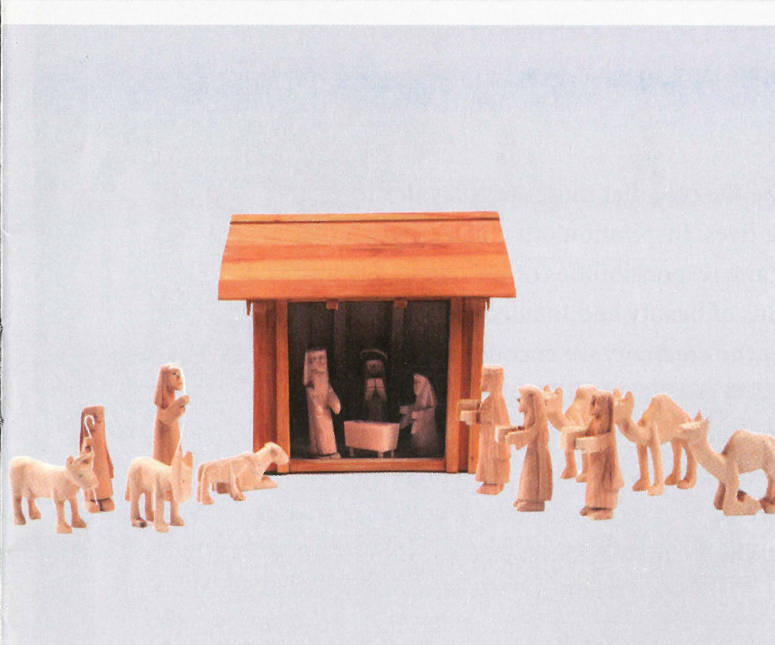
The Collection of James and Emilia Govan



Art and Faith of the Crèche

The Collection of James and Emilia Govan

November 14, 2015–January 10, 2016



Clockwise from top left: *Tree of Life*, Mexico, n.d., artist unknown, painted clay; Crèche, 20th century, Bellenes Puig, S.L., Spanish (Barcelona), painted clay, fabric, wire, wood, and straw, LUMA, The James and Emilia Govan Crèche Collection, 2012–14–28; Quirina and Robert Davis, Portugal and California, clay; Engelsen Family, Henning woodcarvers, Norway, n.d., painted and carved wood; Mexico, unknown artist, n.d.; Miroslav Dziwisz, Poland, Cardboard and tinfoil, n.d.

Message from the Director



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Dear Members and Friends,

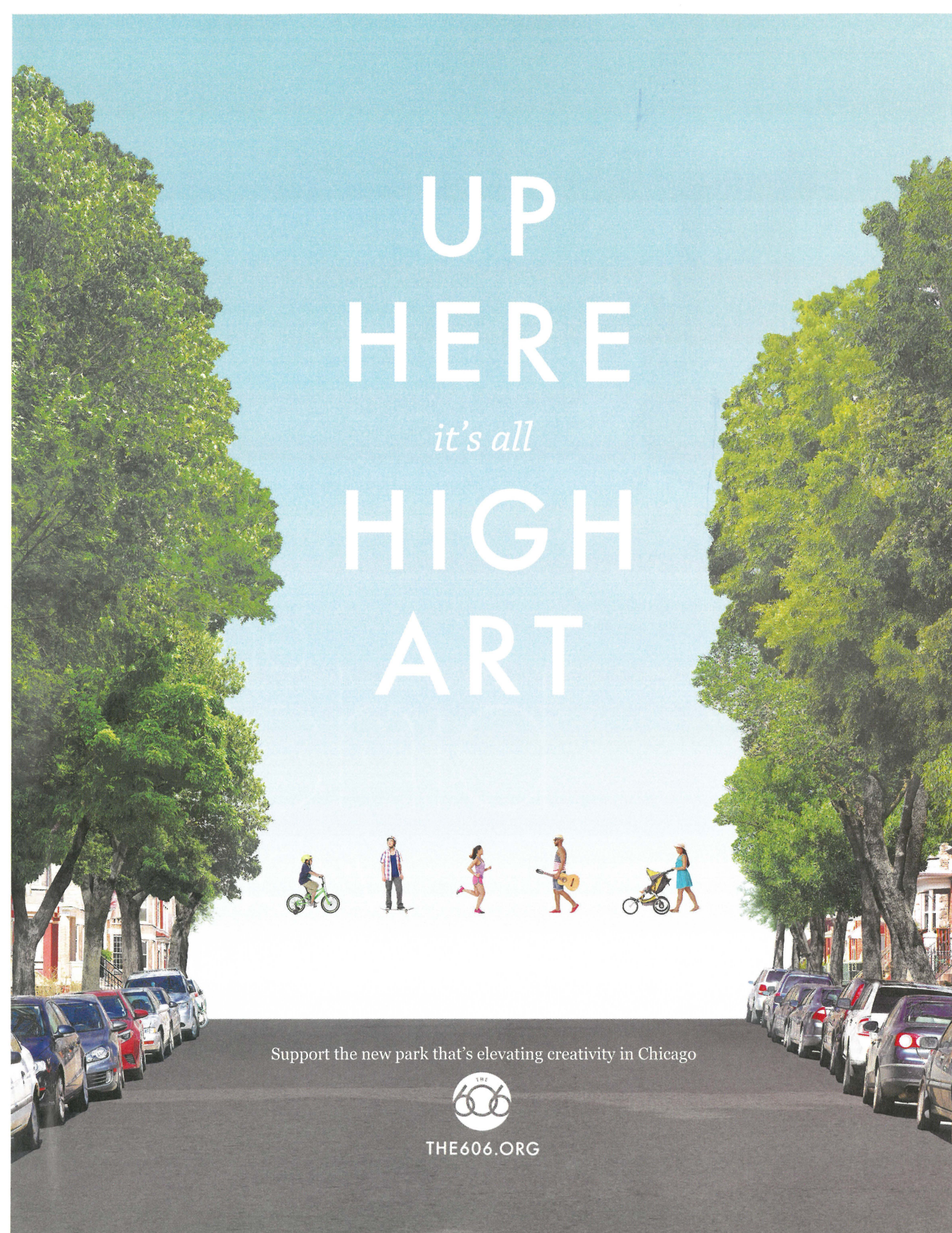
2015 is a milestone year for LUMA. The museum is ten years old!

Our accomplishments are manifold. Certainly, accreditation by the American Alliance of Museums stands out as moving LUMA into the professional ranks of museums throughout the United States. We have mounted over 40 exhibitions that illustrate our mission of exploring the spiritual in art, and we have succeeded in building an identity for LUMA as one of the most unique visual arts institutions in the country. The new additions to our Martin D'Arcy, S.J. Collection of medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque art further enforce what a truly rare collection we have. Jonathan Canning's article in this issue, for example, discusses our latest acquisition, a Flemish sculpture of the Infant Christ from ca. 1500. The gifts of several large collections in the past decade, such as over 700 Neolithic idols and the James and Emilia Govan Crèche Collection and, have expanded our holdings to include non-western art.

However, the accomplishment you cannot see that is at the very heart of our museum is our dedicated base of donors, members, and volunteers. My hat is off to each one of you with deep appreciation for your faith in what was, ten years ago, a brand new museum.

I cannot understate the role that museums play in the enrichment of our lives. Inspiration often comes when moving beyond the mundane responsibilities of the day to day into less tangible dimensions of beauty and intellect. We are touched at a personal level by the creativity we encounter in all the arts. Music, dance, theater, and the literary arts are not necessary for us to survive, but are what we must have to thrive and to stave off a basic spiritual hunger for shared human experiences. Human beings need to be connected to the whole of humanity, and Art with a capital A can help us achieve it.

Cover Image: Khunying Tongkorn Chandavimol, Thailand, 2003, Wood, fabric, paper and metal, The James and Emilia Govan Crèche Collection, 2013-06-85





2015 Crèche of the Year

See page 10 for more details!

Francesco Scarlatella, Crèche from Sicily (Caltagirone), 2001, Italy, terracotta. The James and Emilia Govan Crèche Collection

is important, and so, we will increase our online access to the D'Arcy, offer an annual Nativity Advent calendar using the Govan collection, and build a robust education program for seniors that focuses on Ignation spirituality. We have additional goals to expand our museum facilities with more gallery space for the D'Arcy and more educational programming for Loyola students and adults. We hope that LUMA may become a venue for partnerships with other cultural organizations. All told, the next five years will prove exhilarating and challenging.

So, I invite you to come along with us on our art journey and get involved. All of you are stakeholders in the museum. If you are a member, you own a piece of LUMA and all the pieces, big and small, constitute a healthy whole. I started a practice a few years ago of personally calling or e-mailing every new member or renewed member to say thank you. I was emboldened by the old Hertz slogan: "We try harder." I know that putting a personal face on LUMA is essential. We are still small enough that each member deserves special consideration and appreciation. Most museums have members, but LUMA has friends, and it will be all of you who take us into an inspired future.

My deepest thanks to all of you. LUMA's staff and I look forward to seeing you very soon.

Pamela E. Ambrose

Pamela E. Ambrose
Director

How long has it been since you visited a museum where the external world could be put away for just a moment and you could contemplate art without distraction? Museums are not sacred spaces, but they can stand in for the quietness of a church, synagogue, mosque, or temple. At LUMA, we hope to bring you to art through silence.

As a mid-size academic museum in a city of superb museums, LUMA is proud of its many contributions to the city of Chicago. Looking forward to the next ten years, we will expand our contributions in surprising ways for the benefit of our university community and the general public. We will emphasize the human spirit through our ILLUMAnations program, present exhibitions on social justice, expand our focus on Illinois-based artists, and create new opportunities to learn. We also know that wider access to our collections

The Orchid Show

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The LUMANARY is published four times per year for members of the Loyola University Museum of Art.

LUMA's programs are partially funded by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.



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For media inquiries, contact Kristin Trehearne Lane, Communication Manager, Loyola University Chicago, at ktrehearne@luc.edu or 312.915.7712.

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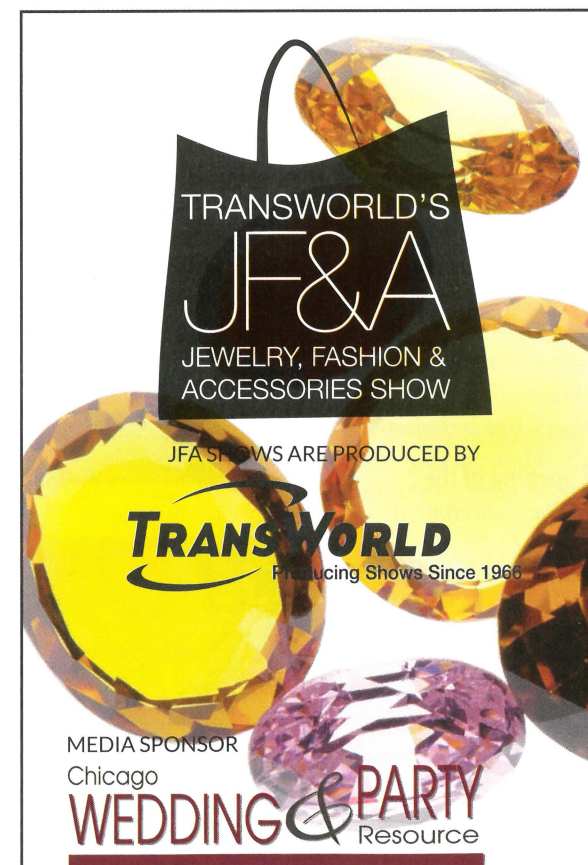
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*Dates subject to change

Calendar of Events

All events take place at LUMA, 820 N. Michigan Avenue, unless otherwise noted.
RSVP to luma@luc.edu or 312.915.7608.



These programs are generously sponsored by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council Agency.

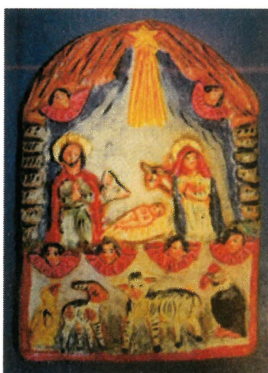


The BMO Harris Bank Magnificent Mile Lights Festival

Saturday, ~~December 5~~ ^{Nov. 21st}, 2:00–6:00 p.m.

Free with museum admission

Stop by LUMA to warm up! Enjoy hot chocolate, free admission, and 15% off Museum Shop purchases. LUMA's annual holiday exhibition: *Art and Faith of the Crèche: The Collection of James and Emilia Govan* will be on view, along with *LUMA at 10: Graphic and Photographic Arts*.



A Tour with the Director

Saturday, December 5, 11:15 a.m.

Free with museum admission

Join LUMA's director Pamela E. Ambrose on a tour of the crèche exhibition. She will recount how she first heard of the Govans' collecting passion and why she established this annual exhibition as LUMA's winter holiday tradition.



Opening Reception

Saturday, December 5

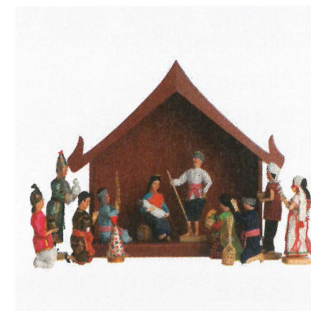
5:30–7:30 p.m.

\$15 • Members & LUC: Free

Join LUMA members and staff to celebrate the opening of the holiday exhibitions: *Art and Faith of the Crèche: The Collection of James and Emilia Govan*.

Image: Photo of collector James Govan, Solheimar Crafts Center, Iceland, Stained wood, The James and Emilia Govan Crèche Collection, 2012-14-50

Exhibitions



8th Annual Art and Faith of the Crèche: The Collection of James and Emilia Govan

November 14, 2015–January 10, 2016

This perennial favorite returns. The story of Mary, Joseph, and the Christ Child has great appeal throughout the world as a story of a family facing hardship with hope. See how artists across the globe depict the Nativity with clothes, architecture, and figures from their native lands. This year there is a special focus on crèches from South America.

Don't miss the opportunity to sponsor a crèche! See page 10 for more details.



LUMA at 10: Graphic and Photographic Arts

November 14, 2015–January 10, 2016

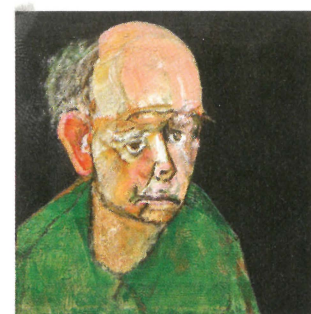
As part of its 10th anniversary celebration, LUMA presents prints, photographs, and other works on paper from its first decade of exhibitions. This special exhibition in the Harlan J. Berk, Ltd. Gallery also includes pieces from the museum's nascent permanent collection. Among recent donations are works by famed 20th-century photographers Henri Cartier-Bresson, W. Eugene Smith, and Bruce Davidson. Previous exhibitions in the gallery have showcased Illinois-based artists such as Kenneth Gerleve, Jessica Gondek, Gary Kolb, Andrei Rabodzeenko, Douglas Stapleton, and Melville Steinfelds.

On View February 6–July 24

William Castellana: Williamsburg



William Castellana has lived in South Williamsburg, Brooklyn for 20 years. His neighbors are members of the Satmar sect of Hasidic Judaism. The sect adheres to a strict customs and traditions, particularly in dress, that contrast with those of contemporary New Yorkers. The dichotomy between the two cultures is accentuated by Castellana's style of photography. Composed in the moment on the street, it is in the manner of great photographers of American life like Gary Winogrand and Vivian Maier. Castellana's images raise the question, "What is it to live a devoutly religious life and to rigorously adhere to customs and traditions while living in the midst of a modern secular society?"



William Utermohlen: Persistence of Memory

The artist William Utermohlen was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 1995. He continued to make art, but over the next seven years, his edgy representational style changed to one of abstraction as the disease progressed and effected his identification of form, shape, and color.

The exhibition is a companion to our iLUMAnations program for individuals with early-onset Alzheimer's and their caregivers. The program is a partnership with the Cognitive Neurology and Alzheimer's Disease Center at Northwestern University. For information on joining, please contact Mary Rastetter at mary.rastetter@northwestern.edu or call (312) 503-0604. All programs take place at the museum.

Images: Anish Kapoor, British, born India, *Untitled*, 2002, Two-plate white ground etching printed on paper, Gift of Loyola university Chicago, 2006:07, LUMA Exhibition: *The Missing Piece*, 2006

Celebrate the holidays with LUMA!

Endless childhood delight is one way to describe the variety of expressions encountered in this annual exhibition. This year we have added another 50+ crèches to the collection through the generosity of James Govan who, along with his wife Emilia, began collecting some 40 years ago. Each year's exhibition is distinct from the last, with a combination of old favorites and new acquisitions. The Christian story of the Nativity is interpreted through the architecture, clothing, flora, and fauna of many different countries and cultures. Each crèche has an anecdotal backstory of how the Govans came to acquire it. LUMA staff members have their personal favorites, as will you. Looking for the country or state that reflects your own heritage is part of what makes the exhibit so intimate and special. The eighth annual exhibition will be on view from November 14, 2015 to January 10, 2016.



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*Crèche sponsorships are on a first come, first served basis.

Sponsor a Crèche

Since the first *Art and Faith of the Crèche* in 2007, the Crèche Sponsorship Program has become increasingly popular amongst our LUMA friends. Crèches are listed by country of origin. Sponsoring a crèche in the exhibition is the perfect way to honor your heritage, a friend, or loved one during the upcoming holiday season. With your \$150 sponsorship, your name and/or that of the person you wish to honor will be displayed on the crèche's label. Sponsorships helps us to conserve this special collection and present this wonderful exhibition each year.

Sponsor the Crèche of the Year

Our 2015 crèche of the year is by Sicilian artist Francesco Scarlatella. It is a miniature Baroque masterpiece in the Neapolitan tradition, executed in exquisite detail in terra cotta. The Scarlatella Nativity honors those of Italian heritage and is a perfect way to commemorate your family or someone close to you. To be prominently displayed throughout the fall and in our 2015 *Art and Faith of the Crèche* exhibition, this unique sponsorship is available for \$1,000.

Advent Calendar: A New LUMA Tradition

This liturgical season, we launch our new online Advent calendar. During the 26 days of Advent, a new image of a crèche will be presented each day by clicking on the LUMA website, www.luc.edu/luma. In this digital age, our Advent calendar is a wonderful way to start a new family tradition. The Advent calendar begins on November 29 and runs through December 24. The link to the site is free and may be forwarded. To view and share, make sure you are on our e-mail list.

Visit our website today to sponsor a crèche and sign up for our Advent calendar! LUC.edu/luma

Image: Nicario Jimenez Quispe, Peru, 1992, Painted clay, potatoes, and wood retablo frame, The James and Emilia Govan Crèche Collection, 2009-07-21

A Present for LUMA

By JONATHAN P. CANNING



As LUMA celebrates its 10th holiday season, I write to enlist your support in securing a present for the Martin D'Arcy, S.J. Collection: an object to embody among the D'Arcy's many treasures the spirit of LUMA's first decade. Truly, what better object could there be, particularly as LUMA mounts its popular *Art and Faith of the Crèche: The Collection of James and Emilia Govan* exhibition, than a sculpture of the Infant Christ?

The unknown Flemish sculptor from the city of Mechelen has captured the cherubic innocence of all infants. One wants to poke his plump tummy and chubby

thighs. One wants to play with his little fingers and toes, and tweak his nose—all to elicit a smile on his sweet face.

Someone has done all these things. Look at the ancient wear. The paint and plaster has been rubbed from his fingers, toes, and mouth. He has been treated like a doll. Indeed, art historians often refer to these sculptures as Malines dolls after the French name for the town.

Such treatment was not sacrilegious, but deeply

spiritual. This *Infant Christ* was an aide to spiritual exercises that focused on Christ's humanity. Devotees, particularly nuns who considered themselves both caretakers of the divine child and brides to the older Jesus, used these dolls. They might have dressed Him in fine garments they had lovingly sewn and embroidered. They might have rocked Him to sleep in a cradle. The Metropolitan Museum of Art possesses one such cradle from the 15th century outfitted with bedding, tinkling bells, and angels to watch over the sleeping child. All the while, the nuns contemplated the mystery of Christ's birth.

Unlike the Classical gods who temporarily disguised themselves as humans for their own sport and enjoyment, the Christian God became human in the person of Christ. In the words of the Apostles' Creed, "He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried." He experienced the human condition. As a babe, He was defenseless. His parents went into exile in Egypt to protect Him from the murderous King Herod. As an adult, He experienced temptation, knew doubt, suffered physical pain, and died.

The writings of 14th-century Swedish mystic St. Bridget were highly influential in promoting devotion to the Infant Christ. In an account of a vision of the Nativity, she wrote:

All of a sudden I saw the glorious Infant lying on the ground naked and shining, His body pure from any soil or impurity. Then I heard the singing of the angels of miraculous sweetness and beauty. When the Virgin felt she had borne her Child immediately she worshipped Him, her hands clasped in honor and reverence saying, "Be welcome my God, my Lord, my Son." Then, as the Child was whining and trembling from the cold and hardness of the floor where He was lying, He stretched out His arms imploring her to raise Him to the warmth of her maternal love. So His Mother took Him in her arms, pressed Him to her breast and cheek, and warmed

Him with great joy and tender compassion.

That He was naked, whined, and trembled underscored the theological point that this child, the Son of God, was fully human. That is the message of the Mechelen statue as He stands, one hand raised in blessing, the other holding a once-golden globe.

St. Bridget's vision has influenced representations of the Nativity ever since. It is the source for every image of a radiant child in a manger, including many of the crèches exhibited each year at LUMA. And so, this sculpture seems particularly appropriate as the object with which to mark LUMA's 10th anniversary. I envision it exhibited at the beginning of the annual crèche exhibition, connecting it to the D'Arcy on the floor above.



I know it is a bit of a cheek, but this present is not fully paid for. I must appeal to your good nature to help secure this adorable sculpture for the museum. You may donate online via the special Infant Christ Appeal link on the museum's website, complete a donation form when next at the museum, or mail in a check made payable to Loyola University Chicago. Please write "Infant Christ Appeal" on the memo line. I shall ask for nothing else from you for Christmas, I promise!

Images: *Infant Christ*, ca. 1500, Flemish (Mechelen), Polychromed walnut, *Rest on the Flight into Egypt*, ca. 1640, Studio of Giovanni Francesco Barberi, called Il Guercino Italian, Oil on canvas

Recap



Saturday, August 22: Opening Reception, Greatest Hits

Patrons and guests revisited LUMA's ten most celebrated exhibitions, during the opening reception.

1. Guests meander through the galleries, admiring art on display.
2. Cocktails among Andy Warhol's *Silver Clouds*.
3. Lex Podell ponders a contribution to one of the pieces, an interactive blackboard covered in questions and messages about the divine.

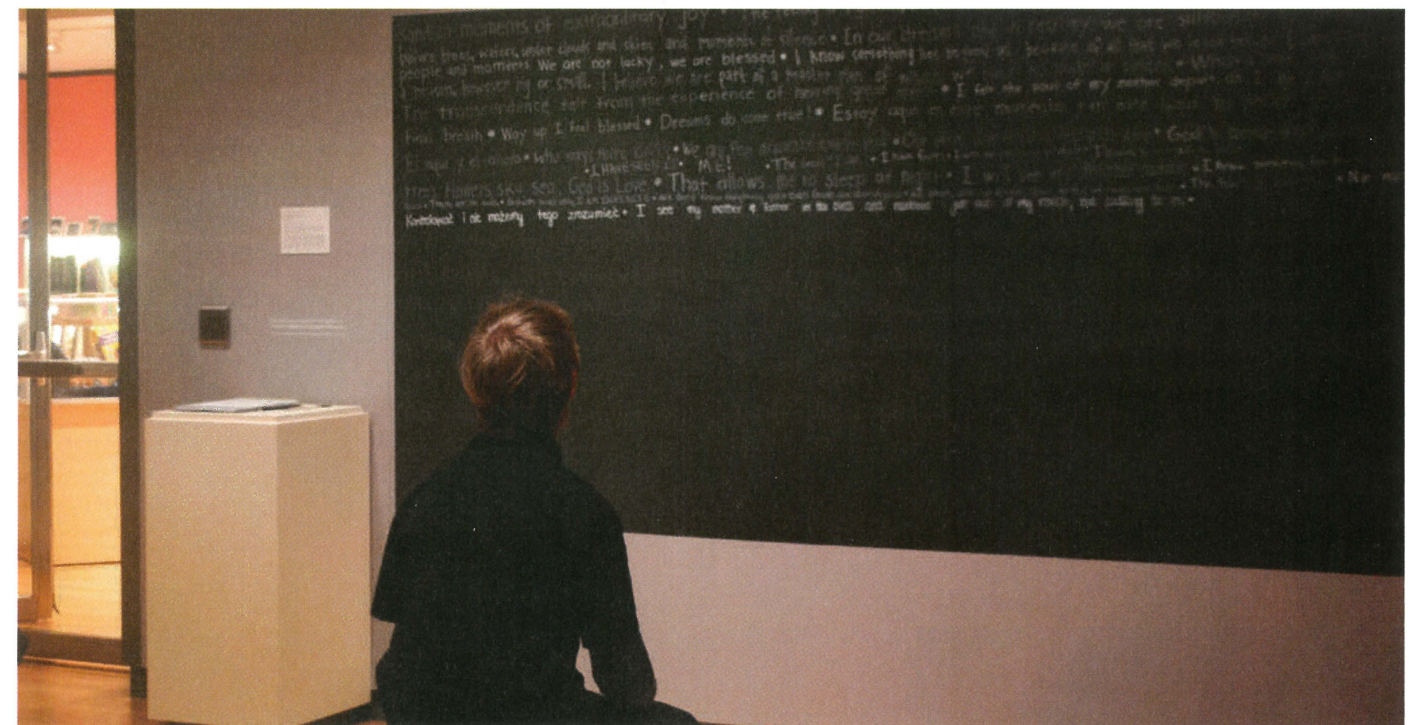


Photo Credit: Alexis O'Connor

Recap



Wednesday, September 16: LUMA Board Party and Fall Reception

Guests enjoyed the beautiful scenery of Chicago's downtown, with spectacular fall evening weather.

1. L-R: Kathleen Beaulieu, Fr. Justin Daffron, S.J., Pamela Ambrose, Robert Roemer, James Peterson

2. L-R: Adrienne Traisman, Ann Fruland, Jonathan Canning, Administrative & Museum Shop Manager Guadalupe Pastenes, Pamela Ambrose

3. Members enjoy a drink and light conversation.

4. Vadim Katznelson, Ann Fruland, Kate O'Malley

5. Adrienne Traisman



Friday, October 9: Divine Decade: A Benefit Celebrating LUMA's 10th Anniversary

1. Loyola's Department of Fine and Performing Arts (DFPA) presented a performance in the exhibition galleries, with choreography inspired by Warhol Silver Clouds.

2. Interim President John P. Pelissero, PhD, Attorney General Lisa Madigan, Director Pamela Ambrose, and Fr. Michael Garanzini, S.J.

3. James Peterson, LUMA Senior Curator and Curator of the Martin D'Arcy, S.J. Collection Jonathan Canning, and Kathleen Beaulieu

4. Selife in the Silver Clouds

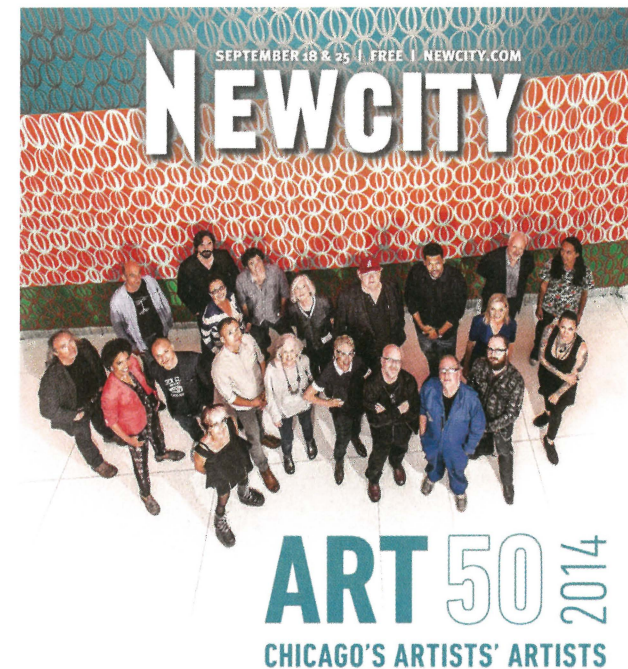


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Highlights

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Newcity also published comics by Ivan Brunetti and non-fiction graphic journalism by Patrick W. Welch and Carrie Golus. The publication's senior editors included Tom Lynch and writer Nate Lee. *Newcity* also publishes Michael Nagrant, who also writes for the *Huffington Post*, and movie reviews by critic and photographer Ray Pride.

Newcity was described by the *Chicago Tribune* as "sophisticated" and as an "alternative weekly" which was a niche publication in the digital space. Its circulation within Chicago is about 70,000. *Newcity's* Best of Chicago is a popular feature in which writers identify the best and worst aspects of Chicago's culture and politics

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1. L-R: William Hart, Shirley Mullen, Kay Hart, Jan McDurmit, Marge Bean, John Holgan, Virginia Holgan, Sheila Rock.

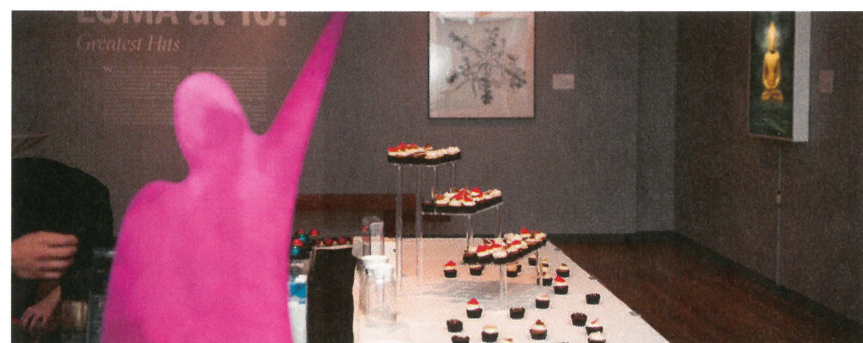
2. L-R: Joanie Lampert, Larry Soldinger, Edie Soldinger, Maureen Lampert, Lester Lampert, Biff Ruttenberg.

3. LUC dance students mingle with guests

4. Guests enjoyed a Warhol-inspired after party, with entertainment sponsored by Parliament Chicago.

5. Heather Nash, Assistant Director of Development Ann Fruland, and Kati Murphy.

6. Attendees enjoyed sweets by More Cupcakes, and coffee by Nespresso.



The Museum Shop

New jewelry and holiday merchandise!



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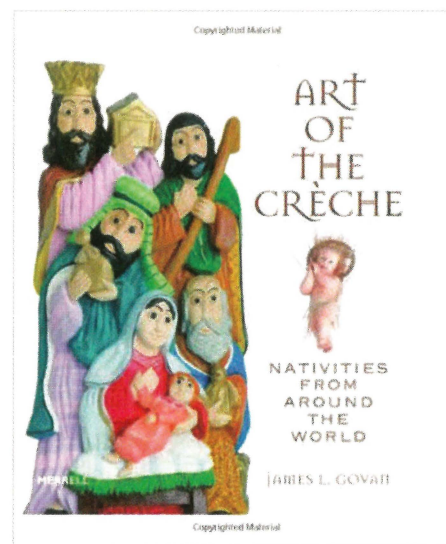
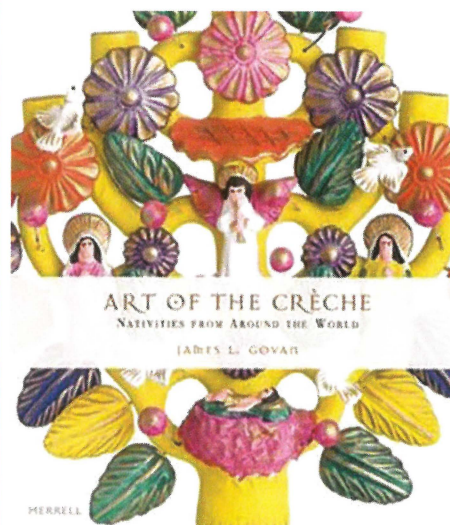
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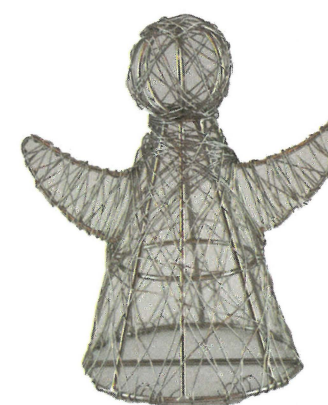
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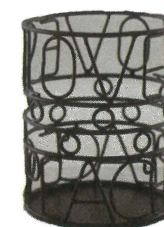
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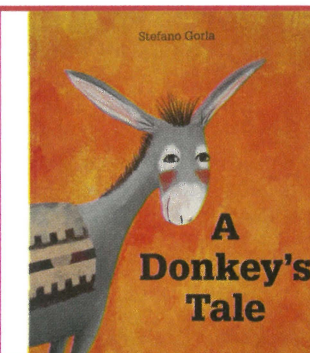
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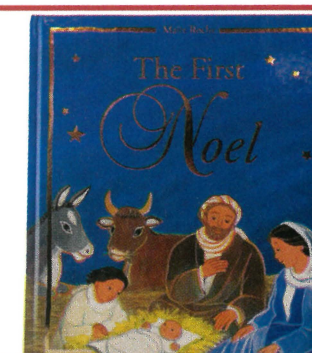
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DELIGHTS AND OBSESSIONS by Mary Arhondonis, Special Events

'Tis the season to be grateful. Most people associate appreciation of public art with summer months. However, one can only grasp the message of the following piece during the bitter cold of winter. Understanding discomfort and hardship is necessary to make one truly value one's blessings. Visit the headquarters of the Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago (721 N. LaSalle St.) in the cold. There, you will find a life-size representation of a homeless person lying on a park bench, covered by a blanket. The bronze copy of the Timothy Schmalz sculpture could be any one of the city's homeless, but it is not. Notice the holes in the feet. He is Christ.

Homeless Jesus leaves a visual sting, reminding us all to care for the needy and forsaken. Christ is among us, especially in the marginalized. Partake in the discomfort: sit on the freezing bench and contemplate His pain. The addition of snow within the folds of His clothes only adds to the sculpture's pathos. It is significant that this piece of the art is on display in affluent River North.

Then head back to LUMA for the holiday exhibition *Art and Faith of the Crèche: The Collection of James and Emilia Govan*. Following this, walk to The Grill on the Alley (909 N. Michigan Ave), a Chicago steakhouse where you can actually converse! There is a Roaring Twenties charm to this place and the menu is vintage, robust, and classic. Begin with the grilled vegetable plate, consisting of a charred assortment of crunchy seasonal vegies. Try their specialty, the chicken pot pie, which will have you salivating as it is served. Its creamy chicken filling is blanketed by a flaky pastry shell. Pause before piercing that shell – the contents are piping hot! You will feel grateful for food, shelter, and your many daily blessings.

LUMA STARS

Mara Mogilevsky

Born in the Republic of Uzbekistan, docent Mara Mogilevsky immigrated with her family to the United States in 1991. She and her husband have MS degrees in electrical engineering from Tashkent Polytechnic University where they actually studied together. From an early age, art proved an important part of Mara's life. She recalls, "When I was very young, I had an opportunity to see the first exhibition of non-conformist Soviet art in Leningrad. It had a great impact on me. It was so sincere, not sterilized like the propaganda art we were regularly allowed to see." That was how her love for art emerged, and she now expresses a special connection to the medieval and Classical.

For Mara, being a docent means doing a lot of research. One of the first pieces she investigated at LUMA was a Russian icon called "The Last Judgement." She says, "The more I read about the visual tradition of presenting this subject, the less I was convinced that the icon was really about the Last Judgement. Being a native speaker of Russian, I was able to read text embedded in the icon. Printed sources confirmed my doubts, and I shared my ideas with LUMA staff." Thanks to her exciting discovery, a new interactive tablet will soon accompany and detail the object!

Mara loves museums because they are so democratic in nature. At museums, people feel like the art, in a way, belongs to them, and they can freely appreciate and interpret it any way they choose. She loves museums in general, but considers LUMA one of the most aesthetically pleasing in Chicago. LUMA also holds a special place in her heart because it allows her to share art with others. She says, "Being a docent, for me, means changing someone's day in a similar way that art once changed my life."

Michael Albani

An MA student majoring in American history, LUMA intern Michael Albani was born and raised in Roseville, MI, an eastern suburb of Detroit. Currently in his second year of the program, his research centers on the Great Lakes region during the late-eighteenth and early-nineteenth centuries. Following graduation he plans to either pursue work in public history, or move on to a PhD program for a promising career in academia.



Michael started working as a gallery student manager in November 2014, and went on to become a curatorial intern the following spring. His experience at LUMA has provided him with engaging research opportunities and assignments that are a bit out of his wheelhouse. For an Americanist like Michael, working with medieval, Renaissance, and Baroque objects presents a new series of intriguing challenges. A project he found particularly engrossing was collaborating for an article in the LUMANARY, due to his research on LUMA's visiting pair of Dutch globes.

Being a major bibliophile, Albani's thirst for good writings extends to his leisure time, as he strives to read at least three books a week outside of class. This "renaissance man" is also a classically trained pianist, and plays trumpet in the UIC Summer Wind Ensemble. Before dedicating himself to the history field, Michael tried his hand at becoming a horror author and his short stories can be found online. When asked about his upcoming plans for winter break Michael replies, "I am planning a trip to the Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library in Indianapolis. Also, I'm going to get my girlfriend to watch the original Star Wars trilogy before *The Force Awakens* comes out. To reciprocate, I have to watch the extended editions of *The Lord of Rings* movies."

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Save the Date: Opening Reception

Art and Faith of the Crèche: The Collection of James and Emilia Govan

Saturday, December 5, 2015 • 5:30–7:30pm

Image Credit: Antoni Kaminski, Poland, 1999, Painted and carved wood, The James and Emilia Govan Crèche Collection, L2015:35-05