

WORKS FROM THE PERMANENT COLLECTION: CELEBRATING THE GENEROSITY OF DONORS

GALLERY A

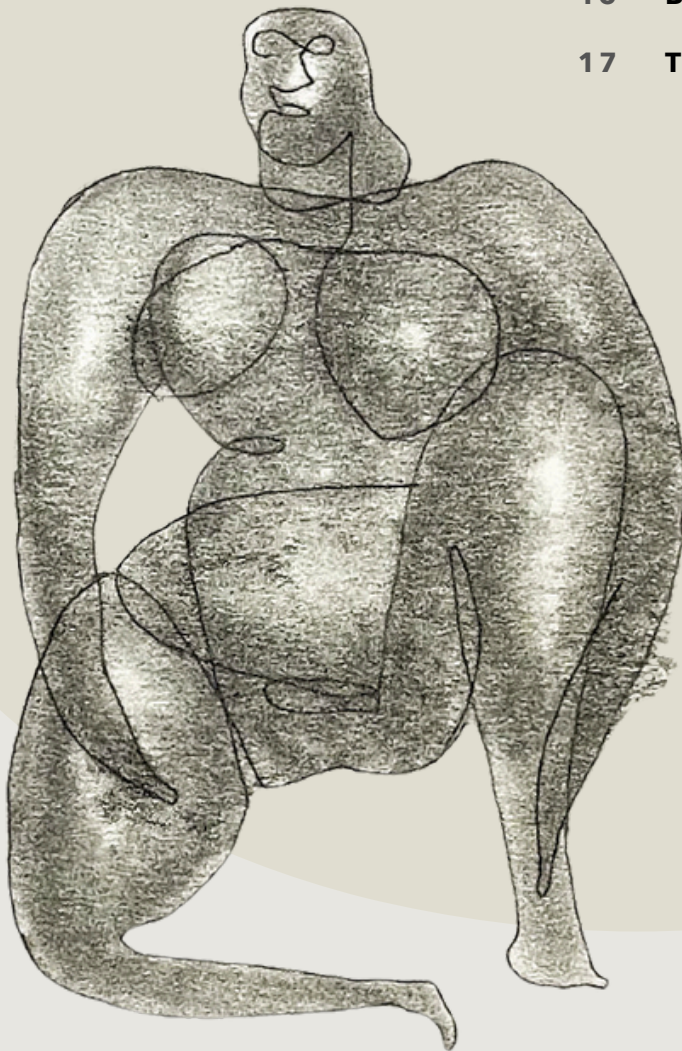
DECEMBER 2024 - APRIL 2025

Susan Mayhew Devine
Pear
2002



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Otto Neumann (1895-1975)
UNNUMBERED (FEMALE FIGURE)
1952

Curatorial Statement

Like so many small and medium-sized university art centers, the Turchin Center for the Visual Arts relies on the generosity of donors to support the permanent collection which is enjoyed both on and off-campus by students, alumni, staff, and faculty, as well as visitors to the center's galleries. **Works from the Permanent Collection: Celebrating the Generosity of Donors** showcases both a recent donation by Julia Rothschild Gidney in honor of her parents Dr. Judith Rice Rothschild and Dr. Gerard Harry Rothschild, as well as the ongoing generosity of long-time donors Peter and Joni Webb Petschauer.

Since the Turchin Center opened in 2003, the Petschauers have donated nearly 150 artworks to the Permanent Collection. They continue to support the needs of the storage facilities for the Collection, which serves as a teaching tool for both campus and community through the Campus Public Art Program and the annual art exhibition at the McKinney Alumni Center - a class project of the ART 4012 Exhibitions Practicum taught by Professor Jody Servon.

Julia Rothschild Gidney grew up in Boone where her mother taught at Appalachian State University for 31 years. The Rothschilds were founding members of the Boone Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, avid travelers, and supporters of the arts. Julia donated 11 linoleum, woodblock, and monotype prints on paper by the German Expressionist painter and printmaker, Otto Neumann (1895-1975) which were in her parents' collection to the Turchin Center in 2023. Neumann was a close relative of the Rothschilds; Julia remembers visiting his home as a young child. Otto Neumann was born in Heidelberg and studied at the Staatliche Akademie der Bildenden Künste in Karlsruhe before completing his studies at the Academia der Bildenden Künste in Munich.

Because of Hurricane Helene's effect on the region, recent staffing changes, and the long-planned renovation of the permanent collection storage facilities, the Turchin Center cannot accept additional donations of artwork at this time. Please contact Senior Curator, Mary Anne Redding for more information. Once the donation program resumes, the Turchin Center will gladly accept donations of artwork that meet our regional collection emphasis.

Mary Anne Redding, Senior Curator

ARTISTS IN THE EXHIBITION

OTTO NEUMANN

GARY BENNETT

RICHARD BLACK

MARTHA BLOOM

SUSAN MAYHEW DEVINE

WILLIAM (BILL) DUNLAP

B. DURR

SHERRIE EDWARDS

STEVE FERGUSON

NORBERT IRVINE

ROCHELLE KAPLAN

BILL LAGATTUTA

JOE MILLER

WILLARD PILCHARD

MARGARET (PEGGY) POLSON

MARY PRATHER

ANTON REFREGIER

AD REINHARDT

DAVID SHAPIRO

GREGORY SMITH

ANN WILDER

OTTO NEUMANN

(German, 1895 - 1975)

Otto Neumann was a German expressionist artist. He studied painting at Akademie der Bildenden Künste in Karlsruhe, Germany. His studies were briefly interrupted during World War I while he served in the Rastatt Artillery. After six months, he received a medical discharge and returned to his studies. Neumann began his career as a portrait artist; as he gained success, however, he traded his oil paints for watercolors, graphite, linoleum, and woodblock printmaking. His art includes themes of human-centered conflict, stressful journeys, and ethics, all due to the tense political climate in Germany from the 1920s to the 1950s. Neumann was heavily inspired by classical mythology and Dante's Divine Comedy. He is known for his modernized interpretations of neoclassical figures, which shaped his distinctive style. Since his death in 1975, he has been slowly rediscovered. Various articles, catalogs, and monographs have been written about him along with the book, "Otto Neumann, His Life and Work" by Dr. David M. Sokol. His work is included in the Art Institute of Chicago, the Museum of Modern Art, and the Portland Art Museum, as well as the Turchin Center for the Visual Arts due to the generosity of Julia Rothschild Gidney.



GARY BENNETT

(American, birth date unknown)

Gary Bennett is an artist and activist based on the Isle of Man, an island between Great Britain and Ireland in the Irish Sea. He is a painter, printmaker, and sculptor. Bennett's pieces often depict his experience in the military during the United Kingdom's nuclear test program. Through his artwork, he reflects on the mental and physical effects of excessive exposure to radiation. Through his work, Bennett showcases raising awareness about the lasting effects nuclear testing has on veterans. His work directly influenced the creation of the Aged Veteran's Fund. He has also worked with many veteran charity organizations to raise funds for veterans exposed to nuclear testing.

RICHARD BLACK

(American, 1932 - 2020)

Richard Black was an Iowa based printmaker recognized for his geometric intaglio prints. Black received his BFA in 1957 from Drake University in Des Moines and his MFA in 1958 at the University of Wisconsin. Shortly after graduating, he returned to Drake University in 1960, where he taught art until his retirement in 1994. During his tenure, he created the Drake University Biennial Print Symposium and served as the symposium's director from 1975 to 1991, bringing renowned printmakers to the university to showcase their individual practices. Black was a member of The Royal Society of Painter-Printmakers, a select group that elects members based on merit; he earned their distinguished Printmaking Today Award in 2011 and 2016. His work can be found in the collections of the Des Moines Art Center, Bradley University, Indianapolis Art Museum, and the Blanden Memorial Art Museum.

MARTHA BLOOM

(American, born 1951)

Martha Bloom is an artist and educator based in New York. Her work spans a variety of media, including printmaking, collage, and photography. Bloom studied at Green Mountain College in Vermont and the Art Institute of Boston before receiving her Certificate of Completion in Fine Arts Graphics from the Art Students League of New York in 1974. Since then, Bloom has taught classes and workshops at numerous schools and museums, including the Silvermine School of Art, the Art Students League of New York, and the Daheh Museum of Art. Her work is included in several public collections including the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Columbia Museum of Art in South Carolina, and the McNay Museum of Art in San Antonio, Texas.

SUSAN MAYHEW DEVINE

(American, birth date unknown)

Susan Mayhew Devine owned and founded Fourth Daughter, a jewelry and fashion brand that was based in Pittsboro, NC. Devine received her BA in Art History from University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill and has studied studio art and painting. She had careers in medical technology and physician group management prior to starting her own business.

WILLIAM (BILL) DUNLAP

(American, born 1944)

Bill Dunlap is an artist, writer, arts advocate, and commentator working across the American South. Primarily a landscape painter, Dunlap operates in what he calls "hypothetical realism." Much of his art is allegorical, with dogs being a recurring motif. Dunlap received his BS from Mississippi College and his MFA from the University of Mississippi. He has taught at Hinds Junior College in Mississippi, Appalachian State University in North Carolina, and Memphis State University in Tennessee. Separate from his time as a faculty member at Appalachian State, Dunlap worked as the Visual Arts Director & Curator for An Appalachian Summer Festival and as Coordinator for Appalachian State's Museum Project. His work has been collected by the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Asheville Art Museum, and the Johnson Collection. Currently, Dunlap splits his time between his studios in Coral Gables, Florida; McLean, Virginia; and Mathiston, Mississippi. He works as a full-time artist and arts commentator for PBS's WETA-TV.

B. DURR

No known biographical information.

Sherrie Edwards

(American, 1943 - 1999)

Sherry Edwards was an artist and Appalachian State University art professor. Her work was largely sculptural, ranging in medium from bronze to wood to stone. Born in Annapolis, Maryland, Edwards received a BS from Townson State College and an MFA in sculpture from Ohio University before accepting a position at Appalachian State University in 1970 teaching sculpture, design, and drawing. In 1983, she became the gallery director at the Catherine Smith Gallery. Edwards was acting chair of the Art Department when she passed away. She was commissioned by the university to create many of the bronze statues still seen on campus today, including Daniel Boone with Hunting Dogs, located near the infamous duck pond. Edwards served as President of the Southern Association of Sculptors and received Best in Show and a purchase award at the 1974 North Carolina Artists Exhibition.

Steve Ferguson

(American, born 1946)

Steve Ferguson taught as an instructor and Educational Media specialist in Learning Resources at Appalachian State University. Born and raised in Georgia, Ferguson received his BA in English Literature at Eastern Kentucky University in 1969 and his MA in Audiovisual Education at Appalachian State in 1972. After graduating and gaining employment at the university, Ferguson began to study painting. He exhibited work at several spaces in Boone; at the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art in Winston-Salem; and at the Virginia Highlands Art Show in Abingdon, where he was awarded the 1978 Award of Distinction.



Norbert Irvine*

(American, 1937 - 2015)

Norbert Irvine was a printmaker and mixed-media painter based in Asheville, North Carolina. Born in Lexington, Virginia, Irvine received a BA at Washington and Lee University before earning an MA at Claremont Graduate School in California and an MFA at East Carolina University. After a successful career as a silkscreen printer, Irvine became a studio artist, creating works inspired by nature and its iridescent qualities. His work has been collected by the Johns Hopkins Center for International Study in Washington DC, Westinghouse Corporation of America in New York, and Duke University Hospital in North Carolina.

*NB: Norbert Irvine's signature was previously interpreted as "J. Ruine", but the signature on this work matches all examples of Irvine's that can be found online.

Rochelle Kaplan

(American, 1943 - 2021)

Rochelle Kaplan was a collage artist based in Lake Worth, Florida. Her work was featured in the 7th and 8th iterations of the International Collage Exchange. Kaplan has collages in the collections of the Museo de Collage in Mexico and the [Learning Connexion](#) in New Zealand.

Bill Lagattuta

(American, born 1956)

Bill Lagattuta built his career as a successful master printer in Albuquerque, New Mexico. He collaborated with countless artists across the country to realize their printmaking visions utilizing his years of skilled experience. Although not historically recognized as co-creators of an artwork print, the necessary contributions of master printers have gained attention in recent years for the level of craftsmanship the title requires. Prior to completing his certificate as a Tamarind Master Printer in 1979 at the University of New Mexico's Tamarind Institute in Albuquerque, Lagattuta received his BA from Appalachian State University in 1973 and his MFA from the University of Utah in Salt Lake City in 1975. He worked in printmaking studios across the country in Texas, Arizona, and Minnesota before returning to Albuquerque in 1988 to serve as the master printer and studio manager at Tamarind until his retirement in 2015. Jaune Quick-to-See Smith, Ed Ruscha, Polly Apfelbaum, and Jim Dine are just a few of the many high-profile artists Lagattuta collaborated with during his memorable career.



Joe Miller

(American, 1939 - 2023)

Joe Miller was an artist and the founder of Cheap Joe's Art Stuff in Boone, North Carolina. Primarily a watercolorist, his pieces often focused on nature and the landscape of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Miller was born and raised in Boone and received a degree in Pharmacy from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. After returning to Boone, Miller had a successful pharmaceutical career at the Boone Drug Company, all while continuing his artistic pursuits. His company, Cheap Joe's Art Stuff, grew from being a section of the pharmacy where Miller sold art supplies into a well-known community resource for the region's artists. Miller received the American Watercolor Society Dolphin Medal, the Watercolor Society Arts and Humanities Award, and the North Carolina Order of the Longleaf Pine award.

Willard Pilchard

(American, birth date unknown)

Willard Pilchard is most remembered for his time as a professor in the Department of Commercial Art and Design at the Richmond Professional Institute (RPI), now known as Virginia Commonwealth University. During his tenure at RPI, Pilchard was a director for the Bang, Bang, Bang Arts Festivals that brought contemporary art to the school's campus from 1964-67 through an impressive slate of programming, pulling in notable artists like John Cage to engage the students and community in a greater art discourse.



Margaret (Peggy) Polson

(American, born 1931)

Peggy Polson taught in the department of Art at Appalachian State from 1971 until her retirement in 1993. She currently lives in Iowa. In her artistic career, Polson experimented across many mediums, including painting, drawing, and printmaking, often with nature as the subject of her work. In addition to her works in the Turchin Center's Permanent Collection, a series of her drawings, *Sketches of Watauga County*, can be found in Belk Library's Special Collections. Polson received an AA from Stephens College, an MFA and an MS from Cornell University, an MFA from the University of Iowa, and a PhD from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. Prior to her time at Appalachian State University, Polson taught at the University of Iowa, Cornell University, and SUNY Plattsburgh.

Mary Prather

(American, birth date unknown)

Mary Prather is an artist and Appalachian State University art professor. Prather has taught in many areas in the Department of Art, including art appreciation, foundations, art history, and ceramics. She received a BS in Art Education from Pembroke State University in 1976 and an MA in Studio Art from Western Carolina University in 1981. Before her tenure at Appalachian State University began in 1987, Prather taught at Southeastern Community College, Pamlico County High School, and Avery County Schools.

Anton Refregier

(American, 1905 - 1979)

Anton Refregier was an artist and muralist. Born in Moscow, Refregier's family moved to Paris briefly before settling in New York City. Although his practice spanned many mediums, Refregier is largely remembered for his murals, particularly his controversial Social Realist mural in San Francisco depicting the history of California that was commissioned through the WPA. In the mural, Refregier included several darker moments of the state's history, creating a wave of backlash that nearly resulted in the mural's destruction. Despite this, Refregier went on to create several murals in New York and beyond and was in the midst of a commission for a hospital in Moscow when he passed. Refregier graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design; his work is included in many public collections, including at the Art Institute of Chicago, the Brooklyn Museum, and the Smithsonian American Art Museum.

Ad Reinhardt

(American, 1913 - 1967)

Adolph Friedrich Reinhardt was an abstract painter active in New York. Reinhardt's legacy lies in his fervent advocacy for abstraction completely devoid of representation or symbolism, as reflected in his blocky compositions and subtly monochromatic color choices. These ideas were additionally amplified by his work as a cartoonist for the newspaper *PM* illustrating his judgements of the contemporary art world. Art historians describe Reinhardt's work correlating to a number of movements occurring during his lifetime, including abstract expressionism, minimalism, and conceptualism. Born in 1913 in Buffalo, New York, Reinhardt studied at Columbia University, the National Academy of Design, and the American Artists School. He was employed by the WPA, served in the Navy, and taught at Brooklyn College before his death in 1967 in New York City. His work has been included in the collections of numerous institutions including the Tate Gallery in London, the National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C., and the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis.



David Shapiro

(American, 1944 - 2014)

David Shapiro was a New York artist best known for his textural and symbolic abstract paintings and prints. Shapiro's work was technically and conceptually influenced by Eastern culture and traditions, with many of his works produced on Japanese and Nepalese papers with subjects derived from Buddhist hand symbols (Mudra) and yoga poses (Savasan). Shapiro received degrees from Indiana University and Pratt Institute. His work is held in many public collections, including the Guggenheim Museum and the Museum of Modern Art.

Gregory Smith

(American, born 1965)

Gregory Smith is a local artist and Appalachian State alumni, currently teaching as an adjunct faculty in the Department of Art. Primarily a landscape painter, Smith's work often features regional scenes of abstracted barns and landmarks. The Turchin Center for the Visual Arts featured Smith's work in a 2007 Alumni Focus exhibition; additionally, he has exhibited in various iterations of the faculty biennial. Smith currently resides in Matney, North Carolina, where he was raised. He is represented by the Art Cellar in Banner Elk.

Ann Wilder

No known biographical information.

EXHIBITION GOALS



- + To introduce visitors to a variety of creative practices.
- + To encourage a recognition of the importance of collecting artwork at any level.
- + To appreciate the impact donors have in sharing their collection with a larger audience through their philanthropy.

Otto Neumann (1895-1975)
UNNUMBERED (ODYSSEUS, RAM)
1953

INVITATION TO CREATE



Access our Permanent Collection Online

This exhibition features artwork from the Turchin Center's Permanent Collection which consists of nearly 2,500 works of art in all media. Did you know you can access the center's entire collection digitally? You can learn more about the history of the collection and browse by media or artist at our online database, [here](#).

Curate Your Own Exhibition!

Curate your own exhibition from our Permanent Collection! Look at the images of artwork from our online Permanent Collection database. Choose a few art pieces that have a common theme or work together to tell a story. Print out or draw the art pieces you chose and cut them out. Arrange and glue the pieces on a blank piece of paper. Lastly, write a curatorial statement about your pieces.

Think about:

- How are your selected pieces similar?
- How are they different?
- What story do your selected pieces tell when they are placed together?
- What do you want visitors to learn from your exhibition?

Otto Neumann
UNNUMBERED (FIGURES)
1958

Durr, B.
883 K
1970's



BEHIND THE SCENES



BEHIND THE SCENES





THANK

YOU

FROM THE TURCHIN CENTER FOR THE VISUAL ARTS

The Turchin Center for the Visual Arts at Appalachian State University engages visitors from the university, community, nation and beyond in creating unique experiences through dynamic and accessible exhibition, education, outreach and collection programs. These programs inspire and support a lifelong engagement with the visual arts and create opportunities for participants to learn more about themselves and the world around them.

Appalachian
STATE UNIVERSITY