



SIGN POSTS

Volume 1, Issue 2, Summer 2019

The Official Online Newsletter of the Robert Henri Museum and Art Gallery



MUSEUM HAPPENINGS

We are in the closing days of the summer which also means that our hours will be changing soon. After September 30 we will go to our off season hours. That means we will be open by appointment only. Hopefully you can come and visit us before the winter sets in. We

have an upcoming reception for our Artist in Residence, Randall May, who will begin his time with us on September 8 but there is more about that later in the newsletter along with a short piece on the opera that is coming to Cozad in October and is based on the life of Robert Henri.

We are also pleased to report that *Mission to Cozad*, a wonderful program in which participants volunteer and serve the community, worked on two of our historic properties earlier

this summer. Young people painted our school house, made repairs and cleaned it and the interior of the historic church and cleared out all of the weeds around both buildings. They did a wonderful job and we are so grateful to all of them. Paulsen Inc, donated all the paint used on the project. Thank you to all who helped us maintain these historic buildings and to the adults who oversaw the projects.

Also, while we realize that it is still far off into the future, our Holidays at the Henri will be our last public event of 2019 here at the museum. So lots is happening, come and visit us and see what is new including our recent acquisition, *Macnamara*, a 1925 painting by Robrt Henri that was completed on Achill Island in Ireland.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Robert Henri Museum and Art Gallery is pleased to announce that it will be hosting its annual Artist-in-Residence from September 8, 2019 to September 22, 2019. This fall's artist, Randall May, is from Scottsbluff, Nebraska. Randall will be spending the two weeks in Cozad teaching art classes and giving demonstrations at various locations. His work will be on display at the museum. **A reception will take place at the museum on Thursday, September 12, 2019 from 5:30-7:30 pm. to honor him and we hope you will come and visit with Randall.**

May's artist's statement is as follows:

I don't think of myself as an artist. I think of myself as a visionary who expresses himself through the medium of art. It's important to me to express myself well, so I must continue to grow and develop for that to be possible. Original thoughts and ideas are key to this process. To do what has already been done, instead of just learning from it, is a tragedy for any artist or visionary. There are enough ideas from this experience of living to more than fill the creativity of one, that can be shared in a lifetime.



THE GAMBLER'S SON: THE OPERA

UNL Opera in the Glenn Korff School of Music at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln is delighted to announce the world premiere of a new opera, *The Gambler's Son*, by Tyler Goodrich White (composer) and Laura White (librettist). *The Gambler's Son* is adapted from Mari Sandoz's 1960 novel, *Son of the Gambler's Man*, which tells the true story of the founding of Cozad, Nebraska, of its larger-than-life founder, John J. Cozad, and of Cozad's son, the

illustrious American painter, Robert Henri. The opera will premiere in Cozad, Nebraska, at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, October 17th, at the Cozad High School Auditorium, 1710 Meridian Avenue, Cozad, Nebraska, to be followed by a staging at the Kimball Recital Hall at the University of Nebraska, both Friday, November 15th (7:30 p.m.) and Sunday, November 17th (3 p.m.).

The work was created with the generous support of the Wilson Foundation, the Lincoln Community Foundation, Jane Rohman, the family of Willard Bellamy, and the family of Ivan and Shirley Paulsen. The production tour to Cozad is made possible by a generous gift from the James C. and Rhonda Seacrest Tour Nebraska Opera Fund. At UNL, Tyler Goodrich White is the Professor of Music and Director of Orchestral Activities; Laura White is the John E. Weaver Professor of English. Questions about the event can be directed to Dr. William Shomos, Richard H. Larson Distinguished Professor of Music and Director of Opera, wshomos1@untdedu.

More information will be forthcoming in the next few weeks including ticket sales availability.



COLLECTION NEWS

In April an anonymous donor turned a loan of thirty Henri sketches into a permanent gift to the museum. The donor had only two requests, one that he remain anonymous and the second that they be dedicated to Jan Patterson, the museum's director from 2005-2015. Jan had made the original contacts with the donor to secure the loan. On May 5, 2019 the museum dedicated a bench in our gallery to memorialize her life as well as dedicating the sketches in her memory. This is the largest donation of Henri materials ever given to the museum at one time.

Then last month, a long time supporter of the museum, proposed that she would restore seven of those sketches as they were showing some wear and needed conservation work done to them. One of the problems was the migration of acidic materials from the original mattes onto the sketches, a problem caused by the use of mattes that had not originally been acid-free. Another issue was the fact that some of them had been framed using mattes that had not been properly sized and so parts of the sketches were not visible. Due to the generosity of both the anonymous donor and the friend of the museum, our sketches are now back from the conservator and on display again. We appreciate the generosity of the friend of the museum and our anonymous donor.

Our photo is of Marlene Geiger, our president standing next to *Macnamara* in our gallery.

MEDIA RELEASES

Media Release - Randall May

Check out our Media Releases for our museum's programs.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Museum Hours Until September 30, 2019

Tuesdays-Saturdays 10:00-5:00

After September 30, hours by Appointment

September 12, 2019 - 5:30

Reception for Randall May, Artist in Residence

The Gambler's Son - Opera

October 17, 2019, 7:30 pm, Cozad High School Auditorium

November 15 and 17, 2019, Kimball Recital Hall, University of Nebraska in Lincoln

Holiday at the Henri

December 6 and 7, 2019 - Plans to be announced

Opening of new gallery exhibit on Robert Henri



WHAT WOULD ROBERT HENRI SAY?

Art is simply a question of doing things, anything, well. When the artist is alive in any person he becomes an inventive, searching, daring, self-expressive creature. He disturbs, upsets, enlightens.

The Art Spirit

Robert Henri

(Photograph Courtesy Library of Congress)

Our newsletter's name, *Sign Posts*, comes from a phrase at the beginning of Robert Henri's *Art Spirit*. He wrote:

There are moments in our lives, there are moments in a day, when we seem to see beyond the usual. Such are the moments of our greatest happiness. Such are the moments of our greatest wisdom. If one could but recall his vision by some sort of sign. It was in this hope that the arts were invented. Sign-posts on the way to what may be. Sign-posts toward greater knowledge.



Visiting the Robert Henri Museum and Art Gallery

Open: May 1 – September 30

Tuesdays-Saturdays, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Admission

\$5 for Adults

\$2 for Children (5-18)

We accept all major credit cards

Closed on the major holidays

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