

2007
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Director's Message



With the start of the New Year we are introducing a new bi-monthly format for *InForm* with the goal of keeping members up to date on events and special offers that enhance the experience of membership in the Harn Museum of Art. The inside sheets of the publication, which describe exhibitions and programs, are being produced in large numbers for distribution within the University and Gainesville communities. The outside sheets with information of special interest to members are then added to make up the publication *InForm*, which is mailed to our members. The museum reaches far more people in a cost-efficient way with this new format. This means that we are directing more of your valuable membership dollars to the exhibitions and programming that make the Harn Museum one of the nation's top university art museums. Keep an eye out in future issues of *InForm* for special offers from the Museum Store, Camellia Court Café and further ways to enjoy your membership.

January also means the Harn Museum is opening the exhibition that has been the focus of my scholarly research since 1998 when I was a curator at the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh. *Continuity and Change: Three Generations of Ethiopian Artists*, opening Jan. 23, tells the story of modern and contemporary art in Ethiopia from the 1940s to the present, focusing on the role of the School of Fine Arts and Design in Addis Ababa. *Art of the Ethiopian Highlands*, also opening Jan. 23, provides a historical context for *Continuity and Change*. It showcases for the first time the Museum's notable collection of works created for use in Ethiopian Orthodox Christian churches. In addition, other Ethiopian objects from the collection are featured in the *African Arts of Healing and Divination* exhibition, which opens Feb. 20.

I hope you find that this new *InForm* format makes you more aware of the museum's offerings. As a member, the Harn belongs to you, and we look forward to hearing your feedback.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Martin Nagy, Ph.D.
Director



Member Travel Opportunities

Travel opportunities are an exciting new benefit of membership at the Fellow level and above. Two trips are planned this spring to New York City that feature gallery visits, art show tours with Harn curators and introductions to the world of auction buying.

Join us Feb. 22-26 for the 19th Annual Art Show organized by the Art Dealers Association of America. The concurrent Armory Show 2007 will feature new art by living artists.

We visit New York City again during Asia Week, March 23-28, for the Asian Art Fair at the Armory, auctions and private gallery tours.

For program itineraries and costs, contact Tracy Pfaff, development coordinator for membership and special events, at 352.392.9826 x154 or tpfaff@harn.ufl.edu. Trips are limited to 20 members and do not include travel arrangements to and from New York City.

Mark Your Calendar

Members pARTy

Friday, January 26 & Friday, June 22, 2007

Help us grow our membership. Bring a friend to join at the door!

Founders & Sustainers Reception

Friday, February 9, 2007

Wednesdays After Work

March 21 & June 27, 2007

Do you have a business and want to meet other local business representatives and support Harn exhibitions? Become a Business and Professional Friend and join us for quarterly Wednesdays After Work.

Mad Hatter Tea Party

Sunday, May 20, 2007

Look for information in the next issue of *InForm* about the return of this fun event. It's not too early to think about Mother's Day gifts!

Benefactors Dinner

Friday, May 25, 2007





Acquisitions

by Susan Cooksey, Harn Museum Curator of African Art

The Harn Museum recently purchased two spectacular ceramic vessels by Magdalene Odundo, one with funds from friends of the Harn Museum and the other with funds from the Caroline Julier and James G. Richardson Art Acquisition Fund. Odundo is one of the most respected ceramic artists in the world because of her exquisite craftsmanship and ability to combine technologies and ideas from ancient and historical art traditions with those of the contemporary world. Her work is informed by her background as a Kenyan-born woman who spent much of her life in England, and who has worked and studied in Asia, America, Europe and Africa. Her work is represented in private and major museum collections in North America, Britain, Europe, Asia and Africa.

The two works purchased by the Harn, *Vessel series I, no. 1* and *Vessel series I, no. 2*, both produced in 2004, were on view in the exhibition *Resonance and Inspiration: New Works by Magdalene Odundo* until Dec. 31, 2006, and are also featured in the accompanying catalogue available for purchase in the Museum Store. The two works—one a brilliant orange-red and the other black with subtle iridescent flashes—form a striking pair. Both of the symmetrical forms have dramatically flared rims, narrow necks and elegantly rounded bellies tapering downward so that they seem to pirouette gracefully on impossibly small bases. Their visual balance is impressive, as is their sculptural command of space. Yet the fact that they are perfectly balanced physically with extraordinarily thin walls is even more astonishing given that they are entirely handbuilt. The two works are important acquisitions for the museum because of their aesthetic value, and also because of their conceptual and technological relevance to the African, Asian and contemporary collections.

above (left to right):

Magdalene Odundo

Vessel Series I, no. 1, 2004, red clay, fired once, 17 3/4 x 13 in. (45 x 33 cm.)

Museum purchase, funds provided by friends of the Harn Museum

Vessel Series I, no. 2, 2004, red clay, carbonized and multi-fired, 16 1/4 x 13 3/4 in.

(41.8 x 35 cm.), museum purchase, funds provided by the Caroline Julier and James G. Richardson Art Acquisition Fund

right: Skunder Boghossian, *The End of the Beginning*, 1972, oil on canvas,

67 x 48 in. (170 x 122 cm.), Photograph by Franko Khoury

Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of African Art, Museum purchase, 91-18-2

Featured Exhibition

Continuity and Change:

Three Generations of Ethiopian Artists

January 23, 2007 - April 29, 2007

Continuity and Change: Three Generations of Ethiopian Artists tells the story of modern and contemporary art in Ethiopia from the 1940s to the present, with a focus on those artists who were and are active in Addis Ababa within the context of the political and social upheavals of 20th century Ethiopia.

The first generation of artists included in the exhibition benefited from the patronage of Emperor Haile Selassie. He supported the education of artists in foreign academies but also played a significant role in the establishment in 1957/58 of the Addis Ababa Fine Arts School where many of the same artists eventually were employed as faculty. A few of these teachers left Ethiopia in the early years of the Derg (1974-1991), the repressive Marxist regime of dictator Mengistu Haile Mariam, as did some of their students. Other members of the second generation of contemporary artists in Addis Ababa studied in Eastern Bloc countries and returned to Ethiopia to teach or pursue their careers during the Derg years. The youngest artists in the exhibition, the third generation shaped by the Addis Ababa Fine Arts School, studied and launched their careers during the 16 years of relative freedom and creative energy since the overthrow of Mengistu's government in 1991. They are central players in the vibrant and expanding art scene that characterizes Addis Ababa in the first decade of the twenty-first century.

The fully illustrated exhibition catalogue includes essays by Achamyeleh Debela, Heran Sereke-Brhan and Shiferaw Bekele, Geta Mekonnen, Rebecca Martin Nagy and Leah Niederstadt and catalogue entries by Rebecca Martin Nagy with the assistance of Jaime Baird.

Major exhibition support is provided by Northern Trust Bank with additional support from the Harn Museum's Margaret J. Early Program Endowment, Harn Program Endowment and 150th Anniversary Cultural Plaza Endowment, and the State of Florida Division of Cultural Affairs. Major support for the exhibition catalogue comes from Dr. Madelyn Lockhart, the C. Frederick and Aase B. Thompson Foundation, the John Early Publications Endowment and the University of Florida Office of Graduate Research, with additional support from individual donors.



Support the Harn Museum

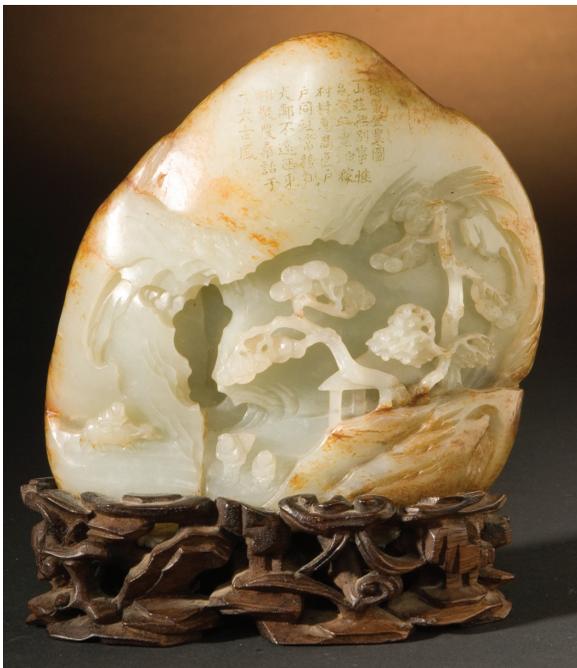
Happy New Year! Thanks to the individuals who took advantage of the IRA rollover for end of year gifts to the Harn Museum. These funds have created endowments that will have lasting impact on programming for Harn visitors. Consider the following summary and whether an IRA rollover applies to you or someone you know:

- Donor must be 70 ½ years or older
- Rollover must go to qualified charitable organization
- Distributions are allowed up to \$100,000 per individual's IRA
- Legislation allows for donations in the 2007 tax year

If you have named the Harn Museum as a beneficiary of your IRA at death, you will avoid income and estate taxes on those funds. Now, by making a lifetime gift of up to \$100,000 from the IRA, you can also avoid income tax and enjoy the true benefit of seeing those charitable dollars at work during your lifetime.

I will be happy to discuss this window of opportunity with our friends and members for whom this will be a beneficial action. We are grateful for the gifts that come in so many ways and make such a difference toward the accomplishment of the museum's goals. Think about what you would like to accomplish with your philanthropy that would be meaningful to you and the Harn Museum of Art.

Phyllis DeLaney, Director of Development
pdelaney@harn.ufl.edu



Chinese
Boulder with Landscape and Imperial Inscription
Qing Dynasty, Qianlong reign (1736-1795)
Nephrite
5 1/4 in. (13.3 cm.) high
private collection
Spinach Green and Mutton-fat White



Shop @ the Harn

Shop at the Harn Museum for a variety of books, home accessories, stationery, jewelry, games, puzzles and more for the art lover in all of us.

Shop at the Harn during the month of February and enjoy 10% off jewelry in addition to your 10% member discount.* The Harn has jewelry and gifts sure to please everyone on your Valentine's list!

*not including sale items



Valentine's Day at Camellia Court Café

Dine at the Camellia Court Café on Valentine's Day, Wednesday, Feb. 14, and enjoy a complimentary glass of champagne with any lunch or dinner purchase. The Camellia Court Café is open before all mainstage performances at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, including the performance by Academy of St. Martin in the Fields on Feb. 14 at 7:30 p.m. Call the Café at 352.392.2735 for reservations or more information.





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