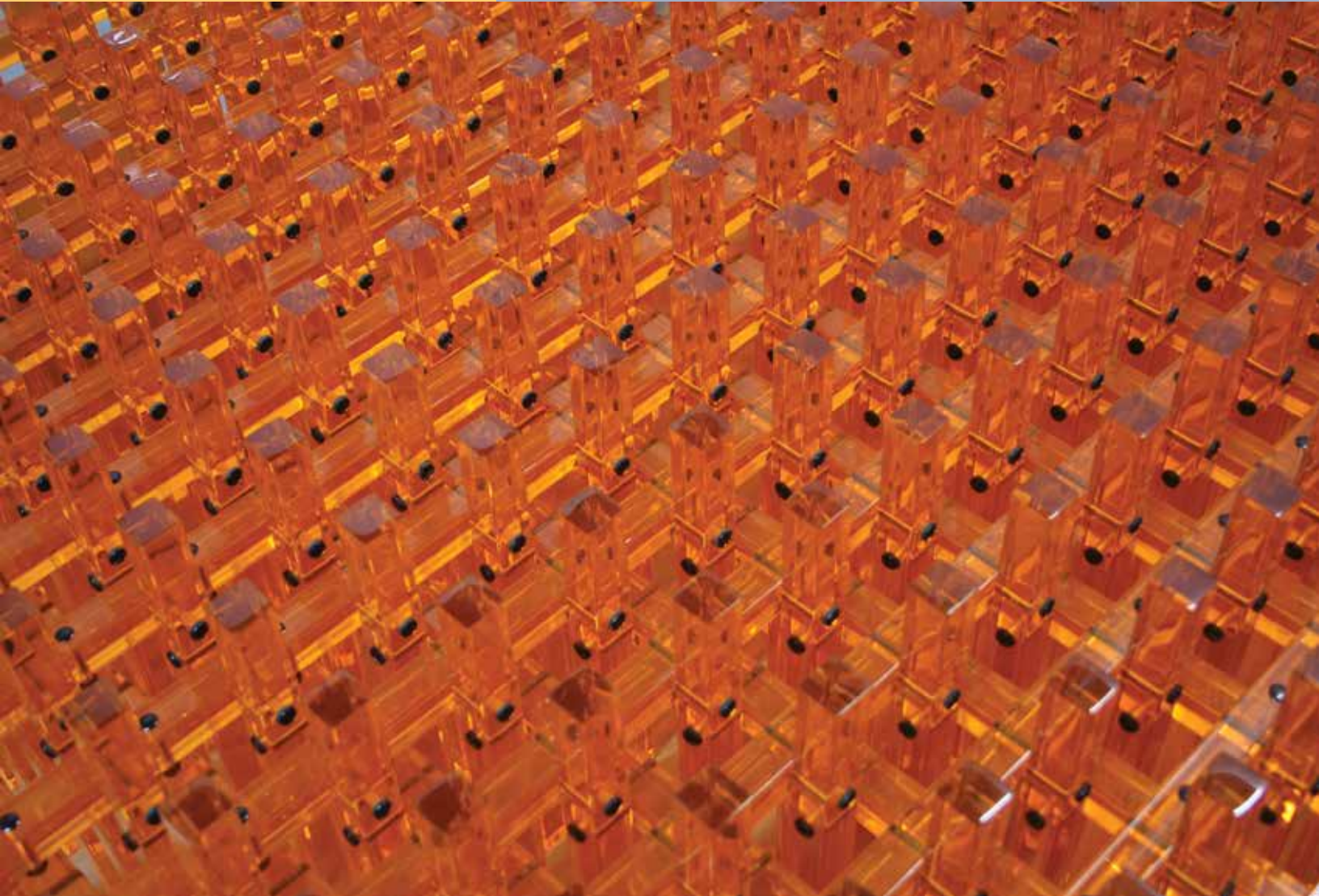


# ART words

SPRING 2017 Volume 22 | Number 2



DAVID OWSLEY  
MUSEUM OF ART

BALL  
STATE  
UNIVERSITY

## David Owsley Museum of Art

Serving East Central Indiana since 1936

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### COVER ART:

129-40 (detail), 2013

Corban Walker, Irish (born 1967)

acrylic, screw posts



## From the Director

The spring semester at the David Owsley Museum of Art features a major exhibition of global contemporary art called *SHIFT: Jongil Ma, Christopher Smith, Corban Walker*. Three international artists, the first Korean, the second American, and the third Irish, offer a display of conceptual sculpture and video art that expresses a mosaic of thoughts, emotions, and new perspectives.

On February 23, 2017, Corban Walker will present a free public lecture outlining his brilliant career, including his experience representing Ireland in the 2011 Venice Biennale. On April 20, Korean artist Jongil Ma and American artist Christopher Smith arrive in Muncie for a joint presentation of their work in the U.S. and abroad. *SHIFT's* curator Lisa A. Banner will moderate this second event. She brings a unique perspective that combines her abilities as a curator with her experience as a professor and museum board member. She advised the U.S. Ambassador to UNESCO on works of art chosen for display in the Paris residence, and has been involved in the preparation of numerous international exhibitions and scholarly discussions.

The February 23 and April 20 artist presentations will take place in the former Recital Hall, which was recently renamed the Frank C. and Elizabeth B. Ball Recital Hall on November 3, 2016. The new dedication honors David T. Owsley's maternal grandparents, who established the core of the museum's collection and funded the construction of the Fine Arts Building. Their sponsorship of the arts and artists in Muncie will be remembered for countless generations to come.

The museum will host several exciting programs in early 2017, including a jazz improvisation based on *SHIFT* in February, Final Friday events in March and April, Friday Meditation in the Museum gatherings, and Saturday docent tours throughout the semester. Please check the calendar of events for details.

Finally, the exhibition *SHIFT* opens on Inauguration Day, January 20, 2017, a day that marks a significant political shift in Washington, D.C. I want to reassure you that, despite turbulent times, the David Owsley Museum of Art continues to promote diversity and inclusion through its exhibitions, acquisitions, and programs. We believe in the value of global art and learning from world cultures. We promote tolerance, respect, and curiosity about religious differences. And we provide a safe haven for discussion and contemplation for people of all genders, races and beliefs.

I'll see you in the galleries,

Robert G. La France

January 20 – May 7, 2017

# SHIFT: Jongil Ma, Christopher Smith, Corban Walker

Guest Curator | Lisa A. Banner, PhD

## Artist Presentations:

**FIRST PERSON: Corban Walker**

Thursday, February 23 • 6 pm

Frank C. and Elizabeth B. Ball Recital Hall

**FIRST PERSON: Jongil Ma and Christopher Smith**

Thursday April 20 • 6 pm

Frank C. and Elizabeth B. Ball Recital Hall

## SHIFT

- change in emphasis, direction, or focus
- move or cause to move from one place to another
- change the position of one's body
- change gear in a vehicle
- a contemporary exhibition designed to challenge and refocus our perceptions of self and others as experienced and demonstrated by three artists who work in color with glass, Plexiglas, video, paint, and wood

A shift in mood or perspective is at once a subtle, nuanced transition and an abrupt break from what went before. It can be small and it can be dramatic. *SHIFT* presents works that explore, through the clear eyes of three artists, how we see and experience space and time as well as physical and emotional realities. Jongil Ma, Christopher Smith, and Corban Walker create in conceptual, abstract ways that alter our viewpoints about how we relate to others and the world around us. The artists each test our notions of scale and transparency by investigating the movement of light, movement of substance, and movement itself through space.

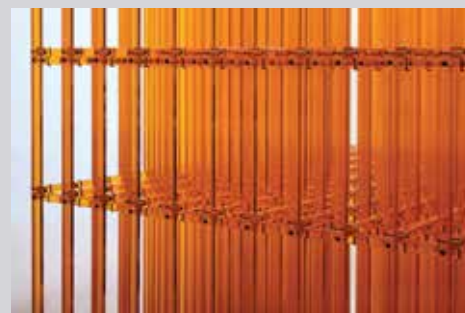
As we investigate their perspectives, we find that our own might change. We will shift in response to these works, as they require us to bend down, look up, move closer, or step back. These artists urge us to navigate space as they do: seeing figurative images differently through a blur of colored Plexiglas, for example, or, by looking up at a moving video, or looking down upon a carefully constructed sculpture made of small interchangeable and identical parts. Each of us has our own response to what we encounter, and yet the artists direct us to consider an object, or a presentation, through another lens and another form. Where we might expect to see a line, it is not simply a line, but a line with various layers, clamped into place, held tightly against the wall, an intersection.

**JONGIL MA** changes our focus from objects to emotions through conceptual explorations of containment and chaos, freedom and restriction, randomness and order. His large-scale installations and sculptures of flexible wood strips represent mind maps and tangled human relationships. His smaller-scale paintings in wood recycle his monumental installations into shadow boxes of rhythmic lines with

unexpected interruptions that represent order and control within our often-chaotic world. Jongil Ma's paintings in wood take elemental ingredients, and simple formulas, and combine them into a recognizable form. From fragments and shards of leftover colored woods, he composes an elegant whole, simply contained within a frame or box. In larger installations, Ma allows his imagination to rise and fill the space, extending beyond the containment of a frame or geometric design into a free and poetic form.



**CHRISTOPHER SMITH** makes his viewers move and mentally reconsider their physical realities. Smith offers a mesmerizing display of light and color by superimposing video images of paint and pigmented fluids flowing over glass or Plexiglas. They palpably advance toward us, impending contact, or line the wall near the floor. Like thoughts and passions, these calming, liquid displays are simultaneously material and intangible. They convey an ephemeral yet potent sense of time passing, with the constant intrusion and interruption of liquids on a physical plane. Christopher Smith's videos, projected onto Plexiglas, move us to imagine how they were made and what prompted the rush of sensual energy that comes from watching them.



**CORBAN WALKER** creates sculptures in relation to his own proportions, challenging the viewer to see the world through relationship to the body and the physical dimension or limitation that imposes upon us.

Like Leonardo da Vinci's Vitruvian Man, he takes the measurements and proportions of the body as the starting point in creating gestures and sculptures. His titles often refer to physical measurements of his own body. Walker looks at the construction of places, for example the construction of buildings, and then interprets them in transparent and clear materials. A series of ambidextrous drawings by Walker, spontaneously made with both hands, allow the viewer to see how symmetry on both sides results from an amazingly rich imagination. In *SHIFT*, Walker will create an ambidextrous drawing on the gallery wall to demonstrate both creative and focused energies and leave a record of the effort of his physical gesture. —RGL

LEFT: *Floating in Blue Space*, 2015  
Jongil Ma, mixed media

TOP RIGHT: *Cutting In*, 2011  
Christopher Smith, video

BOTTOM RIGHT: *Observation (detail)*, 2012  
Corban Walker, acrylic, screw posts

■ **Interpretive Assistance**  
Most Saturdays | 1:30 pm

■ **Docent's Choice**  
Most Saturdays | 2:30 pm

*Docents select art and a theme in the galleries noted below. Meet in the Sculpture Court.*

- **February 4**  
Renaissance and Early Baroque European Art
- **February 11**  
European 17th Century Art
- **February 18**  
Rococo and Neoclassical European Art of the Burkhardt Gallery
- **February 25**  
19th Century American Art of the Ball Brothers Foundation Gallery

*No tours on March 4 and 11 during BSU Spring Break*

- **March 18**  
19th Century European Art of the Ball Brothers Foundation Gallery
- **March 25**  
20th Century European and American Art of the Ball Brothers Foundation Gallery
- **April 1**  
Contemporary European and American Art of the Ball Brothers Foundation Gallery
- **April 8**  
**SHIFT: Jongil Ma, Christopher Smith, Corban Walker**
- **April 15**  
Decorative Arts of the Pruis Gallery
- **April 22**  
Contemporary Craft of the Bohanon Gallery
- **April 29**  
Art of the Harper Family Sculpture Court

▼  
\$90 for Alliance members, \$115 for Friends members (includes Alliance membership, a special museum membership group), or \$140 (includes Alliance and DOMA Friends memberships) Admission, lunch, and transportation included. See the DOMA website for further details.

# CALENDAR of

## JANUARY

**11** Wednesday | 10:30 am

### Alliance Museum Trip

#### ***Titan of the West: The Adams Collection of Western and Native American Art***

Members and friends will tour, with key curators, the most important collection donated to the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art, and then enjoy a special lunch with the Alliance on-site.

*\$25 per Alliance member and guests. Includes admission, tour, and lunch. Transportation is not provided.*

**12** Thursday | 3:30 pm

### Docent Information Meeting

Education staff will introduce the Docent Learning Program for prospective docents from the community and campus.

*Fine Arts Building, AR 223*

**16** Monday

**Museum closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

**20** Friday (through Sunday, May 7)

### Exhibition Opens

#### ***SHIFT: Jongil Ma, Christopher Smith, Corban Walker***

Curated by Lisa A. Banner

A contemporary, non-representational, conceptual sculpture exhibition designed to challenge and refocus our perceptions of self and other as experienced and demonstrated by three artists who work with color, glass, Plexiglas, video, paint, and wood.

## FEBRUARY

**3** Friday | 6 pm

(Inclement weather date: Friday, February 10, 6 pm)

### Music in the Museum:

#### ***SHIFTing Rhythm, Emerging Sounds***

Jazz pianist Jim Rhinehart explores the current exhibition *SHIFT* and the contemporary art of Jongil Ma, Christopher Smith, and Corban Walker with musical improvisations.

*Sculpture Court*

**8** Wednesday | Noon

### Alliance Luncheon & Program

#### **Pre-Columbian Art and the Creation of a National Identity in Mexico's Modern Period**

Dr. Michelle Duran, Assistant Professor of Art History at Ball State University, will discuss the influence of Pre-Columbian art on the development of early 20th century modern Mexican art.

*Alumni Center*

*First-time guests free; \$18 for Alliance members\**

**18** Saturday | 9:30 am–4:30 pm

**Extended hours**

**23** Thursday | 5 pm

**First Person: Corban Walker**

**Reception • 5 pm**

**Presentation • 6 pm**

**SHIFT Open for Viewing • 7–8 pm**

Irish artist Corban Walker discusses and illustrates his signature installations and drawings that confront common notions of scale and substance, and earned him the prestigious role of representing his country in the 2011 Venice Biennale.

*looking ahead...*

## MAY

**6** Saturday

**Ball State University Graduation**

Museum closed

**10** Wednesday | 8 am–5 pm

**Visit the Westcott House in Springfield, Ohio**

See the 1908 Frank Lloyd Wright-designed, Prairie Style house outside of Dayton. After appreciating the architecture, enjoy lunch at the Seasons Bistro and Grille followed by a tour of the Springfield Art Museum.

## Art in Bloom 2017

**19** Friday | 5 pm

**Art in Bloom Fundraiser**

*Frank C. and Elizabeth B. Ball Recital Hall*

*For event and ticket information visit*

*bsu.edu/artmuseum*

**20–21** Saturday–Sunday

**1:30–4:30 pm**

**Art in Bloom Exhibition**

*Free admission*

**29** Monday

**Museum closed for Memorial Day**

# EVENTS *spring*

■ **Meditation  
in the Museum**

Most Fridays | 3:30 pm

## MARCH

**4 Saturday–12 Sunday**

**Museum closed for BSU Spring Break**  
Museum offices staffed March 6–10

**8 Wednesday | Noon**

**Alliance Luncheon & Program  
Image Maker and Sculptor**

Jessica Calderwood, Associate Professor of Metals and Jewelry at Ball State University will present her work and share related thoughts about sculpture and decorative arts in the DOMA collection.

*Frank C. and Elizabeth B. Ball Recital Hall*

*First-time guests free;*

*\$18 for Alliance members\**

**24 Friday | 6–9 pm**

**(Almost) Final Friday: Identity**

Emcees Braydee Euliss and Faith Kellermeyer introduce PechaKucha talks related to the night's theme that highlight what is creative and cool about the area. Stay to enjoy music by DJ Janell, refreshments, cash bar, an artist demonstration, art, and more.

*Frank C. and Elizabeth B. Ball Recital Hall*



## APRIL

**12 Wednesday | Noon**

**Alliance Luncheon & Program  
Virtuous Women in Western Art**

Dr. Heather McCune Bruhn, Instructor of Art History, Penn State University, will focus on images of virtuous women in the David Owsley Museum of Art collection from early ancient to early modern art.

*Alumni Center*

*First-time guests free; \$18 for Alliance members\**

**20 Thursday**

**First Person:**

**Jongil Ma and Christopher Smith**

**Reception • 5 pm**

**Presentation • 6 pm**

**SHIFT Open for Viewing • 7–8 pm**

In this joint presentation, moderated by curator Lisa A. Banner, conceptual artists Jongil Ma and Christopher Smith explain their abstract sculpture with images and a short film about their work in venues as diverse as Poland, South Korea, and New York.

*Frank C. and Elizabeth B. Ball Recital Hall*

**24 Friday | 6–9 pm**

**Final Friday: Perception**

Emcees Braydee Euliss and Faith Kellermeyer introduce PechaKucha talks related to the night's theme that highlight what is creative and cool about the area. Stay to enjoy music by DJ Janell, refreshments, cash bar, an artist demonstration, art, and more.

*Frank C. and Elizabeth B. Ball Recital Hall*

## REQUESTING ACCOMMODATION

Two-weeks advance notice is requested to reserve an individual program or accessibility services. When requesting an accessibility service, please specify the mode of communication required (e.g., for sign language: ASL, PSE, or Signed English).

- For visitors who are blind or have low vision, we offer docent-led tours.
- Sign language interpreters can be made available for tours, public programs, or evening lectures with advance notice.
- Visit [www.bsu.edu/artmuseum/accessibility](http://www.bsu.edu/artmuseum/accessibility) for more information.

To reserve a tour or for more information contact the David Owsley Museum of Art between 8 am and 5 pm, Monday through Friday, 765-285-3371.

- **February 3:** Coloring your stress away with the Counseling Center
- **February 10:** Meditation as the 4th state of consciousness with Dr. George Wolfe
- **February 17:** Showing yourself some loving-kindness with the Counseling Center
- **February 24:** Entering the state of non-desire with Dr. George Wolfe

*No Meditation in the Museum on Fridays March 3 and 10 during BSU Spring Break*

- **March 17:** Tuning-in and tuning-out: intentionally disconnecting from technology with the Counseling Center
- **March 24:** The heart and the experience of surrender with Dr. George Wolfe
- **March 31:** Guided meditation for a mindful morning with the Counseling Center
- **April 7:** The role of thoughts in meditation with Dr. George Wolfe
- **April 14:** Being present, supportive, and connected with others with the Counseling Center
- **April 21:** Awakening your faculties of insight and realization with Dr. George Wolfe
- **April 28:** Meditations for success with the Counseling Center

*Some seating provided. A towel or cushion is recommended if needed.*

Join the Friends of DOMA with a minimum contribution of \$25 at:  
[bsu.edu/artmuseum](http://bsu.edu/artmuseum) link  
“Giving to the Museum”  
or call 765-285-5242.

- \* The cost to join the David Owsley Museum of Art Alliance starts at \$50 (\$25 for Friends members).

If you wish to attend an Alliance meeting, contact Sandra McCallister at 765-284-1428. All are welcome.

Programs, correct at press time, are subject to change without notice. Call ahead to confirm at 765-285-5242.

All programs are free unless otherwise noted.

## JUNE

**1 Thursday** (through Friday, September 1)

**Exhibition Opens**

**Engaging Technology II**

Curated by John Fillwalk

This exhibition represents a selection of contemporary artists who explore the intersections of art, science, and technology, including interactive installations, mobile applications, projection mapping, code as art, and other emergent forms.

## JULY

**4 Tuesday**

**Museum closed for Independence Day**



## SHIFT: Getting to Know the ARTISTS



**Jongil Ma** is the son of a farmer and grew up working with his hands, carving and making things with wood of all kinds. After leaving a career in business and accounting, in 2002 he completed his BFA at the School of Visual Arts in New York. In 2010, Ma was invited to the Lodz Biennale in Poland and created *Flexibility, Talking About Harder Than Rigidity*, with trees and hardwood found near the exhibition venue. He continues to show work internationally in solo and group exhibitions, such as the 2009 International Incheon Women Artist's Biennale in Korea. Ma showed in 2010 at the first Artists in the Marketplace (AIM) Biennial held at The Bronx Museum of the Arts, at Randall's Island, and at Socrates Sculpture Park. He is a frequent collaborator with other artists in both solo and group exhibitions on the international scene. His many awards have included the INC Visual Arts Award from the AHL Foundation, a Fellowship from Socrates Sculpture Park, and a 2012 grant from the Pollock Krasner Foundation.



**Christopher Smith** lives and works in New York. In 2011 he showed *Cutting In* at the first AIM Biennial held at The Bronx Museum of the Arts. In 2012, *Underbody* debuted at F18 Launch space in Tribeca, and has since been shown in several other New York venues. Smith was featured in an interview in the 2013 Lincoln Motors series, entitled *Hello Again: Painting with Video*. Smith's *Migration* (2008/2013) video was chosen in 2014 for the Paris residence of the U.S. Ambassador to UNESCO and, later that year, he created a satellite installation project at Prospect 3+ Biennial in New Orleans. A feature of Smith's work is to mask the hand of the maker, to let the paint do the work and reveal itself. YouTube videos taken during a California residency only enhance the mystery of his process, where Smith quietly encourages viewers to watch the paint and not the wizard behind the scene.



**Corban Walker** was born in Dublin and represented Ireland at the Venice Biennale of 2011. Walker has held numerous international residencies, most recently at the Centre Culturel Irlandais in Paris, France, and previously at the Museum of Glass in Tacoma, Washington. Focused on scale and architectural constructs, Walker also examines the creation of new ways to navigate space in his installations, sculpture, and drawings. His work is included in the collections of the Guggenheim Museum, New York, and the Irish Museum of Modern Art, Dublin, among many others. Walker's sculpture is currently on view at The Royal Ulster Academy in Ulster and also at the LAB Gallery in Dublin, in an exhibition entitled *A Different Republic*, co-curated by Arts & Disability Ireland and Fire Station Artists' Studios in partnership with the LAB Gallery. *A Different Republic* explores universal human rights in a year of commemorations: the centenary of the 1916 Easter Rising and 20-year anniversary of the report of the Irish government Commission on the Status of People with Disabilities, *A Strategy for Equality*. — LAB



## Educational Impact: School Groups and DOMA

Over 3,000 students and teachers from 28 Indiana K-12 schools visited DOMA last year and the demand for school tours continues to rise. Some of these schools are in Delaware County while others, such as Manchester Intermediate School in Wabash County, are more than an hour's drive from campus.

School groups often visit multiple venues at Ball State, all of which offer free admission, including the Charles Brown Planetarium, Christy Woods, the Rinard Orchid Greenhouse, and DOMA. Teachers and administrators genuinely appreciate offering students a low or no cost field trip.

Tours for school groups are customized to meet teachers' specific objectives while also addressing relevant grade-level curriculum standards. For example, fourth grade teachers tend to favor Native American art tours, while sixth grade classes often request a tour of European Renaissance art.

When asked why she brings students to DOMA each semester, Theresa Russell, art teacher at Eastbrook High School in Marion, shared the following, "I think the benefit is that many of them realize that art is very much alive and interesting. The impact is so different for individual students, some begin to think about the possibility of getting a degree in art, for some it may just be the first time they have visited a college campus and it opens their eyes to furthering their education."

If you would like to see DOMA's school program continue and grow with your financial support, contact Robert La France, director, or Tania Said, director of education, at 765-285-5242 to discuss the possibilities. — CB

## Final Fridays Bring Community Together

This year will mark three years of Final Fridays at the David Owsley Museum of Art. While the evening includes an artist demonstration, live DJ music, personalized poetry and sketches, and a cash bar with refreshments, the focus is PechaKucha and building community.

Part of an international network of hundreds of PechaKucha nights, DOMA showcases unexpected people and talent relating to a particular theme as creative inspiration for new audiences. Presenters are allowed 20 slides displayed for 20 seconds each, resulting in less than seven minutes to present the essence of their creative project or passion.

"Final Fridays provide an accessible, relaxed atmosphere for people to share ideas, build connections, and take in DOMA's expansive permanent collection and special exhibitions. I think this is a gem of a resource for our community and I'm thrilled to serve as the new co-curator and PechaKucha emcee," said Faith Kellermeyer, project manager of We're Trying Collective, who joins founding host Braydee Euliss, gallery manager of Gordy Fine Arts and Framing.

Kara Duquette, a regular attendee who also works for the BSU Office of Entrepreneurial Learning shared, "I am so pleased to see the growth of the Muncie arts community over the last eight years. I was born in Muncie, and when I graduated from high school, I left the city to attend the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. As an artist involved in the local arts scene, it is truly inspiring to see the Muncie community and Ball State University working together to advance our common goals for the benefit and enrichment of the community. For me it is a dream come true to be a part of this dynamic partnership.

If you would like to see Final Fridays continue to flourish with your financial support, click on the "Giving" link at [bsu.edu/artmuseum](http://bsu.edu/artmuseum). — TS



2021 W. Riverside Avenue  
Muncie, IN 47306  
[bsu.edu/artmuseum](http://bsu.edu/artmuseum)

SPRING 2017  
Volume 22 | Number 2  
Museum Hours  
Monday–Friday  
9:00 am–4:30 pm  
Saturday & Sunday  
1:30 pm–4:30 pm

765-285-5242  
FREE ADMISSION

Parking in the McKinley Avenue  
garage between Riverside  
and University Avenues



A newsletter for Friends of the



Muncie, IN 47306-0420

## In this Issue

The contemporary, conceptual art exhibition *SHIFT* opens in late January accompanied by free, international artist presentations in February and April. See the exciting calendar of events, including a major jazz improvisation at the museum in February. Get to know the *SHIFT* artists Jongil Ma, Christopher Smith, and Corban Walker. Learn about school group visits to DOMA, Final Fridays events, and much more.



***Constructive Construction*, 1937**  
Mainie Harriet Jellett, Irish (1897–1944)  
oil on canvas  
Gift of David T. Owsley

## New in the Galleries

# Constructive Construction

In the 1920s, Irish painter, stage designer, writer, and lecturer Mainie Jellett developed an abstract, Cubist style while studying in Paris with the painters André Lhoté and Albert Gleizes. Jellett then returned to Ireland, where she was a leader in the Modernist art movement. In 1943 she chaired the first annual Irish Exhibition of Living Art, which featured avant-garde art for fifty years.

Jellett's paintings carefully balance color and form into harmonious and rhythmic compositions. She sought to reveal the essential, spiritual nature of figures and objects by translating them into curved shapes and adapting the hues and geometric forms of Celtic art.

Although purchased for the museum in 2013, *Constructive Construction* was not shown until a recent conservation treatment addressed old damage to the painted frame. It is now exhibited as part of a greater effort to display outstanding work by women artists throughout the galleries.

— RGL