

SPENCER MUSEUM OF ART

THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

For immediate release

***Summer in the Central Court* celebrates season with selection of summer-inspired objects**

June 17—August 6, 2006

SMA Central Court

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Lawrence, KS—This summer in the Central Court, the Spencer brings the outside – in. Organized by Kate Meyer, curatorial assistant in the department of prints & drawings, *Summer in the Central Court* will transform the walls of the museum's primary gathering space to showcase selections from the permanent collection related to the sights and activities common to summer.

Each corner of the court will be devoted to a different theme, visually dominated by one or two large-scale pieces. "Summer Gatherings" considers the social events, such as family reunions, picnics, and trips to the beach or the fair that fill our summer calendars and features Fairfield Porter's painting, *July*. "Summer Growth" examines the landscape of summer, particularly with its rural associations in this part of the country. Wheat harvest scenes and Lisa Grossman's *86 Bends of the Kaw* comprise this section. Tal Streeter's enormous Japanese-inspired kite, *Flying Red Line* presents one of several forms of "Summer Entertainment." The leaves, fruits, and blossoms of summer provide formal cues for Rose Kretsinger's *Paradise Garden* or *The Garden quilt*, and Christina Hays Malcom's *Sunflower quilt* in our section devoted to "Summer Patterns." Beat the heat and enjoy art inspired by summer at the Spencer!

Artists and works on view in ***Summer in the Central Court*** are listed below by thematic section.

Summer Growth

Lisa Grossman, *86 Bends of the Kaw*, 2004; Terry Evans *Tractor and Combine, June 22, 1990*; Thomas Hart Benton, *Threshing*, 1941; Thomas Willoughby Nason, *Summer Storm*, 1940; Grant Wood, *Approaching Storm*, 1940.

Summer Patterns

Rose Frances Good Kretsinger, *Paradise Garden or The Garden quilt*, 1946; Christina Hays Malcom, *Sunflower quilt*, 1884; Currier & Ives, Publisher, *Fruits of the Garden*, 1871; Anna Atkins, *Robinia pseud-acacia America*, circa 1851-1854; Louis Lozowick, *Sunflowers*, 1957; Denise Low and Linda Samson Talleur, *Quiltmaker*, 1984, *Flower Garden quilt*, 1984, from *Quilting*.

Summer Entertainment

Tal Streeter, *Flying Red Line*, 1972; Jeff Brouws, *Twelve Drive-Ins I*, 2005; Tom Huck, *Playland: The Great Sharkburger Shortage of '95*, 1999, from *2 Weeks in August: 14 Rural Absurdities*; Dr. Harold Eugene Edgerton, *Water Ballet from Underwater*, mid-late 1900s; Joseph Judd Pennell, *Jack Guddy, Baseball Parade*, 1896.

Summer Gathering

Fairfield Porter, *July*, 1971; Earl Iversen, *Kansas State Fair*, 1977-1978; Tony Ray-Jones, *Fourth of June, Eton*, 1967; W. Eugene Smith, *untitled*, 1958, from *Silver Lake*; Weegee, *Coney Island Beach, 4 p.m., July 28, 1940*, circa 1940.

Programming: *Summer in the Central Court*

All events are FREE and open to the public unless otherwise noted (\$).

GALLERY TALK / Central Court

June 29 / Kate Meyer, exhibition organizer / 5:30 PM

FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Family Day: July 30, 1-3 PM / SMA Central Court & Galleries

Children's Art Appreciation classes / 10:30 AM & 1:30 PM / \$ / Pre-registration required / Contact Karen Gerety, education department, at 785.864.0137, kcgerety@ku.edu

- June 17 / "Art in Nature" / Learn about landscapes and the *Summer* exhibition and paint a small tempera outside.
- July 22 / "Summer Patterns" / Learn about works of art in the *Summer* exhibition and create sun-printed images to put in a quilt block.

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Spencer Museum of Art

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Also find the Spencer...

- On the Web: www.spencerart.ku.edu
- E-mail: spencerart@ku.edu

Gallery hours

Tues., Wed., Fri., & Saturday 10 AM—5 PM
Thurs. 10 AM—9 PM
Sun. Noon—5 PM
Closed Monday

Museum Shop closes 30 minutes before the galleries close.

- Free parking in Lot 91 after 5 PM on weekdays and all day weekends, excepting home football games.
- Parking garage adjacent to Kansas Union is \$1 per hour weekdays, free on Saturdays and Sundays (but unavailable on home football games).