

John Steuart Curry



John Stuart Curry

A Retrospective Exhibition
of his work
held in the
Kansas State Capitol, Topeka
October 3-November 3, 1970

Organized by
The University of Kansas
Museum of Art

Supported by
The Kansas Cultural Arts
Commission

FOREWORD

Permission to hold a retrospective exhibition of the work of Kansas artist John Steuart Curry in the State Capitol building, the site of Curry's most important mural project, was granted by the Honorable Robert B. Docking, Governor of Kansas. To Governor Docking and his staff we wish to express our deepest appreciation. We are especially indebted to State Architect William R. Hale and Staff Architect Robert Houghland for their expert assistance in planning the exhibition installation.

We wish to acknowledge the gracious cooperation of Mrs. John Steuart Curry and her daughter and son-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. Daniel Schuster, without whose help this undertaking would have been impossible.

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We also gratefully acknowledge the generous assistance of the Kansas Cultural Arts Commission, Mr. Martin Umansky, President, Mrs. Ruth Browne, Vice President, Mr. Louis Sosland, Secretary Treasurer, Mr. Maurice D. Coats, Executive Director and Commission members Mrs. Maxine Anton, Mr. Robert O. Blunk, Jr., Mrs. Norma P. Bullene, Mrs. Camilla L. Cave, Mrs. Marilyn M. Ebersole, Mrs. Mildred Foster, Mrs. Pegge M. Missal, Mrs. Margaret Steineger.

To those individuals and institutions, listed on the following page, who have lent Curry works from their collections, we are also most grateful.

CATALOGUE

The following works are listed in approximate chronological order although the exhibition is not installed according to the catalogue sequence. Dimensions are given in inches, height before width.

1. *Self Portrait*, 1925-29
oil on canvas
36 by 30 inches
Lent by Mr. Walter D. Howard
2. *Hogs Killing a Rattlesnake*, 1925
watercolor
14½ by 19½ inches
University of Kansas Museum of Art
3. *Negro Head*, 1927
oil on canvas
24 by 18 inches
Lent Anonymously
4. *Baptism in Kansas*, 1928
oil on canvas
40 by 50 inches
Lent by the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
5. *Bathers*, 1928
oil on canvas
30 by 40 inches
Lent Anonymously
6. *The Stockman*, 1929
oil on canvas
52 by 40 inches
Lent by the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York
7. *Roadmenders Camp*, 1929
oil on canvas
40⅛ by 52 inches
Lent by the F. M. Hall Collecton, University of Nebraska, Lincoln
8. *Salvation is the Rock*
oil on canvas
24 by 20 inches
9. *Sun Dogs*, 1930
oil on canvas
29½ by 37½ inches
Lent by Kansas State University
(First Curry painting purchased by public subscription for a state institution)
10. *Hogs Killing a Rattlesnake*, 1930
oil on canvas
30 3/8 by 38 5/16 inches
Lent by the Art Institute of Chicago
11. *Stallion and Jack*, 1930
watercolor
22¼ by 27 inches
Gift of Paul Gardner, Esq., through the Friends of Art, Collection of the William Rockhill Nelson Gallery of Art
12. *High Diver*, 1930
oil on canvas
45 by 30 inches
13. *Manhunt*, 1931
oil on canvas
30 by 40 inches
14. *Kansas Threshing*, 1932
watercolor
15 by 21 inches

15. *Circus Crowd*, 1932
oil on panel
21 by 31 inches
16. *The Great Wallendas*, 1932
oil on panel
18 by 24 inches
17. *The Flying Codonas*, 1932
Tempera and oil
36 by 30 inches
Lent by the Whitney Museum of
American Art, New York
18. *Portrait of Grant Wood*, 1933
black crayon
30 by 24 inches
19. *Osage Orange*, 1934
oil and tempera on panel
40 by 30 inches
20. *Sunset*, 1934
oil and tempera on panel
20 by 26 inches
21. *Storm over the Missouri*, ca. 1934
oil on canvas
30 by 40 inches
22. *The Line Storm*, 1934
oil and tempera on panel
31½ by 52 inches
Lent by Mr. Walter D. Howard
23. *Hen and Hawk*, 1934
oil on canvas
26 by 19½ inches
Lent by Mrs. C. M. Gooch
24. *Sunrise*, 1934
oil on canvas
37½ by 59 inches
25. *The Mississippi*, 1935
tempera on canvas
36 by 47½ inches
Lent by the City Art Museum
of St. Louis
26. *Tourist Court*, ca. 1936
oil on canvas
16 by 36 inches
27. *The Rainbow*, 1936
gouache
12¾ by 20 inches
Lent by the Elvehjem Art Center,
University of Wisconsin, Madison
28. *Self Portrait*, 1937
oil on canvas
36 by 30 inches
29. *Flora*, 1937
tempera and oil on panel
20 by 16½ inches
Lent Anonymously
30. *Cat and Butterfly*, 1935-38
oil on canvas
31 by 35 inches
Lent Anonymously
31. *Stallion*, 1937
oil on canvas
20 by 36 inches
University of Kansas
Museum of Art
32. *Tragic Prelude I*, 1938
(sketch for the completed Topeka
murals) oil on canvas
26½ by 48 inches
University of Kansas
Museum of Art
Gift of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Burt,
Hutchinson, Kansas

33. *Corn and Wheat Panels of the Rotunda*, 1938
(sketch for the unexecuted Topeka murals) oil on canvas
36 by 48 inches
University of Kansas
Museum of Art
Gift of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Burt, Hutchinson, Kansas
34. *Kansas Pastorale II*, 1938
(sketch for the completed Topeka murals) oil on canvas
26½ by 37 inches
University of Kansas
Museum of Art
Gift of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Burt, Hutchinson, Kansas
35. *Kansas Pastorale I*, 1938
(sketch for the completed Topeka murals) oil on canvas
26½ by 43½ inches
University of Kansas
Museum of Art
Gift of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Burt, Hutchinson, Kansas
36. *The Rotunda Panels*, 1938
(sketch for the unexecuted Topeka murals) oil on canvas
29½ by 47½ inches
University of Kansas
Museum of Art
Gift of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Burt, Hutchinson, Kansas
37. *Tragic Prelude II*, 1938
(sketch for the completed Topeka murals) oil on canvas
26½ by 37 inches
University of Kansas
Museum of Art
38. *Parade to War*, 1939
oil on canvas
40 by 56 inches
39. *The Return of Private Davis*, 1928-1940
oil on canvas
47 by 62 inches
Lent by the Alonzo Cudworth Post No. 23, The American Legion, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
40. *John Brown*, 1939
oil on canvas
69 by 45 inches
Lent by the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, New York, A. H. Hearn Fund Purchase
41. *Wisconsin Still Life*, 1940
oil on canvas
44⅜ by 29½ inches
42. *Summer Still Life*, 1940
oil and tempera on canvas
36 by 48 inches
43. *Wisconsin Landscape*, 1940
(preliminary study)
oil on canvas, 20 by 32 inches
Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Chris L. Christensen, Tulsa, Oklahoma
44. *The Death of Beauty*, ca. 1940
watercolor
41 by 28 inches
45. *Wisconsin Landscape*, 1940
oil and tempera on panel
Lent by the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

46. *Portrait of Chris L. Christensen*,
1941
oil on canvas
72 by 48 inches
Collection of the University of
Wisconsin, College of Agriculture
47. *Riven Oak*, 1943
Oil on panel
37 by 24 inches
48. *The Valley of the Wisconsin*,
1943-44
49. *Portrait of Dr. Oskar Hagen*, 1944
oil on canvas
48 by 38 inches
50. *Lake Superior*, 1945
oil on canvas
40 by 52 inches
51. *Self-Portrait*, 1946
oil on canvas
29 by 23½ inches