

An Abundant Legacy: Celebrating the UAMA Collections

Celebrating a half-century of change and growth at the University of Arizona Museum of Art, **An Abundant Legacy** highlights the instrumental vision of our directors and the generosity of our patrons who have together made the holdings so extraordinary. The exhibition surveys the story of the collections — one of collaboration and shared vision, private passions and public commitment, gifts of extraordinary largesse in perpetuity, and single irreplaceable gems.

Organized chronologically by directorship, the exhibition highlights major gifts and acquisitions to reveal the myriad relationships — local, national and international; individual, and institutional — that are instrumental in sustaining, enriching, and promoting the Museum as a resource for Tucson's communities and the world at large.



Charles Guerin, 2006

In the Mezzanine Gallery

Featured here is a selection of important works entered into the collections since 2000, honoring the ongoing tenure of Mr. Charles A. Guerin, who assumed the position of Executive Director in July of that year.

Trained in studio arts (MA/MFA Northern Illinois University, 1973/1974), Mr. Guerin brought long experience — as fine printmaker and painter, exhibition designer, curator, and museum director — to his role at the University of Arizona. In his prior position as Executive Director of the University of Wyoming Museum of Art, he spearheaded the development and realization of a new 50,000 square foot museum facility, implemented exhibitions and programs to utilize the collections, cultivated a national network of donors and patrons, and guided the institution into a new era of innovative programming which continues to this day.

At UAMA, Mr. Guerin has been instrumental in providing greater public awareness of the Museum of Art within the campus community and throughout Tucson. He initiated an aggressive acquisitions program to strengthen the collections, securing numerous outstanding gifts, and purchasing exceptional historic, modern and contemporary works of art. The collections have grown by nearly 400 works during his tenure. He has dramatically increased the number of annual exhibitions and created an exhibition program designed to attract new and diverse audiences to the museum. He has strengthened ties with the School of Art and with the entire academic community, and he has led the University's Public Art program to achieve new levels of excellence by pooling available funds and commissioning artists of national stature to provide new works for the campus.

Through work with the community, on campus and off, Mr. Guerin developed the National Advisory Council and expanded the endowment. He secured the Museum's 2006 reaccreditation through the American Association of Museums and initiated the digitization of the collection and the implementation of a state of the art collection management system.

In recognition of the extraordinary contributions of each of the Museum's former directors and of the strength of the collections they developed, Mr. Guerin has aggressively pursued fundraising for the planning of the Museum of Art's proposed move to a much larger and more accessible new facility as well as for the creation of the Museum's new venture, The Archive of the Visual Arts, in that new facility.