

Mead Art Museum
at Amherst College
Spring 2020



Amherst College

Mead
Art Museum

Exhibitions

On View at the Mead Art Museum

The Best Impressions: Inside the Edward C. Crossett Collection of Prints

This exhibition centers on one of the formative collections of the Mead Art Museum: the gift of more than 2,000 prints to the museum made by Edward C. Crossett (Class of 1905) in 1951.

February 11–July 26, 2020
Daniels Gallery, Mead Art Museum

Embodied Taste

Explore art that takes food, in all its complexities, as a starting point, and see how collaborations, connections, sensual experiences, and stories are consumed every time you take a bite. This exhibition was organized by students enrolled in "Eat! An Exhibition Seminar at the Mead," a course led by Amy C. Hall, Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology, and Emily Potter-Ndiaye, Dwight and Kirsten Poler & Andrew W. Mellon Head of Education and Curator of Academic Programs.

Through July 26, 2020
Collins Gallery, Mead Art Museum

Rotherwas Project 5: Christopher Myers, The Red Plague Rid You for Learning Me Your Language

The year 1611 gave birth to the Mead's walnut-paneled Rotherwas Room and William Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. Inspired by this historical convergence, Myers presents an installation of contemporary sculptures, textiles, and boats that question why the figure of the "wildman" appears again and again in literature and arts from the twelfth century to the present day.

Through March 15, 2020
Rotherwas Room, Mead Art Museum

Starting Something New: Recent Contemporary Acquisitions and Gifts

Drawn from museum purchases and an extraordinary recent gift of 172 contemporary artworks from an anonymous donor, this exhibition builds on the Mead's first and most comprehensive contemporary art exhibition, presented in fall 2019. Spanning four decades, from the 1980s to 2019, the exhibition highlights how artists experiment with media and use historical events, ideas, and images to address current politics and the nature of art.

February 11–July 26, 2020
Fairchild and Arms Galleries, Mead Art Museum

Ten Years of Trinkett Clark Memorial Student Acquisitions

This exhibition celebrates the first decade of artwork added to the Mead's collection through the generosity of the Trinkett Clark Memorial Fund. Established in 2008 in honor of Trinkett Clark, a former curator of American art at the Mead, the fund sponsors the annual purchase of a print selected by Amherst College students.

February 11–July 26, 2020
Bassett Gallery, Mead Art Museum

On View at the Amherst Center for Russian Culture Art Gallery: One Work, One Scholar: Masterworks from the Thomas P. Whitney Collection of Russian Art

Close looking and scholarship are the focus of this exhibition, which invites four internationally renowned experts to discuss four key artworks in the Thomas P. Whitney (Class of 1937) Russian Art Collection. Each month, from February through May, an invited scholar explores a selected work on view in the Amherst Center for Russian Culture (ACRC) Art Gallery. The research and essays produced as a result of this event will lay the groundwork for a major exhibition of Russian art at the Mead Art Museum and the ACRC in the fall of 2022.

January 13–July 24, 2020
Amherst Center for Russian Culture Art Gallery, Webster Hall

FRONT COVER:
Heather Agyepong (British, born 1990).
Too Many Blackamoors #9, 2019. Archival
giclée pigment print, 24 x 20 in. Purchase
with Richard Templeton (Class of 1931)
Photography Fund. © Heather Agyepong,
courtesy of James Hyman Gallery, London.



Salvador Dalí (Spanish, 1904-1989), *St. George and the Dragon*, 1947. Etching, Gift of Edward C. Crossett (Class of 1905), 1951.869.

Program Overview

This spring at the Mead our programs seek new vantage points. Through art, history, and memory, featured speakers and workshops encourage us to explore previously unimagined possibilities and paths for change. Hear directly from contemporary artists Heather Agyepong and Christopher Myers, who are redefining Atlantic world histories through embodied practice and global art-making, respectively. Celebrate and engage with artists across the Five Colleges at the Black Art Matters Festival. Consider art through the lens of a chemist. Convene with friends, new and old, of all ages, at the second annual Gender Affirming Pop-up and Fashion Show, and ponder the histories, legacies, and futures provided by artists and social movements to imagine different, more equitable tomorrows.

Programs at the Mead offer a place for community, joy, reflection, critical thinking, and curiosity. They are made possible in collaboration with our many partners: Amherst Cultural District, ArtWeek presented by Highland Street Foundation, Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art; and the following Amherst College partners: Amherst Center for Russian Culture, Arts at Amherst Initiative, AAS, Book and Plow Farm, Campus Activities Board, *The Common*, Choral Society, HR Activities Committee, HR Wellness, Multicultural Resource Center, Student Activities, Queer Resource Center, Women's and Gender Center, Stonewall Committee, and the departments of Black Studies, Music, and Chemistry.



Craftivism for Reproductive Justice program with the Women's and Gender Center and Survivor's Art Collective at the Mead Art Museum. October 2019. Photo by Luke Williamson '21.

Academic Year Hours:
Tuesday–Thursday, Sunday: 9 am–Midnight
Friday: 9 am–8 pm
Saturday: 9 am–5 pm
Monday: Closed

Admission: Always FREE

To stay up to date follow us:
@meadartmuseum #meadartmuseum



Saturday Close Looks

Join us on Saturdays to explore works of art on view with student museum educators. Keep coming back each week for fresh perspectives!

February 22, 29
March 7, 28
April 4, 11
May 2
Saturdays | Noon–12:30 pm

All programs are FREE and open to the public!

January



Mead Director and Chief Curator David E. Little in the Mead's storage study room with students from Collecting 101: Acquiring Art for the Mead. January 2019. Photo by Danielle Amodeo.

Collecting 101: Acquiring Art for the Mead Presentations & Public Vote

In 2008, the family of Trinkett Clark created the Trinkett Clark Memorial Student Acquisition Fund to honor the Mead's former curator of American art, who passed away in 2006. For more than a decade, the Fund has made it possible for students to select new artworks for the Mead's permanent collection. The process begins with "Collecting 101: Acquiring Art for the Mead," an intensive one-week Interterm course, led by curators and educators at the Mead. Students learn about the Mead's print collection, the process of making and evaluating works of art, and how museums grow collections and engage local communities and audiences. Collecting 101 students get a hands-on experience of what it's like to be a museum professional. They visit galleries, artist studios, and museum exhibitions to inform their research on emerging artists whose work they believe should be in the Mead's collection.

The course culminates with the students' public presentation of their selected artworks. Listen to student presentations and vote for the artwork you want to see at the Mead. The Mead will purchase the artwork that wins the popular vote. Please join us!

This program is made possible by the Trinkett Clark Memorial Student Acquisition Fund.

Free & open to all!

Friday, January 17, 2020 | 6–7:30 pm
Mead Art Museum

February

Spring Opening Reception

Celebrate the opening of the Mead's Spring exhibitions at this evening reception, featuring *The Best Impressions: Inside the Edward C. Crossett Collection of Prints*, along with new rotations of works in *Starting Something New: Recent Contemporary Acquisitions and Gifts* and *Ten Years of Trinkett Clark Memorial Student Acquisitions*. Join us for curatorial remarks, live music, and refreshments in the galleries.

Free & open to all!

Tuesday, February 11, 2020 | 5–7 pm

Mead Art Museum

Galentine's Day: A Celebration of Friendship

Stop by the Mead for a waffle breakfast and appreciation card-making to celebrate friendship on campus. Bring a friend, or make a new one. This program is offered in partnership with the Arts at Amherst Initiative, *The Common*, Amherst College's Human Resources Activities Committee, and the Women's and Gender Center.

This event is free & open to Amherst College faculty, staff, and students.

Thursday, February 13, 2020 | 9–10:30 am

Mead Art Museum

Christopher Myers in Residence

Christopher Myers is an artist and writer based in New York City. A widely acclaimed author of literature for young people, he is also an accomplished fine artist who has lectured and exhibited internationally. His work questions what it means to be an artist and to create art that is rooted in the experience of global cultural exchange.

Grab and Don't Go with Christopher Myers

Meet contemporary artist Christopher Myers for lunch in the Amherst College Multicultural Resource Center. Learn more about his artistic practice, his work in publishing, and how he collaborates with artists and craftspeople across cultures and around the world.

Thursday, February 20, 2020 | Noon–1 pm

Amherst College Multicultural Resource Center, Keefe Campus Center

The Red Plague Rid You for Learning Me Your Language: Artist Talk with Christopher Meyers

Join us for an artist talk with Christopher Myers to learn more about his artistic practice and the thinking behind this year's Rotherwas Project.

Free & open to all!

Thursday, February 20, 2020 | 5–6 pm

Mead Art Museum

Art and Reading with Christopher Myers

Enjoy a children's storybook reading and signing with author and artist Christopher Myers. Books will be available for purchase. After story time, stay for free activities inspired by Myers's latest exhibition, *Rotherwas Project 5: The Red Plague Rid You for Learning Me Your Language*. Choose from sonnet writing, quilting, mapping, and more! Refreshments will be served.

Activities are designed for children ages 6–11, but all are welcome to attend. This program is presented in partnership with the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, *The Common*, and the Amherst College Women's and Gender Center.

Free & open to all!

Friday, February 21, 2020 | 10 am–1 pm

Mead Art Museum

Black Art Matters Festival

Join the Amherst College Multicultural Resource Center and the Mead as we conclude Black History Month with the Black Art Matters Festival, a visual art exhibition and performance showcase highlighting the work and artistic talent of Black student artists across the Five Colleges. All are invited for salon-style viewing of visual art, followed by a night of live music, spoken word, dance, and more! This program is offered in collaboration with the Amherst College Multicultural Resource Center, the Department of Black Studies at Amherst College, Student Activities, and AAS.

Free and open to all!

Friday, February 28, 2020 | 5–8 pm

Mead Art Museum

March

Winter Warmers: Foods and Beverages to Warm You Up from the Inside Out

You don't need to like spicy foods to enjoy this hands-on workshop inspired by the practices of Ayurveda, an ancient wellness system from India. We'll discuss (and taste test!) foods and beverages that will help warm you from the inside out. These age-old dietary practices were used to aid digestion and maintain health, even in the doldrums of winter. Participants will sample a variety of foods and beverages and leave with recipes that they can duplicate on their own.

This program is presented by Molly Kitchen and offered in conjunction with *Embodied Taste* and HR Wellness.

Free & open to Amherst College faculty and staff!

Thursday, March 5, 2020 | 10–11:30 am

Mead Art Museum

Approaching Change Workshop with Emily Potter-Ndiaye

Faculty and staff are invited to learn about how to approach change creatively. Join Emily Potter-Ndiaye, Dwight and Kirsten Poler & Andrew W. Mellon Head of Education and Curator of Academic Programs, to rethink change by looking closely at contemporary art. This program is presented in conjunction with HR Wellness and *Starting Something New: Recent Contemporary Art Acquisitions and Gifts*.

Free & open to Amherst College faculty and staff!

Thursday, March 19, 2020 | 10 am–Noon

Mead Art Museum

Heather Agyepong in Residence

London-based artist Heather Agyepong has worked within photographic and performance arts since 2009 and is interested in mental health and well-being, activism, invisibility, the diaspora, and the archive. She uses both lens-based practices and performance to create cathartic experiences for herself and her audiences. Agyepong's works have been published, performed, and exhibited extensively within the UK and internationally. A selection of her photographs are currently on view at the Mead Art Museum.



Heather Agyepong (British, born 1990). *Too Many Blackamoors* #5, 2019. Archival giclée pigment print, 24 x 20 in. Purchase with Richard Templeton (Class of 1931) Photography Fund. © Heather Agyepong, courtesy of James Hyman Gallery, London.

Lunch with Heather Agyepong at the WGC

Join us for lunch in the Women's and Gender Center with Heather Agyepong. Learn more about Heather's artistic practice, her approach to performance, and her ideas about what it means to embody historical figures through her work.

Free & open to all!

Thursday, March 26, 2020 | Noon–1 pm

Women's and Gender Center, Keefe Campus Center

Artist Talk with Heather Agyepong

Join us to meet contemporary artist Heather Agyepong. Learn more about her artistic practice, her acclaimed project *Too Many Blackamoors*, and her forthcoming projects, performances, and exhibitions. The artist talk will be followed by a Q&A with the audience.

This program is supported by the Arts at Amherst Initiative.

Free & open to all!

Thursday, March 26, 2020 | 5 pm

Mead Art Museum



Gender-affirming Fashion Show and Pop-up with the Queer Resource Center at the Mead Art Museum. May 2019. Photo by Maria Stenzel.

April

Exploring the Materials of Art with Christopher Durr

In this gallery talk, Christopher Durr, assistant professor of chemistry, draws from the Mead's exhibition of contemporary art to explore the science behind an artist's materials. Pigments, polymers, dyes, and metals are all on display in the museum, and each lends something different to an artwork. Join us for a discussion about the properties of these materials at the molecular level in order to understand how we experience them on the macroscopic scale.

Free & open to all!
Thursday, April 2, 2020 | 7–8 pm
Mead Art Museum

Spring Formal presented by the Campus Activities Board

The Campus Activities Board (CAB) is a student-run programming board that hosts a variety of campus-wide events throughout the school year to promote a sense of community at Amherst while upholding many campus traditions. CAB events are always open to the entire Amherst College student body. The Mead is proud to partner with CAB to present Spring Formal for the fourth consecutive year. Amherst College students are invited to the Mead for a night of dancing, live music, refreshments and more!

This event is for Amherst College students.

Friday, April 10, 2020 | 9 pm–Midnight
Mead Art Museum

PrideFest: A Gender Affirming Pop-up & Fashion Show

Stop by the Mead to be inspired by art on the walls and create an outfit from our fashion pop-up. Then sign-up to walk the runway in our gender-affirming fashion show. Join us to do your gender authentically, write your own model bio, and strut your stuff! This program is designed to center and celebrate trans, non-binary, and gender non-confirming peoples' experiences and ways of being.

This program is presented in partnership with the Amherst College Queer Resource Center and the Stonewall Committee.

Free & open to all!
Check our website and Facebook page for the latest details!

Save the date! Saturday, April 25, 2020
Mead Art Museum

Massages at the Mead

Celebrate the last day of classes by getting a massage at the Mead. Massages will be available in the galleries, where you're also invited to study for finals or write papers. Sign-up is required and first come, first served.

Free & open to Amherst College students.
Wednesday–Thursday, April 29 & 30, 2020 | 8 pm–Midnight
Friday, May 1, 2020 | 1–4 pm
Mead Art Museum



Jim Dow (American, born 1942). *Window at Jess's Lunch US 11 & 33. Harrisonburg, Virginia, 1998, 1998.* Chromogenic contact print. Gift of Ray Mortenson.

May

ArtWeek at the Mead

Each spring ArtWeek celebrates the vitality of the arts in our communities and in the creative economy. Started in 2013 by the Boch Center in Boston, ArtWeek is now flourishing across Massachusetts, offering countless amazing opportunities to participate, engage, and revel in the arts. The Mead is excited to team up with ArtWeek for a second year. Join us for a series of gallery talks and explore behind the scenes of the Mead with our curatorial team. Check our website and social media pages for the latest information on ArtWeek programming and events.

Embodied Taste with Emily Potter-Ndiaye

Join Emily Potter-Ndiaye, Dwight and Kirsten Poler & Andrew W. Mellon Head of Education and Curator of Academic Programs, for a sensory tour of *Embodied Taste*, an exhibition that takes food, in all its complexities, as a starting point, and see how collaborations, connections, sensual experiences, and stories are consumed every time you take a bite.

Free & open to all!

Wednesday, May 6, 2020 | Noon–1 pm

Mead Art Museum

Behind the Scenes of the Mead with David E. Little

Join us for a sneak peek at what goes on behind the scenes at the Mead. Explore our underground storage facilities and learn about the latest exhibitions with David E. Little, John Wieland 1958 Director and Chief Curator.

Free & open to all!

Friday May 8, 2020 | Noon–1 pm

Mead Art Museum

Exploring the Mead with Christopher Durr

In this gallery talk, Christopher Durr, assistant professor of chemistry, explores art in the Mead's collection from a chemist's perspective. Join us for a cross-disciplinary viewing of art and lively conversation.

Free & open to all!

Tuesday, May 5, 2020 | 7 pm

Mead Art Museum



Symmetry in Art and Science with Assistant Professor of Chemistry Chris Durr. February 2019. Photo by Miloslava Hrubá.



Alexandra Exter (Russian, 1884–1949). *Les fruits de la mer*, after 1924. Gouache on paper. Gift of Thomas P. Whitney (Class of 1937).