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Worlds To Discover: 125 Years of Collections at Bryn Mawr College

Bryn Mawr College

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WORLDS TO DISCOVER

125 Years of Collections at Bryn Mawr College
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125 Years of Collections at Bryn Mawr College

September 24, 2010 – May 28, 2011

BRYN MAWR COLLEGE
Class of 1912 Rare Book Room, Canaday Library

Foreword Elliott Shore
Introduction Eric Pumroy
Exhibition Catalogue Eric Pumroy
Marianne Hansen
Emily Crell
Marianne Weldon
Bryn Mawr College opened its doors in 1885 as an institution with a revolutionary agenda: to provide an education to women that was the equal of any available to men. For the first time, women would benefit from—and in turn be expected to originate—scholarly achievement of the highest order, and nothing would stand in the way of their chances at success. In those early years, recruiting a faculty with advanced degrees and building a research library were primary goals.

The wisdom of this revolutionary goal has long been evident. Women in the United States have made astounding progress towards equality, thanks in large part to educational opportunities like those that Bryn Mawr pioneered. Now, 125 years after the formation of the College, we are putting our shoulders to the wheel of another educational revolution—one that has as much potential to transform the who, what, where, and how of learning. In fact, the current rise of linked information technologies asks us to look back to an even earlier moment in the history of the democratization of knowledge, when manuscripts gave way to printed books—an innovation so radical that it triggered political, social, and cultural changes that still affect us more than 500 years later.

What the new digital infrastructure makes abundantly clear, however, is that older vehicles of communication—our heritage of printed books, archaeological artifacts, prints, drawings, illuminated manuscripts, and handwritten letters—have become even more, not less, significant to scholars. We are learning now from our libraries something that we already knew, but of which we needed to be reminded: the original source has amazing stories to tell. And some of those stories can only emerge when original sources are connected by digital means to each other and to the apparatus of scholarship. As libraries adjust to the tremendous changes in the communication environment, the digital and the original will become the most important sources for our students and faculty. Thanks to the broad imagination of our founders and the generosity of our friends and supporters, Bryn Mawr’s library is poised to support the next 125 years of teaching, learning, and research.

This catalogue and exhibition are part of a celebration of the history of the College that was set into motion at a meeting of the Board of the Friends of the Library. We gratefully acknowledge the leadership and the enthusiastic generosity of Teresa Wallace, Class of 1979, chair of the Friends, in helping to initiate the many activities of this year.

We extend our thanks to Board member Barbara Teichert, Class of 1975, for supporting the exhibition and the publication of the catalogue. Members of the special collections department at the Library, Eric Pumroy, Emily Croll, Marianne Hansen, and Marianne Weldon, ably assisted by a host of faculty, staff, graduate students, and undergraduates, worked together to produce what you see in these pages.

**FOREFWORD**

Elliott Shore
Constance Adelaide Jones Director of Libraries
INTRODUCTION

Eric L. Pumroy
Director of Library Collections and Seymour Adelman Head of Special Collections

In the fall of 1885, a few months after Bryn Mawr College opened, Wayne MacVeagh, former Attorney General of the United States and prominent Philadelphia attorney, donated a copy of the 1497 Aldus Manutius edition of Aristotle as Greek to the College Library. This was the beginning of a long tradition of gifts of historical, cultural, and artistic works by faculty, alumnae and alumni, and friends of the College. From the beginning, these gifts were intended to enrich the education of the students, whether used in introductory classes or advanced seminars, or as research materials for senior theses or doctoral dissertations.

Today, the collections include approximately 50,000 rare books, 50,000 artworks and artifacts; and several million pages of manuscript letters, diaries, and other documents. Such large numbers are surprising for a school the size of Bryn Mawr, but even more impressive is the breadth and importance of the holdings. These include one of the country’s largest collections of objects from the ancient Mediterranean World and the Near East, a large collection of works of art on paper ranging from early modern European prints and drawings to Japanese ukiyo-e woodblock prints to the work of contemporary women artists; extensive holdings of illustrated natural history books; works by French and Italian women writers; and European travel accounts of Asia, Africa, and the Americas.

The exhibition, Worlds to Discover: 125 Years of Collections at Bryn Mawr College, presents just a few examples of the most significant and beautiful objects from the collections. Although the objects are the main attraction of the show, another important part of the exhibition is the story of the knowledgeable and generous women and men who built the collections with their donations to the College. Some were faculty members who collected books or artifacts in the course of their work; some were alumnae who pursued careers that led them to build their own research libraries or collections of artifacts; still others were alumnae or friends of the College who collected for the love of beautiful and historically significant objects. This essay introduces just a few of the many people who helped to make Bryn Mawr’s collection the treasure that it is today.

The Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology collections were built through the gifts of faculty and alumnae, many of whom became major figures in the field. Joseph Clark Hoppin, Professor of Greek Art and Archaeology from 1899 to 1904, laid the foundation of the collection with his gifts of 54 Greek black- and red-figure vases and sherds during the years of his professorship. Hoppin, a firm believer in the importance of studying artifacts first-hand, intended for the pieces to be studied by students. Among the vases he donated is a red-figure plate designated by Sir John Beazley as the work of “The Bryn Mawr Painter,” an artist who worked ca. 500–450 BCE and is thought to have been responsible for five other works found in collections in North America and Europe.

One of the first graduate students to study Hoppin’s collection was Mary Hamilton Swindler (Ph.D. 1912), one of the founders of Bryn Mawr’s Department of Classical Archaeology and an inspiration to generations of women who pursued careers in archaeology. Lake Hoppin, Swindler actively taught with classical artifacts. She prized over the rapid growth of the collection by acquiring objects on her frequent trips to Athens and by encouraging donations from her former students. By 1940, the collection had grown large enough to justify setting up a formal display area in Thomas Hall, the Ella Riegel Memorial Museum, named in memory of an alumna of 1889 who donated generously to the archaeology program, the library, and the Tarsus excavations. Bryn Mawr produced many prominent archaeologists who contributed to the collections over the years, most notably Hetty Goldman (A.B. 1923). Swindler and Goldman were among the leading archaeologists of their day. Goldman trained as a classical archaeologist at Bryn Mawr, directed excavations at Hale and Eretmus in Greece, and later focused on Turkey, where she directed the Bryn Mawr excavations of Tarsus-Gözlü Kule in Cilicia. Swindler published what was the standard book on ancient painting for many years and served as editor of the American Journal of Archaeology from 1932 to 1946; she also helped organize Goldman’s excavations at Tarsus.

The rare book collections developed through the donations of many people. Perhaps the best-known collection is the medieval library built by Howard Lehman Goodhart and his daughter, Phyllis Goodhart Gordan (A.B. 1933). Goodhart began collecting early printed books to support his daughter’s research interests in medieval and Renaissance Latin while she was a student at Bryn Mawr. His enthusiasm for collecting books printed before 1500 eventually led to one of the country’s largest collections of these books, known as incunables. Now consisting of more than 1200 volumes, it is the third largest such collection held by an academic institution in the United States. Goodhart and Gordan supplemented the collection with volumes of medieval manuscripts and 16th-century printed books, many of
them supporting Gordon’s research on the Italian Renaissance humanist, Poggio Bracciolini. The largest donor of books and manuscripts was Seymour Adelman (1906–1983), a Philadelphia collector with few connections to Bryn Mawr for most of his life. In the mid-1970s, James Tanis, Director of the Libraries, recruited him to bring his extraordinary collection to the College and to serve as its honorary curator. Adelman was a shy, charming man who turned his passions for poetry, boxing, and Philadelphia history into research collections of remarkable breadth and depth. His collection included extensive sets of papers and books from British poets A. E. Housman and Ralph Hodgdon; papers of artist and theater designer Claud Lovat Fraser; first and early editions of the works of John Keats; and a surprisingly rich collection of books, prints, and broadsides on British boxing in the late 18th and early 19th century. Seymour Adelman continues to underwrite the growth of the collections, thanks to a million-dollar bequest that endowed a fund for purchasing new items.

Another member of the Friends, Louise Dillingham (A.B. 1916, Ph.D. 1925) spent most of her career at Westover School in Middletown, Connecticut, first as a teacher, and then as headmistress from 1932 to 1964. Although her academic work was in French literature, her passion as a book collector was in the early history of the European discovery, exploration, and colonization of Latin America, perhaps the result of spending five years after college working for the South Puerto Rico Sugar Company. By the time of her death in 1965, she had donated approximately 1000 volumes, including many 16th-century books on the Spanish conquest of Peru and Caspar van Baerle’s beautifully illustrated history of the Dutch in Brazil.

Emily Fox Chilton (A.B. 1908), a prominent member of horticultural groups in the Philadelphia area as well as a member of the Friends, donated two of the most important illustrated natural history books of the 18th century: Mark Catesby’s The Natural History of Carolina, Florida and the Bahama Islands and Sir William Hamilton’s Campi Phlegræi: Observations on the Volumes of the Two Sicilies as They Have Been Communicated to the Royal Society of London. Although not officially a member of the Friends board, Katharine McBride (A.B. 1925, Ph.D. 1932), President of the College from 1942 to 1970, completes this group of book collectors active in the 1950s and 1960s. She was a practicing psychologist specializing in brain injuries, but McBride’s collecting passion was in the history of the British Empire, particularly in India and the Far East. Her library of more than 1200 volumes came to Bryn Mawr in the early 1970s.

The Asian art collections are largely the work of Helen Burwell Chapin (Class of 1914, A.B. 1914). After graduating from Bryn Mawr, Chapin worked in the Asian art department of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts for several years, developing an expertise in Chinese art and learning the Chinese language. With this preparation, she embarked on eight years of travel through China, Japan, and Korea in the 1920s and early 1930s. This series of short-term assignments gave her the opportunity to study East Asian art and culture in depth and to begin forming the collections that eventually came to Bryn Mawr. She earned a Ph.D. in Asian art from the University of California in 1940 and returned to Asia after World War II as the Arts and Monuments Specialist for the U.S. Army in Korea. Before she died in 1950, she arranged to donate her collection of hundreds of scrolls, art objects, and Asian-language books, many from before 1800, so that future students of Asian art at Bryn Mawr would be able to work with original materials, as she had not.
A brief survey of major donors inevitably skips over the hundreds of people who have made valuable contributions of art, artifacts, and books to the College, and whose gifts have been crucial to ensuring that the collections have the breadth and depth to support a wide range of teaching and research. The tradition of giving continues. In the last few years, we have received a major collection of 18th- and 19th-century French books from Michèle Cahen Cone (A.B. 1951), a valuable set of Rembrandt, Dürer, and Japanese woodblock prints from Eleanor May Morris (A.B. 1941, M.A. 1970), and ongoing donations to the William and Uytendale Scott Collection of Works on Paper by Women Artists.

Any review of the development of the collections must also acknowledge the important work of the staff members who helped to build and maintain them. Janet Agnew, Library Director from 1947 to 1969, oversaw the early development of the rare book collection, created the Friends of the Library advisory group, and planned the new Canaday Library with its elegant Class of 1912 Rare Book Room. James Tanis, Director from 1969 to 1996, guided the enormous growth of the special collections program through wooing of donors, inaugurating an ambitious program of exhibitions and public programs, and developing an able staff of curators, notably Carol Campbell in art and artifacts, Leo Dolensky in manuscripts, and Mary Leahy (M.A. 1955) in rare books. Thanks to their good work and the generosity of scores of Bryn Mawr alumnae and alumni, faculty, and friends, Bryn Mawr students and the wider community will be able to study, enjoy, and be inspired by these extraordinary artistic, cultural, and historical treasures for generations to come.

A NOTE ABOUT THE CATALOGUE

The exhibition Worlds to Discover: 125 Years of Collections at Bryn Mawr College is organized into nine sections that reflect the strengths of the College’s holdings of artistic, cultural, and historical collections. Five of the sections focus on different periods in western civilization: the Ancient World, the Middle Ages, Early Modern Europe, the 17th and 18th Centuries, and the Modern World; three sections focus on a particular region of the world: Africa, the Americas, and East Asia; and one section, Rediscovering Antiquity, looks at the connections between the ancient world and European civilization after 1500.

This catalogue serves as a record of the exhibition by providing a checklist of the pieces on display at the exhibition opening in September 2010, along with illustrations of some of the most important and beautiful works. During the course of the exhibition some of the most fragile and light-sensitive objects in the exhibition will be exchanged for similar pieces from the collections. For example, over the eight-month period of the exhibition three different sets of Japanese prints will be presented in the exhibition.
THE ANCIENT WORLD

Starting in Bryn Mawr’s second academic year, 1886–1887, the college offered lectures on ancient architecture. In 1901, the archaeology collections were established through a donation by Professor Joseph Clark Hoppin of a large and important group of black- and red-figure Attic vases and sherds, thereby providing students with hands-on access to artifacts from the ancient world. Today the classical and Near Eastern archaeology collections contain more than 8,000 objects—not only important Greek vases, but also Mesopotamian tablets and seals, predynastic Egyptian pottery; Greek bronzes; Italic, Etruscan, and Roman vessels; Greek and Roman coins; Cypriot pottery; Roman glass; artifacts from excavations at Tarsus, Turkey; and many other objects. These rich archaeological collections have informed generations of students about artistic production, religion, agriculture, commerce, politics, and life and death in the ancient world.

Left

Predynastic Decorated Ware (D-ware)
Vessel with Rolled Handles
Possibly Naqada, Egypt
Naqada II Period, 3500–3300 BCE
Clay
7 1/4 x 5 1/4 in. (diameter)
Gift of the American Exploration Society (P.7)

Cuneiform Tablet
Zabala, Sumer, Iraq
Seventh Year of King Lugalzagesi, ca. 2500 BCE
Clay
4 5/16 x 4 5/16 x 1 in.
Gift of Margaret Water Goodlett, Class of 1922 (2009.18.6)

Mummified Crocodile
Egypt
ca. 1550 BCE–600 CE
Linen and faunal remains
12 1/16 x 1 5/16 x 7/8 in.
Gift of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia (18225)

Right, top

Laconian Black-Figure Kylix (Drinking Cup)
Attributed to the Hophite Painter
Archaic Period, ca. 530–525 BCE
Terracotta
2 1/16 x 7 1/2 x 5 1/2 in.
Gift of Joseph Clark Hoppin, Professor of Archaeology (P.81)

Attic Black-Figure Hydria (Water Jar)
Attributed to the Circle of the Antimenes Painter
Archaic Period, ca. 540–525 BCE
Terracotta
13 x 8 3/4 in. (diameter)
Gift of Joseph Clark Hoppin, Professor of Archaeology (P.87)

Right, bottom

Attic Black-Figure Neck-Amphora (Storage Jar)
Attributed to the Circle of the Antimenes Painter
Archaic Period, ca. 540–525 BCE
Terracotta
13 3/4 x 9 1/4 in. (diameter)
Gift of Joseph Clark Hoppin, Professor of Archaeology (P.89)

Attic Bilingual Kylix (Drinking Cup)
Attributed to the painter Oltos
Late Archaic Period, ca. 525–500 BCE
Terracotta
4 1/16 x 3 1/4 in. (diameter without handles)
Gift of Charles K. Williams, II (P.2155)
Attic Red-Figure Pinax (Plate)
The Bryn Mawr Painter
Late Archaic–Early Classical Period, ca. 500–475 BCE
Terracotta
5 7/8 (diameter) x 7/16 in.
Gift of Joseph Clark Hoppin, Professor of Archaeology (P 188)

Fragment of an Attic Red-Figure Panathenaic Amphora
Attributed to the Berlin Painter
Late Archaic–Early Classical Period, ca. 500–475 BCE
Terracotta
3/4 x 3 1/16 x 1 3/4 in.
Gift of Joseph Clark Hoppin, Professor of Archaeology (P 188)

Hydria (Water Jar) Handle
Possibly Greece
Middle 5th century BCE
Bronze
7 1/16 x 5 1/8 in.
(M.28)

Attic Red-Figure Hydria (Water Jar)
Attributed to the S-Potter and the Workshop of the Shawalw Painter
Classical Period, ca. 435–420 BCE
Terracotta
5 11/16 x 4 1/8 in. (diameter without handles)
Gift of Mary Hamilton Swindler, Ph.D. 1912 and Professor of Archaeology (P 123)

Mirror Cover
Possibly Magna Graecia or Greece
4th–1st century BCE
Bronze
6 11/16 (diameter) x 1 3/16 in.
Gift of Eleanor Wood Whitehead, Class of 1912 (M.49)

Campanian Red-Figure Hydria (Water Jar)
Workshop of the Capua Painter, Group of Bryn Mawr P 123
Late Classical Period, ca. 360–330 BCE
Terracotta
16 11/16 x 8 1/2 in. (diameter without handles)
Gift of Clarissa Compton Dryden, Class of 1932, MA 1935 (P.123)

Roman Pig Rattle
ca. 100 CE
Terracotta
3 1/8 x 2 9/16 in. (diameter)
Gift of Clarissa Compton Dryden, Class of 1932, MA 1935 (P.147)

Female Head from a Funerary Relief
Palmyra, Syria
200–250 CE
Limestone
5 11/16 x 4 1/2 x 4 3/4 in.
Gift of Joan Beck Dalzell, Class of 1940, in memory of Jean Baptiste Beck, Professor of Medieval French Literature (S.88.Cnea)

Illustration of Early Bronze Age III Red Ware Jar with Painted Decoration, from the Tarsus Excavations
Piot de Jong (British, 1887–1967)
1938
Watercolor on paper
15 7/8 x 9 7/8 in.
Tarsus Archives, gift of Hetty Goldman, Class of 1903 (2009.21.1)
The extraordinary flowering of exploration, learning, and creativity that accompanied the rediscovery of the ancient world during the Renaissance, and the continuing influence of the ancient world on arts and scholarship well into the 19th century are prominent themes throughout Bryn Mawr’s collections. Humanist manuscripts and books introduce students to the thinkers who created modern scholarship and trace the complex paths through which ancient texts were transmitted to modern times. Densely illustrated works by the gentlemen scholars who pursued ancient remains in the 18th century reveal both the ancient past and the beginnings of history and archaeology as academic subjects. Prints by artists who depicted rediscovered ancient art serve as models of the ideal human form and exemplars of erudition and taste.
Opposite page, top
Vasi, candeliabri, cippi, sarcofagi, tripodi, lucerne ed ornamenti antichi
Giovanni Battista Piazzoni (1720–1778)
Rome: [s.n.], 1778
Gift of Pamela G. Reilly

Below
Antiquities of Athens: Measured and Delineated
James Stuart (1713–1785) and Nicholas Revett (1720–1804)
London: John Haberkorn, 1762–1830
Gift of Pamela G. Reilly

PRINTS

The Apollo Belvedere
Hendrick Goltzius (Dutch, 1558–1617)
1617
Engraving
16 1/2 x 11 7/8 in.
(X.387)

The Statue of Laocoön
Pedro Pérez (Flemish, 1555–ca.1625)
1581
Engraving; first state
16 11/16 x 13 3/16 in.
The medieval book collection consists of more than 100 manuscripts dating from the 11th to the early 16th century and includes classical texts, humanist writings, devotional literature, and works on medieval philosophy, science, and medicine. The breadth of the collection supports teaching and research in a number of areas, most notably in the history of the book and the preservation and transmission of the writings of classical authors. One of the strengths of the collection is the set of manuscript and printed books of hours. These elaborately illustrated devotional works were used primarily by well-to-do lay people. Today, they provide opportunities for students to study first-hand the techniques and styles of medieval artists.

Although most of the medieval collection is from Western Europe, there are also examples of Persian and Arabic manuscripts, most notably the early 15th-century illustrated volume of the work of the great Persian poet, Nizami.
Bryn Mawr has one of the country’s largest collections of printed books produced before 1500 (known as incunables), most of which came from the collections of Howard Goodhart and his daughter, Phyllis Goodhart Gordon, Class of 1935. Combined with the extensive holdings of 16th-century books, the collection is a valuable resource for the study of the early history of printing and book production, the development of vernacular literatures, European expansion, and the rediscovery and scholarly editing of classical texts. This was also the time when European artists were developing printmaking into an elegant and expressive art form. Works by many of the major printmakers of the period, including Dürrer and Holbein, are represented in the collection either as individual prints or as illustrations in books from the period.

**Early Modern Europe**

Above

*Antidotarium*
Nicolaus Salernitanus (active late 12th century)
England, late 14th century
Manuscript on parchment
8 1/8 x 5 7/8 in.
Gift of Howard Lehman Goodhart

**Books**

*Stultifera navis*
Sebastian Brant (1457–1521)
Basel: Johann Bergmann de Olpe, 1498
Gift of Howard Lehman Goodhart

*Il merito delle donne: ove chiaramente si scuopre quanto siano elle degne e più perfette de gli huomini*
Moderata Fonte (1535–1592)
Venice: Presso Domenico Imberti, 1600
Purchased with funds from the Friends of the Library
Above

Liber Chronicarum
Hartmann Schedel (1440–1514)
Nuremberg: Anton Koberger, 1493
Gift of Ethelinda Schaefer Castle, Class of 1908

Right, top, detail

Les simulachres & histories faces de la mort, autant elegamment pourtraictes, que artificiellement imaginées
Hans Holbein the Younger (German, c. 1498–1543)
Lyon: [Melchior and Gaspar Trechsel], 1538
Gift of Lee Ashley Grace, in honor of his daughter, Virginia R. Grace, Class of 1932

PRINTS

Right, bottom

Coat of Arms with Skull
Albrecht Dürer (German, 1471–1528)
ca. 1496
Engraving
4 1/8 x 3 1/8 in.
Gift of Abby A. K. Turney Van Pelt Griscou, Class of 1922, Katherine Drusel Van Pelt Beaver, and Charles B. P. Van Pelt (VP.115)
The College holds early editions of many of the classic works of science, political philosophy, and history from this formative period in Western literature. These volumes provide students with the opportunity to experience the writings of Shakespeare or Spenser, Voltaire or Rousseau, as they originally appeared for the 17th- or 18th-century reader. The collections also go well beyond the classics to include the writings of once popular, but now largely forgotten, writers, particularly French and Italian women authors, a strength of Bryn Mawr’s collections.

This was also a time of high achievement in the art of printmaking. The College’s large collection of Old Master prints is used extensively by classes in the history of art, as are many of the illustrated books on natural history, European exploration, and the study of the ancient world.

Left
The Natural History of Carolina, Florida and the Bahama Islands
Mark Catesby (1683–1749)
London: Self-published, 1731–1743
Gift of Emily Fox Cheston, Class of 1908

Opposite, below
Campi Phlegraei: Observations on the Volcanos of the Two Sicilies as They Have Been Communicated to the Royal Society of London
Sir William Hamilton (1730–1803)
Naples: [s.n.], 1776
Gift of Emily Fox Cheston, Class of 1908

Jean-Paul Marat (1743–1793)
Paris: Imprimerie de la Veuve Hérissant, 1789–1791
Gift of Mary Cox Cammann, Class of 1945

Common Sense
Thomas Paine (1737–1809)
Philadelphia: R. Bell, 1776
Gift of Vincent Foster and Maxwell E. Foster, Jr.

Right, above
Mr. William Shakespeares Comedies, Histories & Tragedies: Published According to the True Originall Copies
William Shakespeare (1564–1616)
London: Isaac Jaggard and Edward Blount, 1623
Gift of Caroline Newton, Class of 1914, in honor of Katharine McBride, Class of 1925, Ph.D. 1932, and President of Bryn Mawr College

A Survey of London: Contayning the Originall, Antiquity, Increase, Modern Estate, and Description of that Citie, Written in the Year 1598
John Stow (ca. 1525–1605)
London: John Wolf, 1598
Gift of J. Hampton Barnes

Opposite, below
A Survey of London: Contayning the Originall, Antiquity, Increase, Modern Estate, and Description of that Citie, Written in the Year 1598
John Stow (ca. 1525–1605)
London: John Wolf, 1598
Gift of J. Hampton Barnes
EAST ASIA

Bryn Mawr’s East Asian collections were developed in large part from the donation of alumna Helen Burwell Chapin, who lived and worked in China, Japan, and Korea in the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s. Through her travels and scholarly research, she acquired objects that span several thousand years and three countries. These artifacts supply information on early technology such as prehistoric pottery techniques, early bronze casting, and refined porcelain manufacture, as well as diverse aspects of religious ritual and daily life.

More than 300 Japanese prints in the collection provide a glimpse of the 18th- and 19th-century realms of entertainment, leisure, and commerce. Additionally, these colorful and elegant images were influential for many 19th-century Western artists, including Mary Cassatt, whose series of experimental prints in the College’s collection were inspired directly by Japanese prints.

The rare book collection includes illustrated accounts that record the observations of Europeans travelling to Asia, primarily on commercial ventures, when the markedly different cultures first came into extended contact with one another.

CHINESE OBJECTS

Left, top
Pot with Two Small Handles
Chinese
Yamhao Dynasty (5000–3000 BCE)
Painted earthenware
8 1/4 x 6 3/8 in. (diameter without handles)
Gift of Frederica de Laguna, Class of 1927 and Professor of Anthropology (2009.28.13)

Yu (Ritual Food Vessel)
Chinese
Zhou Dynasty (1020–256 BCE)
Bronze
9 1/4 x 6 3/8 in. (diameter)
Gift of Helen Burwell Chapin, Class of 1914, AB 1915 (TIN 117)

Left
Pot with Two Small Handles
Chinese
Yamhao Dynasty (5000–3000 BCE)
Painted earthenware
8 1/4 x 6 3/8 in. (diameter without handles)
Gift of Frederica de Laguna, Class of 1927 and Professor of Anthropology (2009.28.13)

Yu (Ritual Food Vessel)
Chinese
Zhou Dynasty (1020–256 BCE)
Bronze
9 1/4 x 6 3/8 in. (diameter)
Gift of Helen Burwell Chapin, Class of 1914, AB 1915 (TIN 117)

Esther Scoll
Aaron Wolf ben Benjamin Zeev Schreiber Herlingen of Gewitsch (Austrian, active ca. 1721–ca. 1755), scribe
Vienna or Pressburg, ca. 1735
Manuscript on parchment
3 3/4 x 6 1/8 in.
Gift of Louis E. Levinthal

PRINTS

Cottage Beside a Canal
Rembrandt van Rijn (Dutch, 1606–1669)
cia. 1645
Etching with drypoint
5 1/2 x 8 1/8 in.
Gift of Caroline Newton, Class of 1914 (X.305)

Left
Rembrandt: Drawing at a Window
Rembrandt van Rijn (Dutch, 1606–1669)
1648
Etching with drypoint and burin, fourth state
7 x 5 in.
Gift of Howard L. Gray, Professor of History (X.301)

EAST ASIA

Bryn Mawr’s East Asian collections were developed in large part from the donation of alumna Helen Burwell Chapin, who lived and worked in China, Japan, and Korea in the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s. Through her travels and scholarly research, she acquired objects that span several thousand years and three countries. These artifacts supply information on early technology such as prehistoric pottery techniques, early bronze casting, and refined porcelain manufacture, as well as diverse aspects of religious ritual and daily life.

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The rare book collection includes illustrated accounts that record the observations of Europeans travelling to Asia, primarily on commercial ventures, when the markedly different cultures first came into extended contact with one another.

CHINESE OBJECTS

Left, top
Pot with Two Small Handles
Chinese
Yamhao Dynasty (5000–3000 BCE)
Painted earthenware
8 1/4 x 6 3/8 in. (diameter without handles)
Gift of Frederica de Laguna, Class of 1927 and Professor of Anthropology (2009.28.13)

Yu (Ritual Food Vessel)
Chinese
Zhou Dynasty (1020–256 BCE)
Bronze
9 1/4 x 6 3/8 in. (diameter)
Gift of Helen Burwell Chapin, Class of 1914, AB 1915 (TIN 117)
KOREAN OBJECTS

Jar
Korean
Old Silla Kingdom (5th–early 7th century)
Stoneware with impressed decoration
8 1/4 x 7 1/4 in. (diameter)
Gift of Helen Burwell Chapin, Class of 1914, AB 1915 (2009.28.1)

Bowl
Korean
Koryŏ Dynasty (918–1392)
12th century
Stoneware with carved decoration under celadon glaze
3 x 5/8 x 6 1/2 in. (diameter)
Gift of Helen Burwell Chapin, Class of 1914, AB 1915 (TN.49)

Bowl
Korean
Koryŏ Dynasty (918–1392)
12th century
Stoneware with inlaid slip decoration under celadon glaze
3 x 8 in. (diameter)
Gift of Helen Burwell Chapin, Class of 1914, AB 1915 (9.48)

Left, top
Tomb Figure of a Dancer
Chinese
Tang Dynasty (618–907)
Pottery with traces of paint
2 1/2 x 8 1/4 x 3 1/2 in.
Gift of Helen Burwell Chapin, Class of 1914, AB 1915 (2009.28.6)

Standing Tomb Figure of a Male Dignitary
Chinese
Tang Dynasty (618–907)
Partially glazed pottery
28 1/2 x 8 x 5 1/2 in.
Gift of Helen Burwell Chapin, Class of 1914, AB 1915 (2009.28.5)

Right, bottom
Petal-Shaped Bowl
Chinese
Song Dynasty (960–1279)
Porcelain with incised decoration (Qingbai ware)
1 3/4 x 6 1/2 in. (diameter)
Gift of Helen Burwell Chapin, Class of 1914, AB 1915 (TN.108)
Bryn Mawr’s educational mission is global in scope, and the African art collection of more than 350 objects helps bring students in contact with this vital part of the world. These art objects and cultural artifacts, which represent 14 countries and more than 70 ethnic groups, are used by students in anthropology, Africana studies, history of art, and many other departments. Direct encounter with these objects provides students with tangible manifestations of cultural and religious beliefs, social and political status, and gender roles among the diverse peoples from the region south of the Sahara.

Complementing the work of African artists is an extensive collection of European accounts of interactions with Africans, ranging from the earliest Portuguese expeditions in the 15th century through the African independence movements in the 1960s. Although the accounts reflect European points of view, they are nonetheless vital sources for studying the history of European engagement in the continent.

**AFRICA**

**JAPANESE PRINTS**

**Woman Holding a Fan**
Kitagawa Utamaro (Japanese, 1753–1806)
Late 18th century
Color woodblock print
14 1/8 x 10 in.

**Fuji in Clear Weather (Red Fuji)**
Katsushika Hokusai (Japanese, 1760–1849)
ca. 1832–1833
Color woodblock print
9 3/4 x 14 7/16 in.

**EUROPEAN TRAVEL TO EAST ASIA**

**Gedenkwaerdige geschappen der Oost-Indische maatschappij in ’t Verenigde Nederland, aan de kaisaren van Japan**
Arnoldus Montanus (ca.1625–ca.1683)
Amsterdam: Jacob Meurs, 1669

Gift of Katharine E. Mulfoid, Class of 1924, Ph.D. 1932, and President of Bryn Mawr College

**AFRICA**

**Akua’ba Doll**
Asante, Ghana
20th century
Wood
10 1/2 x 4 1/2 x 1 1/2 in.
Bequest of Margaret Feurer Plass, Class of 1917 (99.6.18)

**Left**

**Bwoom Mask**
Kuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo
Late 20th century
Wood with cloth, sheet metal, leather, beads, cowrie shells, and seeds
21 1/2 x 10 1/2 x 12 in.
Gift of Mass Neufeld and Helen Katz Neufeld, Class of 1953 (99.3.124)

**Royally**

**Kuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo**
Mid-20th century
Cloth with raffia, beads, cowrie shells, and metal
11 x 7 1/2 x 5 3/4 in.
Gift of Mass Neufeld and Helen Katz Neufeld, Class of 1953 (99.3.133.e)
**Above**

**Sowo-wui (Sande Society Headdress)**

Mende, Sierra Leone
Early 20th century
Wood and plant fiber
28 x 11 1/2 x 12 in.
Gift of Mace Neufeld and Helen Katz Neufeld, Class of 1953 (99.3.146)

**Right**

**Plank Mask**

Mossi, Burkina Faso
Early 20th century
Wood with kaolin
56 x 4 3/4 x 4 3/4 in.
Bequest of Margaret Feurer Plass, Class of 1917 (99.6.22)

**Below**

**Ngakoromwa Ngibolio (Necklace)**

Turkana, Kenya
Early 20th century
Leather with glass beads and fiber thread
10 1/4 x 23 x 3/2 in.
Gift of Mace Neufeld and Helen Katz Neufeld, Class of 1953 (99.3.10)

**Above**

**Pombibele (Female and Male Rhythm Pounders)**

Senufo, Côte d’Ivoire
Early 20th century
Wood with traces of paint
Female figure: 47 x 6 1/2 x 5 5/8 in.; male figure: 48 3/4 x 6 x 5 1/2 in.
Gift of Mace Neufeld and Helen Katz Neufeld, Class of 1953 (99.3.45.a-b)

**Right, bottom**

**Ritual Spoon**

Dan, Côte d’Ivoire
Early 20th century
Wood
24 1/4 x 5 3/2 x 2 1/2 in.
Bequest of Margaret Feurer Plass, Class of 1917 (99.6.7)
The anthropology collections, which include more than 8,000 artifacts from around the world, focus on the indigenous peoples of North America. The collections are particularly strong in the Arctic, Northwest Coast, and Southwest United States, areas of research and fieldwork for the Anthropology Department beginning with its founder, Frederica de Laguna, Class of 1927. The artifacts from these regions are both beautiful and utilitarian, and impart important information about daily and ceremonial life, as well as traditional technologies and art forms.

The book collections are strongest in early European accounts of the conquest and colonization of Central and South America, including many of the landmark studies of Peruvian language and culture written by Spanish missionaries in the late 16th and early 17th centuries. These contemporary writings are critical for understanding European attitudes and ambitions for the New World, and offer a window into Native American culture.

**THE ARCTIC**

*Model Dogsled and Whip*
West Greenland
Early 20th century
Whalebone and sealskin with sinew
9 5/8 x 3 1/16 x 3 7/16 in.
Gift of Charles S. Alden (46.11.3)

*Model Boat*
West Greenland
20th century
Wood and fish-skin with thread
13 9/16 x 3 7/16 x 2 5/8 in.
Gift of Charles S. Alden (46.11.1)

*Hunter with Spear*
Upernavik, Greenland
1970–1979
Carved whale tooth
4 x 2 1/2 x 1 1/2 in.
Gift of Frederica de Laguna, Class of 1927 and Professor of Anthropology (2006.4.10)

**THE AMERICAS**

*Left*

*Gelede Mask*
Yoruba, Nigeria
Wood with pigment
15 3/4 x 12 x 13 in.
Gift of Mace Neufeld and Helen Katz Neufeld, Class of 1955 (99.3.16)

*Maternity Figure*
Yoruba, Nigeria
20th century
Wood with pigment
24 1/2 x 10 1/2 x 9 in.
Gift of Mace Neufeld and Helen Katz Neufeld, Class of 1955 (99.5.8)

**EUROPEAN TRAVEL TO AFRICA**

*Below, detail*

*Mission from Cape Coast Castle to Ashantee, With a Statistical Account of that Kingdom, and Geographical Notices of Other Parts of the Interior of Africa*
T. Edward Bowdich (1791–1824)
London: John Murray, 1819
Gift of Margaret Feurer Plass, Class of 1917

*The Americas*

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THE NORTHWEST COAST

Right, top

Hat

Tlingit, Northwest Coast of North America
Early-20th century
Twined and painted spruce root
7 x 8 in. (diameter)
Gift of George Vaux and Anne Hawks Vaux, Class of 1911, MA 1914 (95.1.262)

Right, bottom

Pipe

Haida, Queen Charlotte Islands, Canada
Early-20th century
Carved argillaceous slate
11 x 5 9/16 x 1 3/4 in.
Gift of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia (76.13.99)

Below

Basket with Lid

Coast Salish, Northwest Coast of North America
Early 20th century
Woven and coiled plant fibers
8 3/4 x 10 1/2 in. (diameter)
Gift of Frederica de Laguna, Class of 1927 and Professor of Anthropology (95.1.260)

THE SOUTHWEST

Right

Olla (Water Jar)

Acoma Pueblo, New Mexico
ca. 1900–1932
Coiled clay with polychrome decoration
10 7/16 x 10 5/8 in. (diameter)
Gift of Katherine B. Twyffelf Grenne and Susan Twyffelf Spoor (72.1.8)

Olla (Water Jar)

Maria Martinez (American, 1887–1980)
San Ildefonso Pueblo, New Mexico
ca. 1923–1936
Coiled clay with burnished decoration
9 1/2 x 11 1/8 in. (diameter)
Bequest of Milton C. Nahm, Professor of Philosophy (91.1.15)
**THE GREAT PLAINS**

*Above*

Plains Indian, Great Plains, United States

Early-mid-20th century

Leather, glass beads, and cloth

17 3/8 x 14 3/16 in.

Gift of Katherine B. Twyeffort Greene and Susan Twyeffort Spoor (72.1.33)

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*Child’s Vest*

Plains Indian, Great Plains, United States

Early-mid-20th century

Leather, glass beads, and cloth

17 3/8 x 14 3/16 in.

Gift of Katherine B. Twyeffort Greene and Susan Twyeffort Spoor (72.1.33)

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**EUROPEAN TRAVEL TO THE AMERICAS**

*Americae terza pars memorabili provinciae Brasiliae historiam continens*

Theodor de Bry (1528–1598)

Frankfurt: Theodor de Bry, 1592

Gift of Richard H. Addelson

*Below, detail*

*Rerum per Octennium in Brasilia*

Caspar van Baerle (1584–1648)

Amsterdam: Joan Blaeu, 1647

Gift of Louise Bulkley Dillingham, Class of 1916

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**Pipe Bowl and Stem**

Sioux or Ojibwa, Plains or Great Lakes region, United States

Early-mid-20th century

Calumet with inlaid pewter, wood

Bowl: 5 5/8 x 3 1/2 x 1 1/2 in.; stem: 25 1/2 x 3/4 in. (diameter)

Gift of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia (70.Et.3.4-5)

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**FINE ARTS**

*M. Carey Thomas*

John Singer Sargent (American, 1856–1925)

July 1899

Oil on canvas

38 x 38 in.

Gift of the Portrait Committee of Alumni and Students, Bryn Mawr College (X.205)

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**THE MODERN WORLD**

The College’s holdings of 19th- and 20th-century Western books and art cover a wide range of formats and subject areas, reflecting the explosion of printed books and the numerous technological innovations that have transformed art production over the last two centuries. The printed collections include first editions of many of the important writers of the time, including H.D. and Marianne Moore (both from the Class of 1909). These books are supplemented by extensive sets of papers from prominent writers including Christina Rossetti, A.E. Housman, Moore, and Katharine Sergeant White (Class of 1914), the long-time fiction editor of *The New Yorker*. The Arts and Crafts movement, particularly the circle around William Morris, is also one of the strengths of the collection. The College holdings include 50 of the 53 books published by Morris’s Kelmscott Press along with prints and drawings by Edward Burne-Jones and a set of the photographs of Kelmscott Manor by Frederick Henry Evans.

The photograph collections contain several thousand images in a wide variety of formats by major artists from the very beginnings of photography in the mid-19th century to the present. The modern print collections also continue to grow through an emphasis on the work of contemporary women artists.
BOOKS

The Song of Songs Which Is Solomon’s
Florence Kingsford Cockerell (British, 1874–1949), illuminator
Chelsea: a shendene Press, 1902
Two copies, gifts of Leah Johnson, Class of 1889, and Mary Peirce, Class of 1912

The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club
Charles Dickens (1812–1870)
London: Chapman and Hall, 1836–1837
Gift of Helen Annan Scribner, Class of 1891

Poems by Emily Dickinson
Emily Dickinson (1830–1886)
Boston: Roberts Brothers, 1896
Gift of Mrs. Frank C. Reyer
Photography

**Sidewalk and Shopfront, New Orleans**

Walker Evans (American, 1903–1975)
1935
Gelatin silver print
9 1/8 x 7 1/6 in.
Gift of C. Mackenzie Lewis (2001.4.20)

**Italian Family in Ferry Boat Leaving Ellis Island**

Lewis Wickes Hine (American, 1874–1940)
1905
Gelatin silver print
7 1/8 x 9 1/2 in.
Gift of C. Mackenzie Lewis (2001.4.23)

**Balzac, The Silhouette—4 a.m.**

Edward Steichen (American, 1879–1973)
ca. 1908–1911
Photogravure
6 5/15 x 9 1/16 in.
Gift of Harvey Staley Miller in honor of Seymour Addis (2010.8.4)

**Right Wire Wheel, New York**

Paul Strand (American, 1890–1976)
1918
Palladium print
12 3/4 x 10 1/8 in.
Gift of Michael E. Hoffman (2010.11.4)

**Nude**

Edward Weston (American, 1886–1958)
1936; printed mid-20th century by Cole Weston from Edward Weston's negative
Gelatin silver print
9 1/2 x 7 5/8 in.
Gift of Paul and Marce Ingalls (2009.28.7)

Poems

**Marianne Moore (1887–1974)**

London: Egoist Press, 1921
Gift of Edith Finch, Class of 1922, from the library of Lucy Martin Donnelly, Class of 1893

**Illuminated Manuscript of Poems with Needlework Binding**

Louisa Strange (British, 1787–1862)
England, 1830
Manuscript on vellum
11 x 9 3/8 in.
Gift of Doreen Canaday Spitzer, Class of 1936

Right, detail

**Sketchbook from World War I**

Claud Lovat Fraser (British, 1890–1921)
ca. 1915
Pen and ink with watercolor and pencil on paper
7 3/16 x 4 in.
Gift of Seymour Addis

**Dead Tree, Sunset Crater National Monument, Arizona**

Ansel Adams (American, 1902–1984)
1936
Gelatin silver print
9 9/16 x 7 15/16 in.
Gift of Margery Peterson Lee, Class of 1937 (2001.4.14)

**Rue de Brotzwilizers**

Eugène Atget (French, 1857–1927)
1924; printed mid-20th century by Berenice Abbott from Atget’s negative
Gelatin silver print
8 3/4 x 7 in.
Gift of C. Mackenzie Lewis (2001.4.12)

**Kelmscott Manor: In the Attics (No. 1)**

Frederick Henry Evans (British, 1853–1943)
1897
Platinum print
6 1/16 x 8 1/16 in.
Gift of Mrs. Prince, Class of 1921 (2009.13.20)

**Poems**

*Minature Move (1887–1897)*

London: Egoist Press, 1921
Gift of Edith Finch, Class of 1922, from the library of Lucy Martin Donnelly, Class of 1893

**Photography**

*Dead Tree, Sunset Crater National Monument, Arizona*

Ansel Adams (American, 1902–1984)
1936
Gelatin silver print
9 9/16 x 7 15/16 in.
Gift of Margery Peterson Lee, Class of 1937 (2001.4.14)
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This exhibition would not have been possible without the invaluable assistance of the following faculty members, who provided expert guidance and support with many aspects of the show including selection of objects and writing and review of exhibition text: Mehmet-Atac, Richard Davis, Alice Donohue, Martha Easton, Julia Gaiser, Pauline Lim, Astrid Lindenlauf, Roberta Ricci, Dula Toure, and James Wright. In addition, many faculty members shared insightful comments regarding their use of collections to teach at the college, including Peter Briggs, Christiane Hertel, Dale Kinney, Steven Levine, Gridley McKim-Smith, and Katherine Rowe.

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PHOTOGRAPHY CREDITS

Rick Echelman: pp. 9 bottom, 12, 13 top & bottom, 14, 15 top, 16, 19, 20, 21 top & bottom, 22, 23 bottom, 26 bottom, 27 top, 29, 30 left & right, 31 left, top & bottom, 32 top & bottom, 33, 34 top & bottom, 35 top & bottom, 36 left & right, 38 bottom, 39 bottom, 40
