

ON VIEW: November 19, 2016 - June 18, 2017

This exhibition is dedicated to three centuries of American and European folk art from the Museum's permanent collection, with many artworks on view for the very first time. A variety of artworks and types of objects will be exhibited, including quilts, weathervanes, needlepoint samplers, baskets, Victorian anniversary tin, trade signs, sailor-made love tokens and a carnival figure, mostly by unknown makers.

Exhibition Resource Guide

Variety from the Museum's Permanent Collection

This particular exhibition celebrates the breadth and depth of the Museum's permanent collection which contains over 26,000 objects. Artworks included in this exhibition were either donated or purchased.

Symbols in Folk Art

This exhibition contains many figurative and whimsical shop signs and weathervanes from the 19th and 20th centuries. Trade signs reflected the shop's retail in as few words as possible and often became symbols for those particular businesses. Some on display will include an oversized pocket watch as a watchmaker's trade sign, a handcrafted wooden barber pole, and a wooden pocket knife replica from New York Cutlery Company. Weathervanes not only indicate which direction the wind is blowing but are often representative of the surrounding land, such as the cow, rooster and fox which are indicative of the rural surroundings.

Self-Taught & Unknown Makers

The majority of the exhibition objects were created by artists who have no academic education or formal training, but rather, were self taught in their craft. Most of the objects were created by unknown makers. This exhibition will contain a few self-taught known makers such as Felipe Archuleta, Beatrice Wood, and Gérard Cambon.

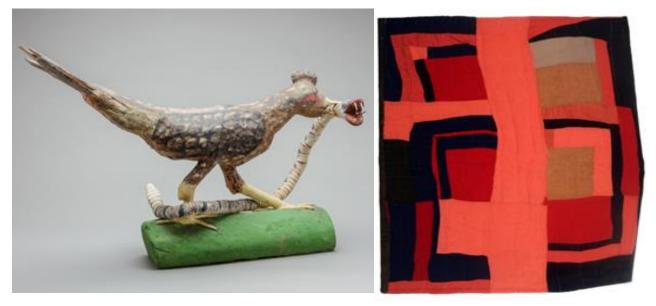


Household Objects

Featured objects in the exhibition were used in everyday life in the United States and Europe but offer a simple and humble beauty. They include clothing, baskets, boxes, hat forms, rugs, quilts, needlepoint samplers, ceramic vessels and toys.

Student will Explore

- Analyze and respond to symbolism in folk art
- Compare and contrast everyday objects from the past with their own in the present
- Various art forms and processes including ceramics, woodworking, metalsmithing, blacksmithing, weaving and dyeing



Roadrunner and Rattlesnake, 1984 Felipe Benito Archuleta (1910-1991) New Mexico Wood, paint, bottle caps Museum Purchase, 2015-105-005 Photo by Steve Oliver

Child's Quilt, c. 1920 Unknown African American maker United States Wool, acetate, cotton Gift of Margaret Robson, 2012-42-001 Photo by Steve Oliver







Trade Sign, 19th century Unknown maker United States Wood, paint Museum Purchase, 2015-05-002

Running Fox Weathervane, c. 1840 Unknown maker England, Sussex Copper, iron Museum Purchase, 2014-10-002 Photo by Steve Oliver





Trade Sign, 19th Century Unknown maker Painted wood, metal Mingei International Museum Purchase Photo by Steve Oliver

Barber Pole Trade Sign, c.1875-1899 Unknown maker Yellow pine Mingei International Museum Purchase Photo by Steve Oliver

