

# SHARING THE COLLECTION

SAM always exhibits highlights from its collection of art from Africa, Asia, Europe, North America and the Pacific Northwest as well as Native American art of the Northwest Coast.



Chief Paintings Conservator Nick Dorman with *Virgin and Child with Six Saints*.

## RENAISSANCE ART IN FOCUS: NERI DI BICCI AND DEVOTIONAL PAINTING IN ITALY

March 25, 2004–February 13, 2005

An altarpiece by the Florentine Renaissance artist Neri di Bicci (ca. 1418–ca. 1492) from Seattle's St. James Cathedral, as well as other early Renaissance paintings from SAM's permanent collection and other lenders, are featured in this exhibition.

The exhibition *Renaissance Art in Focus: Neri di Bicci and Devotional Art in Italy* continued as conservation of the painting by SAM's Chief Conservator, Nicholas Dorman, unfolded in the gallery. The conserved painting, *Virgin and Child with Six Saints* by Neri di Bicci, returns to St. James Cathedral in April 2005. An exhibition catalogue was co-authored by SAM's Chiyo Ishikawa and Nicholas Dorman, and independent scholar, Elizabeth Darrow.

This exhibition was organized by the Seattle Art Museum and is made possible with generous support from Bank of America, The Clowes Fund and the Mary and Dean Thornton Exhibition Endowment. Additional support provided by the Samuel H. Kress Foundation and Contributors to the Annual Fund.

## THE VIEW FROM HERE: THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST 1800-1930

August 8, 2003–February 29, 2004

Using a wide range of media, early artists in the Pacific Northwest evoked their particular responses to the natural beauty and growing urban scene. This exhibition, drawn largely from the permanent collection, provided a provocative assembly of the works of indigenous Native artists, visiting artists in search of grand views and those who took up residence in the region

This exhibition includes works from SAM's permanent collection as well as selected loans from local lenders. Generous support provided by the Bryant R. Dunn Exhibition Endowment and Contributors to the Annual Fund.

## INTERNATIONAL ABSTRACTION: MAKING PAINTING REAL

August 15, 2003–February 29, 2004

Through a wonderful collaboration with the University of Washington, SAM showcased works of modern art from the permanent collection in a new way. The exhibition spanned the development of abstraction, from its relative isolation in Europe just before World War I, to the international phenomenon it became as emigrating European artists brought their pioneering concepts to the United States.

This exhibition was organized by the Seattle Art Museum and was generously supported by the Margery Friedlander Exhibition Endowment and Contributors to the Annual Fund.

## THE UNTOLD STORY

November 14, 2003–Ongoing

Highlighting some of the unusual ways in which works have entered the permanent collection over the years, this exhibition features objects with intricate accounts of their creation, use, discovery and documentation.

Deepening the Dialogue, an initiative funded by The Wallace Foundation, is a key component of this exhibition, strengthening SAM's programming and community partnerships.

## OUR VISION

Visitors will EXPERIENCE fresh presentations of COLLECTION FAVORITES as well as newly acquired masterpieces. CONNECTIONS ACROSS CULTURES will create a dialogue between objects aesthetically and in relation to the cultural context in which they were created.



Mask, Teotihuacan, Mexico, ca. 100–600, stone, Assen and Christine Nicolov Collection

## FEASTING WITH THE GODS: ART AND CEREMONY IN ANCIENT MESO- AMERICA AND THE CENTRAL ANDES

December 11, 2003–July 18, 2004

This installation of artworks from regions of the ancient Americas, including rare works from the collection of Assen and Christine Nicolov, explores the role that ritual offering and feasting played in the lives of commoners and the ruling elite.

With the help of a self-guided brochure called *Feast for the Eyes*, visitors toured the museum looking for objects related to feasting. Starting in the exhibit *Feasting with the Gods* and continuing through the Northwest Coast Native American, African and European collections, guests explored objects that embodied the idea of feasting, ceremony and celebration. The guide also included a stop at the Seattle Asian Art Museum to view the Li Jin work *Feast*.