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Faculty Focus: The Art of Curating; and Big on the Bard

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The Art of Curating

Elizabeth Seaton, curator at the Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, brings a variety of art to the K-State campus

By Taylor Manges

Seaton said technology has changed the way she and other art historians research for exhibits, especially for large undertakings like “Art for Every Home.”

“We couldn’t have produced the exhibition without the Internet,” Seaton said. “A relative of an artist might have created a website and I could contact him for biographical information. That would have been impossible 20 years ago.”

The American Associated Artists, or AAA, established in New York in 1934, sought to bring art over the threshold of an “average American’s home” through the art. They get very nostalgic,” said Seaton. “If you were old enough to remember the ‘50s, people seem to enjoy entering the ‘50s, remembering the cars and the music.”

“Some of the works can take one back in time. They get very nostalgic,” said Seaton. “If you were old enough to remember the ‘50s, people seem to enjoy entering the ‘50s, remembering the cars and the music.”

For seven years, Seaton worked with a team of scholars across the country to research AAA and choose works for a traveling exhibit on the American Artists exhibition. The traveling exhibit consists of 136 works that Seaton said were historically important and visually stimulating. The exhibition opened at Manhattan’s Beach Museum of Art in April and travels through the fall of 2016. For more information, visit the museum’s website at http://www.museum.k-state.edu/AAA.

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Hedrick has held visiting professorships at noted institutions across the country — Cornell University, Amber College, Colgate University and the University of California, Irvine — and was a Fulbright Scholar at Charles University in Prague — where the First Folio was displayed. “This book, an original copy of which recently sold for $6 million, is one of my students’ favorite art history texts,” said Seaton. “It was so happy to bring my training back to Kansas, to study the work in my own backyard,” said Seaton.


K-State professor of English Don Hedrick shares his passion for Shakespeare with students

By Taylor Manges

“Shakespeare in the Little Apple” was the most exciting, wide-ranging, and popular humanities event across campus and the community in decades that led to tripling attendance at the Beach Museum of Art, where the First Folio was displayed. “This book, an original copy of which recently sold for $6 million, is one of my students’ favorite art history texts,” said Seaton. “It was so happy to bring my training back to Kansas, to study the work in my own backyard,” said Seaton.

“K-State professors are consistently recognized for the quality of teaching they deliver,” said Seaton. “It was so happy to bring my training back to Kansas, to study the work in my own backyard,” said Seaton.

Hedrick said he was the founding director of the English department’s early studies program and teaches courses in language, literature and cinematic and gender studies. He also teaches the history of the entertainment industry of London. “My research focuses on the political and cultural context of the first Shakespearean industry and seeing the part Shakespeare’s theater played among the enormous variety of amusements available to London’s population,” said Seaton.

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“The Book that Gave Us Shakespeare, a large catalog for the exhibition is distributed by Yale University Press.

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