



Museum Notes

A Publication for Members of the NIU Art Museum

Welcome!

New Members

Alex Aubry
Mary and George Cella
Stacey Deegan
Stuart and Michelle Henn
Linda Schwarz
Dan and
Virginia Seymour
Thomas Trang

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Elizabeth and Avi Bass
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Jan Devore
Eileen Dubin
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Linda Peterson
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Beverly Smith
Ed Wietecha and
Peg Burke
Rachel Xidis
Norma Zopp

The continued support the Museum receives through your financial gifts and your enthusiasm for the Museum allows us to produce award winning exhibitions and programs for the University, DeKalb community, and beyond.

Thank You!

NIU ART MUSEUM

FRIENDS

TRADITIONS Transfigured:

THE NOH MASKS OF BIDOU YAMAGUCHI

AMERIMANGA! CONVENTION AND EXPRESSION

Museum News

Spring Exhibitions series to open March 24

NIU Art Museum's spring exhibition series resonates around themes of cross-cultural influence between Japanese and European and American fine art and popular culture. The Museum hopes to explore through these exhibitions our shrinking world and the windows through which we examine different cultures as well as emulate them. The two exhibitions demonstrate cross-influence and broadened perspectives as artists both embrace tradition and experiment with convention while seeking out their individual expressions. See *Upcoming Exhibitions* section inside for more information.

New Staff at the Museum

The NIU Art Museum is excited to announce it has just hired Stuart W. Henn as the new Coordinator of Marketing and Education. Henn, who recently accepted the position in January, is excited to be a part of the Museum. See *Staff Announcements* section inside for more.

Want to stay informed between newsletters?

Subscribe to the Museum's email announcements to receive our latest news, program and event information, and reminders.

Visit <http://niu.edu/artmuseum/contactus>.

Complete the form online and click the link in the confirmation email sent to your account to finalize the subscription process.

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Upcoming Exhibitions

Traditions Transfigured: The Noh Masks of Bidou Yamaguchi

March 24 - May 22, 2015

The exhibition features works that combine Japanese artist Bidou Yamaguchi's extraordinary Eastern craftsmanship inspired by Japan's rich Noh Theater traditions with iconic Western European portraiture. *Traditions Transfigured* presents viewers with contemporary works by Noh mask carver Bidou Yamaguchi whose work applies the forms, techniques, transformative spirit, and mysterious elegance of Noh masks to familiar, European references recognized in Western art as well as to Kabuki actor prints by Shara-ku, Japan's 18th century portrait master.

This national traveling exhibition was organized by the University Art Museum at California State University Long Beach in conjunction with Dr. Kendall H. Brown. Major support has been provided by the McLeod Family Foundation and a grant from Instructional Related Activities at CSULB.

The exhibition installation at the NIU Art Museum was made possible through generous support from **Ms. Patricia Anne Burke**, the PLB Honor Fund, and **Mr. Richard F. Grott**. Lead funding was also provided by The Elizabeth Allen Visiting Scholars in Art History Fund and the Art History Division as well as through the College of Visual and Performing Arts Dean's office at NIU.

Photo credit: Top, Bidou Yamaguchi. *Yase-ofoko (Emaciated Man) aka Imawaka*, 2003. Bottom, Bidou Yamaguchi. *Girl with a Pearl Earring*, 2005. Both artworks, courtesy of Kelly Sutherland McLeod and Steve McLeod Collection.

AMERIMANGA! CONVENTION AND EXPRESSION

March 24 - May 22, 2015

This exhibition showcases American comics that have been aesthetically influenced by Japanese manga. The featured artists, *Jen Brazas, Svetlana Chmakova, Josh Elder and Erich Owen, Brion Foulkes, Ron Kaulfersch and Mike Schwark, M. Alice LeGrow, Jill Thompson, Martheus Wade and Janet Stone Wade, and Adam Warren*, have developed their own individual styles that merge the stylistic conventions of manga and traditional American comics. *Amerimanga!* illustrates the creative development process of contemporary comics and demonstrates how these artists tell their own unique stories through the use of this cross-cultural medium.

This exhibition is co-curated by Kerry Freedman, Professor of Art + Design Education, NIU; and author Josh Elder, President and Founder, Reading with Pictures. Additional support for this exhibition came from the Office of Online Program Development and Support, eLearning Services, Division of Outreach, Engagement and Regional Development; and the Division of Art + Design Education, NIU.

Museum Staff

Jo Burke, Director
Peter Olson, Assistant Director
Stuart W. Henn, Coordinator
Marketing and Education

Graduate Assistants

Adrienne R. Miller
Christina Warzecha

Museum Assistants

Jillian Allen
Jamie Arntzen
Tanae Burton
Martin Garcia
Sabrina Garcia
Prathyusha Kasam
Carrie Morris
Ilona Tsebro

Exhibition Advisory

Committee

Audre Anderson
Michael Bennett
Barbara Jaffee
Nina Rizzo
Diane Rodgers
Peter Van Ael

Education Advisory

Committee

Joshua Anderson
Eric Fuertes
Cynthia Hellyer-Heinz
Kryssi Staikidis

Visit www.niu.edu/artmuseum

Phone: 815-753-1936
Email: artmuseum@niu.edu

Receive our email updates by
visiting our website:
www.niu.edu/artmuseum/contactus.



Follow us on Twitter
@NIUArtmuseum



Friend us on Facebook

Parking is available in the Carroll Ave Visitor's Pay Lot; handicapped and metered spots in front of Altgeld Hall; and during public receptions and programs in Lot 3 northeast of Gilbert Drive and College Avenue. Campus parking is free on weekends and after 7 p.m. weeknights.

Spring Calendar

Artist Talks, Lectures, and Events

Tuesday, March 24

Artist Talk with Bidou Yamaguchi, traditional Noh mask carver and contemporary artist
5 - 6 p.m., Altgeld Hall 315

Opening Reception

6-8 p.m., Art Museum

Opening Reception for **Traditions Transfigured: The Noh Masks of Bidou Yamaguchi** with live musical performance by members of the **Chicago Koto Group** playing traditional Japanese chamber music on shakuhachi (Japanese flute) and koto (Japanese zither).

Tuesday, March 31

Altgeld Public Art Receptions

4:30-6 p.m., 2nd, 3rd Floors Altgeld Hall and Art Museum
Amerimanga! Convention and Expression reception and student artwork on display in the President's and Provost's Office galleries. Sponsored by the Office of the President.

Lecture "The Manga Revolution: How Japanese Anime and Manga Changed the American Comic Industry Forever"

6-7 p.m., Altgeld 315

presented by author, graphic novelist and syndicated cartoonist Josh Elder, founder of Reading with Pictures, an organization that advocates the role of comics in reading and education.

Tuesday, April 7

Artist Talk with Jill Thompson

5-6 pm, Visual Arts Building, Jack Arends Hall, room 102
Artist Talk presented by Jill Thompson, a multiple Eisner Award winner named the National Cartoonist Society's 2011 Best Comic Book Artist.

Wednesday, April 22

Slide Lecture, "The Afterlife of Appropriation"

5-6 p.m., Altgeld Hall, room 315

presented by Sarah Evans, NIU Assistant Professor of Art History, who examines art of the 1970s and its contributions to postmodernism, will discuss appropriation art which reuses and references borrowed images, recontextualizing the references' original meanings.

Saturday, April 25

Make Your Own Mask

1-4 p.m., Art Museum

Mask-making Workshop for 2015 Artigras! with gallery component followed by hands-on activity led by Eric Fuertes of Barb City Initiative. Age 13 and up, Limited participants and pre-registration required.

Saturday, May 2

Art Museum *Open Late* for Artigras!

12-6 p.m., Art Museum

For more details see the Artigras! insert right

For more information or registration details please visit www.niu.edu/artmuseum or call 815-753-1936.

Film Screenings

Thursday, April 30

Film Screening and Discussion of Akira Kurasawa's 1957 classic *Throne of Blood*
7-10 p.m., Egyptian Theatre
135 N. Second Street, DeKalb
Film screening and discussion with NIU History and Language Professors E. Taylor Atkins and John R. Bentley moderating this Japanese re-interpretation of Macbeth. \$7 adults; \$5 student/senior/NIU Art Museum Member. Doors open 6:30 p.m.



Tuesday, May 12

Film Screening of *Spirited Away*, Hayao Miyazaki's 2001 Anime Feature

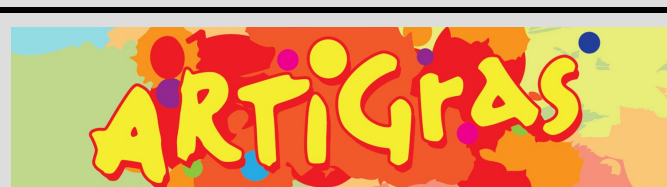
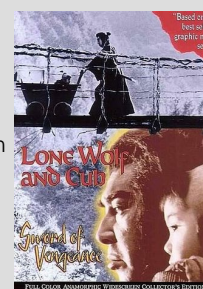
7:15-9:30 p.m., Montgomery Hall Auditorium
Anime classic and coming of age tale of a ten-year old girl's magical journey to a new neighborhood where she must save her parents after they encounter a witch.



Wednesday, May 13

Film Screening of *Lone Wolf & Cub: Sword of Vengeance, 1972*

7:15-9:30 p.m., Montgomery Hall Auditorium
A dramatic film directed by Kenji Misumi based on the award-winning manga graphic novel which depicts a wandering Ronin assassin-for-hire traveling with his young son in Edo period Japan.



May 2, 2015

Visit: <http://niu.edu/artigras/>

Arts Parade

Starts downtown, ends School of Art and Design building on campus, join the parade!, 3-4 p.m.

Musical Performances

Community School of the Arts Steelband and the NIUkulele Ensemble
Recital Hall, NIU Music building, 7 p.m.

Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra
Boutell Memorial Concert Hall, NIU Music building, 7:30 p.m. \$

Ongoing Receptions

BFA Show (multiple locations)
215th 4th Street Art Gallery, Jack Olson Gallery, and 214 Gallery, NIU School of Art and Design, 4-9 p.m.

NIU President's residence
Arrive via shuttle bus, 4-6 p.m.

Foundations Showcase
School of Art and Design building, Third Floor, 4:30 p.m.

Time Arts Student Displays
Egyptian Theatre, 5-9 p.m.

Moments from the latest Get-on-the-Bus excursion

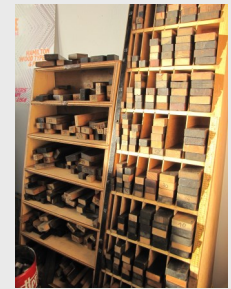
Bus trip participants enjoyed the latest visit to the Conservation Center in Chicago and received a behind-the-scenes tour from

Heather Becker the CEO of the Conservation Center. While downtown participants also visited the print cooperative at Spudnik Press,

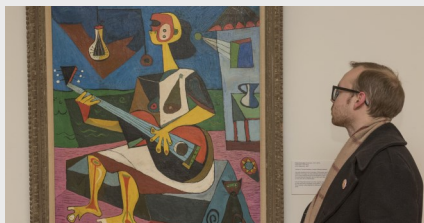
Salvage One's warehouse full of reclaimed finds, and had an enlightening stop at Rotofugi Gallery and Toy Store. ■



Get-on-the-Bus Participants enjoyed the excursion to the Conservation Center, Spudnik Press, and Rotofugi Gallery. Photo credit: Peter Olson



Highpoints from our Winter exhibition *Local Visions: Selections from Area Collections*



Pictured: Buddy Avila, NIU Museum Studies Student. Photo credit: Bob Banke

If you didn't see *Local Visions* before it closed on February 21 you missed a wonderful and eclectic glimpse into the very unique local collections held by area residents. Co-curated by **Michael Bennett** and Peter Olson the exhibition delicately handled such

diverse objects as travel souvenirs, American antique furniture, Indonesian tapestries, prints on paper, circus and sideshow posters, vintage toys, and Outsider art.

Bennett described the assorted and wide-ranging items in an interview for the *Daily Chronicle*, "The variety in this show is just amazing. Some of this stuff is kind of funky and fun, some is very serious art. Some people won't like a piece that others will love." From the reaction of most visitors at the reception it seemed that they indeed did love it. In fact, the evening reception was a highlight of the show with visitors from the community turning out in curious droves to support it.

During the reception Bennett and Olson talked informally

during a *Curator Talk* on their particular approach arranging the exhibition. Collectors also volunteered to speak at two *Gallery Talks* including **Barbara Hulseberg**,



Pictured: Sally Stevens. Photo credit: Bob Banke

David McMahon, and **Jerry and Ging Smith** on February 7 as well as, **Michael Bennett**, John Hulseberg, Ron Klein, David Menard, Pete Olson, and **Dan & Virginia Seymour** on February 21 where they shared the personal stories behind their objects and what it is like to live daily with these items in their home. *Continued next page*



Pictured: Dedrie Rudolph, Julie Fauci, and Charlie Rudolph. Photo credit: Bob Banke

SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS TO THE MUSEUM!

Have you attended one of our programs, events, receptions or Get-on-the-Bus trip and taken really great photos? The museum could use your image on our website, in newsletter issues, or other promotions. Please submit your photos to Stuart Henn via email at shenn1@niu.edu. Images should be sized 4x6", 300 dpi, and in JPEG format, include the photographers name, date, event, and one sentence description.

Highpoints...continued from previous page

Thank you to the wonderful lenders of collections featured in *Local Visions*; **Mary-Glynn and John H. Boies, Rodney Borstad, Gerald and Cheryl Brauer, Richard M. Cooler, Robert and Christa Even, Sven Oskar Hansen, Barbara Hulseberg, John Hulseberg, Ronald G. Klein, David McMahon, Molly Carter and David Menard, Jerry D. and Miriam Meyer, Charlie and Dedrie Rudolph, Dan and Virginia Seymour, and Jerry and Ging Smith.** What a wonderful show!

Olson commented, "We are thrilled to highlight the visual richness of our community, and to tell the personal stories behind these objects. We hope to embark on a future series of exhibitions, each highlighting a different group of collectors from our community."

Certainly, visitor interest supports another exhibition! In the future the Museum may consider another exhibition which will rely on other collectors, if you know of someone or are interested yourself please contact the Museum today. ■



Pictured: **Mary-Glynn Boies, John and Ulli Rooney**
Photo credit: Bob Banke

New Staff at the Museum

continued from page 1

Previously, Henn served as the Interim Educator at the Geneva History Museum where he coordinated programming for elementary school groups and the adult program series, as well as exhibition related educational events. While there Henn produced the guided audio tour for the exhibition *A Celebration of Rural America*, a traveling exhibition of WPA prints by Grant Wood, John Steuart Curry, and Thomas Hart Benton. Henn's previous art museum experience includes time at the Elmhurst Art Museum as Coordinator of External Relations where he oversaw public relations, marketing, and development activities of the museum. While there he authored the didactic panels for the exhibition, *Sandra Jorgensen: Fitting In*. Henn holds a MA in Art History from Northern Illinois University as well as graduate courses in Museum Studies in addition to a BA in Art History from Truman State University. He has presented papers at The Art Institute of Chicago, Northern Illinois University Graduate Student Seminar, and the National Conference of Undergraduate Research. Stuart and his wife Michelle live in Geneva. ■



Staff Announcements

Museum Graduate Assistant, Adrienne Miller presented a selection of her recent prints in a solo exhibition *middleground* for her MFA Thesis exhibition at Gallery 214 in the Jack Arends Visual Arts Building at NIU earlier in March. She has two other upcoming exhibitions this spring: a solo show, *Sequestered Spaces* on display March 28 through June 12 at Spudnik Press Cooperative and a group show (*in*)finite – NIU MFA Senior Show March 20 through April 11 at the Zhou B Art Center both in Chicago. Visit www.adrienne-miller.com for more information.

Congratulations to Museum Graduate Assistant, Christina Warzecha, who recently received one of six Graduate University Fellowships for the 2015–2016 Academic year, representing the School of Art and Design. University Fellowship recipients receive tuition waivers and stipends in order to support superior students toward fulfillment of their academic degree. Warzecha is a second year Ceramics MFA candidate.

Illona Tsebro, Museum Assistant, will have work as a graduating BFA student in the *BFA Show Spring 2015* on display at the Jack Olson and Fourth Street Galleries, April 27 through May 8 with reception Saturday, May 2 from 4:30–9 p.m.

If you are interested in joining the Museum's volunteers contact the Museum to share your talents or email niuartmuseum@niu.edu

Volunteers, Sponsors, Partners

Special thanks to our winter volunteers: *Korkuk Akacik*, installation assistance; *Yelda Akacik*, gallery monitor; **Michael Bennett**, guest co-curator, installation, art moving, and exhibition promotion; **Gary Burchett**, mailing and reception prep crew; and technical assistance; **Susan Carter**, accounting; *Josh Elder*, guest co-curator, lecturer; *Kerry Freedman*, guest co-curator, exhibition essay writer; *Janean Koebbe*, reception hostess; **Jan Modloff**, bus trip research; **Virginia Seymour**, editing; and *Zaneta Taylor*, reception assistance.

Thanks to *Ola Giza* and **Sophia Varcados** for their tremendous graphic design work.

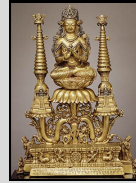
Thanks to *Lynne M. Thomas* and the *Friends of the University Libraries* who partnered with us and to *Joel Kennedy* and *The House Café* for hosting the DeKalb rendition of *That Belongs in a Museum*, a participatory show-and-tell. Thanks to all those who braved the cold, schlepped in their treasures and told us their stories!

Special thanks to College of Visual and Performing Arts Dean Rich Holly for advertising and moral support; and to **Patricia Anne Burke** and **Richard F. Grott** for making things happen. ■

Friday, April 10, 2015

Buddhist Art of Kashmir exhibition at the Block Museum of Art and stop at Patel Brothers Market

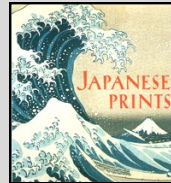
Collecting Paradise: Buddhist Art of Kashmir and its Legacies presenting an original and innovative look at the region of Kashmir, as well as how it has been "collected" over time. Opportunity to purchase ingredients to prepare your own Indian/Pakistani feast at Patel Brothers Market as well as to sample treats at a Himalayan restaurant. Bus departs NIU School of Art Parking Lot at 10:30 a.m. with return arrival at 8:30 p.m. Transportation fees: NIU Art Museum Members: \$18; St/Sr non member: \$20; Other: \$25. Museum entry is included but meal and incidental costs on your own. **Limited to 24 participants. Pre-registration/Payment deadline: Wednesday, 04/08/15.**



Friday, April 17, 2015

Japanese Prints of the Art Institute of Chicago, shopping trip to Mitsuwa Marketplace

Private viewing of highlights from the Japanese prints collection at the Art Institute of Chicago with AIC Curator Janice Katz. Time to explore world class galleries featuring works from Asia, Southeast and South Asia and a newly installed Middle Eastern Gallery. Opportunity to discover more about Japanese culture with a shopping excursion to the extensive Japanese market, Mitsuwa Market. Bus departs NIU School of Art Parking Lot at 8:45 a.m. with return arrival at 6:45 p.m. Transportation fees: NIU Art Museum Members: \$12; St/Sr non member: \$15; Other: \$18. *Museum admission, meals, and incidentals on your own.* AIC members have free admission to the Art Institute; Museum General ticket admission: Adult: \$23; St/Sr: \$17. **Limited to 20 participants. Pre-registration/Payment deadline: Wednesday, 04/01/15**



Saturday, May 30

Anderson Japanese Gardens in Rockford

Teppanyaki lunch at a Japanese restaurant followed by afternoon at the glorious Anderson Japanese Gardens in Rockford ranked among the highest quality and most authentic Japanese gardens in North America. Bus departs NIU School of Art Parking Lot at 10:00 a.m.; Return arrival at 6:00 p.m. Transportation and Garden admission included: NIU Art Museum Members: \$20; St/Sr non member: \$22; Other: \$25. Lunch costs and incidentals on your own. Please note: Garden paths are uneven.



Registration/Payment deadline: Thursday, 05/21/15

Get-On-The-Bus Excursions!

Dates and prices are subject to change. To reserve your seat on the bus, please call 815-753-1936 or email Jo Burke at jburke2@niu.edu. Pre-Payment with cash, check, or credit card in advance to guarantee your seat is required. Friends of NIU Art Museum Members receive discounts and access to *Member's Only Excursions*. Join Today!

For more information visit our website: www.niu.edu/artmuseum.

Sponsor Members

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Mary-Glynn and John H. Boies
Deborah and Colin Booth
Rodney M. Borstad
Phillip and Gayalla Burchett
Pat Burke
and John van Vranken
John Butler
Robert J. Fleisher
and Darsha Primich
Stuart and Michelle Henn
Barbara Hulseberg
Steven Johnson
Jerry and Miriam Meyer
Bill and Jo Monat
Brian Reis and Mary E. LaClair
John and Marjorie Rey
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Christa and Robert Even
Jerry and Annette Johns
Norden Gilbert
and Benjamin Thomas
Anne C. Kaplan
Kathy and Richard Katz
Catherine Raymond
and Alan Potkin
Helen Shirley

Thank you for your generosity!

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership renewal notices are not mailed. Please check if your membership card is expiring soon and renew today!

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Notify the Museum if you have moved to ensure that you continue to receive issues of the *Museum Notes* newsletter.

By becoming a Member of the **Friends of NIU Art Museum** you help increase community support for the arts and receive special privileges and benefits. As a **Friend of the NIU Art Museum** you contribute to both the continuance and growth of a valuable cultural resource in northern Illinois. Your membership provides essential support for exhibitions, educational programs, artists' lectures, exhibition-related publications and conservation of the permanent collection.

Benefits & Levels of Membership:

FRIENDS: Individual \$25 / Dual \$45 / Student \$10 / Senior \$15 / Dual Senior \$25
Choice of:

- ⇒ NIU Art Museum Travel Mug
 - ⇒ NIU Art Museum Academic Calendar
 - ⇒ NIU Art Museum Tote*
 - ⇒ NIU Art Museum Tee Shirt*
- *(additional fee of \$5 for Student and Senior members)

- Priority registration and discounted fees on museum activities
- Printed mailing of exhibition announcements
- E-mail announcements/listserve
- Special members-only previews, receptions, bus trips and special events
- 20% discount on NIU Art Museum catalogues
- Subscription to **Museum Notes** newsletter

If you are already a member please share this form with a friend. Thank you.

SPONSOR Membership \$100

All of the Friends privileges **plus**
Choice of **one** of the following prints from the **Friends Collector Print Program:**

- ⇒ Larry Gregory, *Conkles Hollow, Ohio*
- ⇒ Charlotte Rollman, *Hopkins Park, DeKalb*
- ⇒ Philip Smith, *Five Summers Past*
- ⇒ Sidney Chafetz, *Public Servant*
- ⇒ Eugene Larkin, *27 Feathers*
- ⇒ Jack Coughlin, *Small Winter Owl*
- ⇒ Peter Olson, *Hummingbird Nebula*

- Complimentary exhibition catalogues
- Recognition in **Museum Notes**

PATRON Membership \$250

All of the above Friend & Sponsor privileges **with**
Choice of **one** of the following prints from the **Friends Collector Print Program:**

- ⇒ Renie Adams, *Point of View*
- ⇒ Michael Barnes, *Sideshow*
- ⇒ David Driesbach, *Opening Night*

- **Name engraved on Membership Plaque in Museum**

Return This Portion to the NIU Art Museum, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL 60115

YES! I want to Join Renew my Membership of the NIU Art Museum at the level circled:

Individual/\$25 Dual/\$45 (2 people, one mailing address) Student/\$10 Senior/\$15
Dual Senior/\$25 (2 seniors, one mailing address) Sponsor/\$100 Patron/\$250

***Students and Seniors please enclose copy of current I.D.**

I would like to help with an additional donation of \$_____. _____ I do not wish to receive a premium. Please use the entirety of my membership fee (and/or donation) towards programming and collection conservation.

Premium Selection: _____; Sponsor or Patron Print Selection: _____

Name _____ Street _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Enclosed is my check payable to the NIU Art Museum for \$_____

Please charge my : Mastercard Visa Discover American Express

Account number _____ Expiration date _____

Name on card _____ Signature _____

I am interested in volunteering:

- Baking/Receptions Housing artists/scholars overnight
- Gallery Attendant/Information Desk Advisory Panels - Area of Interest: Events Fundraiser
- Education/Outreach Exhibitions Collections Get-On-The-Bus Trips Other _____

Our Galleries are busy during Installation



Photo credit: Peter Olson

Peter Olson, Assistant Director and Collection Manager of the Museum coordinated the artwork receipt for the national traveling exhibition, *Traditions Transfigured: The Noh Masks of Bidou Yamaguchi*. Previously on display at the Asia Society Texas in Houston, the exhibition will travel to the New Orleans Museum of Art after its visit to DeKalb.



Photo credit: Peter Olson

Museum Assistants, Carrie Morris and Jillian Allen prepare and paint the Rotunda galleries for *Amerimanga! Convention and Expression*. ■

The exhibitions and programs of the NIU Art Museum are sponsored in part by the Illinois Arts Council Agency; the Dean's Circle of the College of Visual and Performing Arts, NIU Foundation; and the Friends of the NIU Art Museum.



NIU Art Museum
 Algeid Hall 116, First Floor, West End
 1425 W. Lincoln Hwy.
 Northern Illinois University
 DeKalb, Illinois 60115
 815-753-1936
 Gallery Hours:
 Tuesday - Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 Saturday 12 - 4 p.m.
 by appointment for large groups & tours

