

Gilded Age to Great War opens the season (continued from page 1)



where he sketched scenes of the war's aftermath. Bancroft returned to the United States with more than 200 drawings made in the battle zones, some of which are featured in the exhibition.

The University Museum has been preparing for the exhibition by conserving Bancroft's works in its collection as funds became available. The portraits shown at right are among the recently restored works on display. Over the past four years, professional art conservators have treated 11 Bancroft paintings in the

museum's collection and nine of his watercolors and drawings. An additional 12 drawings have been rematted and reframed to modern conservation standards.

The exhibition also features a video documentary produced by students and an alumna of IUP's Center for Media Production and Research in the Department of Communications Media. The documentary discusses Bancroft's art and career in historical context and describes the work of art conservators and their treatment of

Bancroft's paintings and drawings. More than a year in production, the video aired recently on IUP-TV and can be seen on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/6ajaGKcotNk>

Gilded Age to Great War has nationwide exposure through an article in the October 2016 issue of *American Art Review*. The exhibition, which closes on October 29, is co-curated by Donna Cashdollar and Harrison Wick. It is supported, in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts.



Clockwise from top left, works by Milton Bancroft: *France 1918 (Troops Marching)*, a drawing in charcoal and watercolor; *Isidore Konti*, n.d., oil on canvas; *Gentleman Smoking a Cigar (Grosvenor Clarkson)*, 1915, oil on canvas. Above, left: A letter in IUP Special Collections Manuscript Group 133, from Bancroft on his way to France in 1918, was examined by wartime censors.



Gilded Age to Great War: Milton Bancroft and His Art opens the 2016-2017 season

by Donna Cashdollar and Harrison Wick

AMERICAN ARTIST MILTON BANCROFT (1866-1947) lived and worked in a time of major political, cultural, and artistic change. New technologies, immigration, and World War I transformed American society and traditional academic art gave way to Impressionism and modernist influences. *Gilded Age to Great War: Milton Bancroft and His Art* presents the artist's work and his personal story in the context of his time, which was as disruptive and unsettled and dynamic as our own time.

Primarily a portrait painter and muralist, Bancroft is perhaps best known for his allegorical murals in the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco and his paintings and drawings of the Western Front in France after the Armistice. This exhibition features original works by Bancroft from the University Museum's permanent collection, tracing his career from the Gilded Age through World War I and his transition from academic painting to Impressionism. The exhibition also showcases historical documents and memorabilia from the Milton Bancroft archival collection (Manuscript Group 133 in the IUP Special Collections & University Archives).

Milton Herbert Bancroft was born in Newton, Massachusetts, near Boston. He studied and taught at the Pennsyl-



Harem Girl, n.d., oil on canvas by Milton Bancroft

vania Academy of the Fine Arts, an important training ground for painters and sculptors. He also studied at the art academies of Paris before establishing a career in New York City. As America prepared to enter World War I, Bancroft designed posters for the Council of National Defense industrial preparedness campaign, for Red Cross recruitment of nurses, and for Navy recruiting. In 1918-19 Bancroft worked with the YMCA in France, preparing relief stations for American troops there and designing posters promoting the YMCA's support for them. His work took him through the most devastated parts of the country, *(continued on page 4)*

NEWSLETTER

Fall 2016

University Museum
Sutton Hall, first floor

724-357-2397
www.iup.edu/museum

The University Museum
is a program of
the College of Fine Arts
at Indiana University
of Pennsylvania.

The University Museum
marks 40 years with a
benefit gala celebration
on Homecoming
Weekend.

Exhibition of
Milton Bancroft's art
receives national
exposure in
American Art Review.

Local model railroad
enthusiasts bring
holiday spirit
to the Museum in
model train displays.



CALENDAR - FALL 2016

All events are in the Museum
unless specified.

*Gilded Age to Great War:
Milton Bancroft and His Art*
September 10 – October 29

The artist's story and work
from the museum collection
Public reception:
September 10, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

*Holiday Wheels and Thrills:
A Model Train Display*
November 12 – December 10
A show for all ages, by the local
Train Collectors Association
Public reception:
November 12, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Check the museum website and
Lively Arts calendar for
public programs related to
the exhibitions.

ADMISSION - FREE

Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
2:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Thursday Noon - 7:30 p.m.

Saturday Noon - 4:00 p.m.

Closed Sunday, Monday and
university holidays

Campus parking FREE after 5:00 p.m.

Gala: A 40th Anniversary Celebration in Black and White

by Laura Krulikowski

Black and white—always classic. Think vintage films... French mimes... fingers jazzing on piano keys. Black tie? Optional. Zebra stripes or domino dots? Possible. Fun? Always.



SAVE THE DATE and make your reservation for the University Museum's 40th anniversary benefit celebration Friday, October 14, 2016, 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at the Museum, Sutton Hall. The evening includes fine art, drinks, dining, entertainment, live and silent auctions, and dancing—all in all a darn good time!

The gala evening features *Gilded Age to Great War: Milton Bancroft and His Art*, an exhibition featured in this issue.

For more details and to make reservations, see the museum website: www.iup.edu/museum

Revisiting Gala 2015—A night on “Your Special Island”



On track to please all ages—*Holiday Wheels & Thrills*

by Tom Ott

TO ENHANCE COMMUNITY SPIRIT during Indiana County's Bicentennial Holiday Season, a group of local Train Collectors Association (TCA) members and model railroading enthusiasts are coming together to present a working model train display at the University Museum at IUP.



Holiday Wheels & Thrills—A Model Train Display will include six operating layouts and a number of stationary exhibits depicting model railroading evolution from the early 1900s to present day. Part of the fun while visiting the display will be to see if you can locate models similar to those you, your parents, or grandparents owned or displayed when you were a child, and for “young” and “old” alike to re-experience the fun of model railroading during the holiday season.

Children will enjoy the “All Aboard” call of Tom Hanks as the Polar Express pulls out for another run to the North Pole and the unique pastel shades of the Pink Girl's Train traveling down the rails. All will be thrilled with the steam, diesel, and yard sounds of the modern age models and with revisiting a by-gone era as the steam locomotives whistle and chug down the track, mixing with the horn blasts of the early diesel engines.

Exhibits will include a variety of vintage and modern day displays including Pre-War Standard and “O” Gauge; Post-War “O” and “S” Gauge; Modern “G” (Garden) Scale, “O” Scale, “S” Scale, “HO” Scale, “N” Scale, and “Z” Scale. In addition, holiday trees, decorations, vintage toys, quilts,

posters, and railroad memorabilia will be on display to further highlight your holiday experience. This is an exhibit the whole family will enjoy and one you will not want to miss! It opens with a public reception on November 12, 6:00 - 8:30 p.m., and closes on December 10.

