

# WILLIAMS COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART

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[wcma.williams.edu](http://wcma.williams.edu)

### MISSION

*The Williams College Museum of Art  
makes dynamic art experiences to  
incite new thinking about art,  
museums, and the world.*

### HUMANITIES EXPERTISE

The Williams College Museum of Art is a vibrant center for the arts at Williams that embodies the potential for the liberal arts to catalyze our ability to think creatively and critically. It is a vital hub for deep student learning and participation; for taking risks and testing creative, future forms of scholarship and teaching; and for boldly affirming the relevance of the history of art and the arts broadly. Partnering closely with art department faculty and others, the Museum aims not just to sustain but to revitalize the college's world class legacy in the visual arts for generations to come.

### CONTACT

[Staff Directory](#)

## HUMANITIES RESOURCES & PROJECTS

### PROGRAMS & RESOURCES

- [Object Lab](#): Object Lab is a hybrid gallery-classroom and a responsive pedagogical platform. Faculty across academic divisions collaborate with museum staff to select works of art that employ, convey, or investigate key course concepts. These works of art are installed in the gallery for the semester, offering students and faculty extended access to the art.
- [Rose Object Classroom](#): Rose provides a classroom setting for faculty from across disciplines to teach with works of art. WCMA pulls works of art from storage and make them available for close study. No prior experience with art necessary; Elizabeth Gallerani, Curator of Mellon Academic Programs, customizes each session for your class. She recommends specific works of art, provides background information on art and artists, suggests pedagogical strategies for teaching with art, gives you access to the art before your class, and can assist with teaching.
- [Reading Room](#): WCMA's Reading Room reinvigorates its legacy as a site of social learning and a center for public intellectual life. The space opened in 1890 as "a literary resort for students" when benefactor Eliza Field provided funds to add two small reading rooms to the college library, now WCMA's Rotunda. True to Field's vision of a student space with "a more homelike aspect," WCMA's Reading Room is a cozy, intimate space to linger and study, a gathering spot for meetings, and home to collaborative programs, projects, and conversations.
- [Cocurate](#): *Interdisciplinary expertise takes shape in our galleries.* WMCA collaborates with faculty to give physical and visual form to research and ideas. Together they generate projects that include exhibitions, programs, installations, and publications.
- [Agents for Creative Action](#): *Explore museum practice as creative process.* Creative Agents animate WCMA's collections and convene the public around art and ideas.

### EXHIBITIONS & EVENTS

- [WALLS \(Williams Art Loan for Living Spaces\)](#): Unlike most collections, the purpose of WALLS is to leave the museum and enter the living spaces and lives of students. The collection was formed in 2012 by a committee of students, staff, and faculty who created the initial collection of ninety works. The selected works sought to mirror WCMA's broader collection but also responded to student interests and the Williams curriculum.
- [Public Art](#): *A collection extends beyond WCMA's walls.* Works of art from WCMA's collection can be found all across the Williams College campus. These sculptures and installations integrate unexpected and informal encounters with art into the daily lives of students, residents, and visitors.
- [Featured Acquisitions](#): *Growing the Collection.* Through generous gifts and careful allocation of endowed funds, WCMA augments their strengths with particular focus on acquiring work by African-American artists, work by women artists, and international contemporary art.

\* Events are listed [online](#).