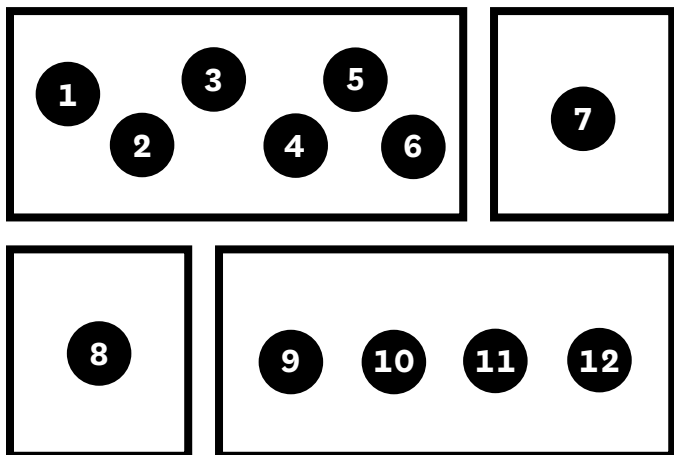


Collecting Memories

40 years of Ceramics and Community

Collecting Memories features objects selected by members of the Gardiner community to celebrate the Museum's 40th anniversary. Explore the works and their accompanying stories to discover moments of joy, inspiration, reflection, and learning.



ROW 1 (LEFT TO RIGHT)

- 1** John Kurok (Inuit, born 1977)
Shaman's Tears, 2003-6
Museum of Inuit Art, G16.13.5

"Shaman Tear's is my favourite- it's interesting because he's happy but crying."

- SKYLAR, AGE 9

- 2** Dish with Floral Decoration
Iran, late 19th century
Gift of the Savard and Tabak Families, G22.8.2

Selected by the Grade 5-6 Class from St. Rose of Lima Catholic School

"I liked this work because it reminds me of an ocean. I love swimming and I think it looks beautiful."

- NISHI, AGE 11

Level 1

(Basement - Ground Floor)

- 3** Brendan Tang (Canadian, b. 1975)
Manga Ormolu ver. 5.0-d, 2009
The Diana Reitberger Collection, G23.10.13

Selected by the Grade 5-6 Class from St. Rose of Lima Catholic School

"This is my favourite because I like the colour orange, and it really represents the future and the past. It sort of inspires me to make something like it."

- CHRISTOPHER, AGE 10

- 4** Figure of a *Minogame* (Flaming Tortoise)
Japan, Hizen, c.1670-1690
The Macdonald Collection, G04.18.46

Selected by the Grade 2 Class from Wilkinson Junior Public School

"I like this art because it makes me feel happy."

- ARYA, AGE 8

- 5** Moon Flask vase designed by Christopher Dresser
England, Minton, c. 1870 -1880
Gift of N. Robert Cumming, G98.1.28

Anonymous selection

"The colour is so vibrant - Art Nouveau - dramatic, and opulent."

- 6** Pair of Lion-Dogs
China, Dehua, Qing Dynasty, 19th century
The Anne Gross Collection, G18.1.7.1-2

Selected by Gwendolyn Adams

"I own 2 Pekingese dogs and they look exactly like these two beautiful pups. I love that one of the lion-dogs has a ball under his paw (male) and the other dog (female) has her pup under her paw."

- 7** Jack Earl (American, b. 1934)
We Deliver Anywhere, 1979–1980
Gift of Barbara and Philip Silverberg, G20.13.1

Selected by the Grade 11-12 Class from
Monsignor Percy Johnson Catholic Secondary School

"I like how this work makes you think about your own identity. Since the figure does not have a face, it can apply to anyone and makes you reflect on who it is you are, or who you want to be – what mark you want to leave behind in this world that people will remember you by."

- ALEXIA, AGE 18

ROW 2 (LEFT TO RIGHT)

- 8** Lizbeth Stewart (American, 1948–2013)
Pig Tureen and Ladle, 1983
Gift of Jane Corkin, G18.5.1a-c

Selected by a Gardiner Staff Member

"Not only are pigs my favourite animal, but I feel that this piece truly encompasses the beautiful combination of aesthetics and function that ceramic vessels so often embody, alongside a touch of whimsy."

Selected by the Grade 2-3 Class from Gledhill Junior Public School

"The pig is my favourite because I like how the beet is a spoon and that the pig is cute and colourful."

- BRIGHTON, AGE 9

- 9** House-Form Vessel
Recuay culture, Colombia; 100–300 CE
Gift of George and Helen Gardiner, G83.1.176

Selected by Gwen from Picton, new Friend of the Gardiner

"I love the pet at the front door."

- 10** Dog-Form Effigy Vessel
Colima culture, Mexico; 300 BCE–300 CE
Gift of George and Helen Gardiner, G83.1.40

Selected by Shane, a proud dog owner and patron of the arts

"It reminds me of my dog, Archie, who is absolutely stunning."

- 11** **Pair of Bolognese Hounds**
France, Samson, Edmé and Cie, late 19th century
Gift of Lindy Barrow in memory of Helen Gardiner,
G22.6.1.1-2

Selected by a Gardiner Volunteer

"These engaging dogs – donated by Helen Gardiner's daughter Lindy Barrow in Helen's memory – should be highlighted to inform visitors why the Museum exists."

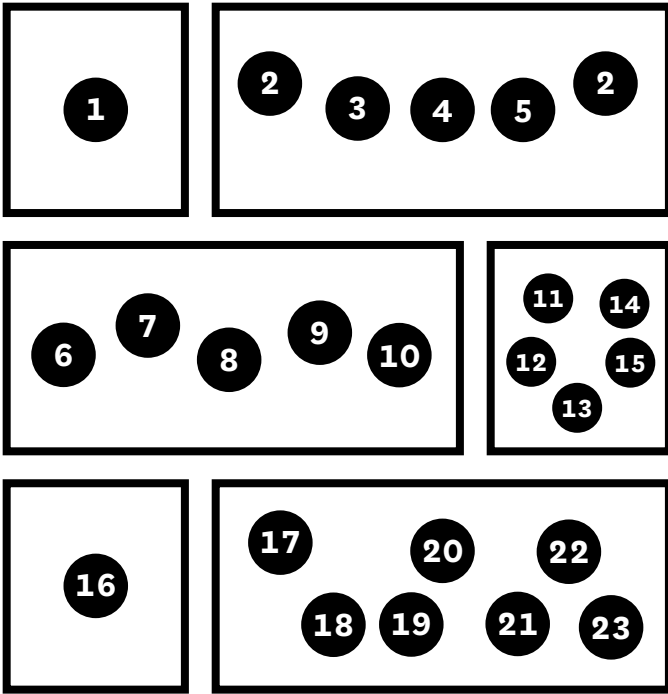
- 12** **Joe Fafard (Canadian, 1942–2019)**
Lying Down Cow, 1985
Purchased with the support of the York Wilson Endowment Award, administered by the Canada Council for the Arts./Œuvre achetée avec l'aide du prix de la dotation York-Wilson, administré par le Conseil des arts du Canada, G16.14.1

Selected by Bob, a long-time Member

"Saw Fafard's work in Regina in the late 1970s and loved it. The sculptures evoked memories of Ted Hughes's poetry in *What Is the Truth*."

Selected by Marlene, President GVC, 2019 and Chair of 35th Anniversary of GVC 2019

"Beautifully detailed, and shows the diversity of ceramic art. Always brought me joy to see it."



Level 2

(Ground Floor - Second Floor)

The details on this piece are amazing, and I enjoy the cobalt blue."

ROW 1 (LEFT TO RIGHT)

- 1** Sunmi Jung (Korean, b. 1961)
Heart, 1990s
The Raphael Yu Collection, G11.6.44

Selected by participants in the Teen Drop-in program held in partnership with The 519. Some participants commented:

"Sunmi's technical and conceptual processes resonated the most for me – she explores her layered experience of identity as a woman between cultural societies and describes her art-making process as "making music," which makes connecting to her piece an even richer experience to imagine the divergent ways she is thinking and relating to the world around her."

"I love the texture of the piece. The matte on the outside really makes the glossy texture on the inside really pop."

- 3** Sergei Isupov (Estonian American, born in Russia, born 1963)
Lady Cat, 2012
The Diana Reitberger Collection, G23.10.1

Selected by Miranda Toye

"What drew me to this piece: Lady cat's eyes...the back of her coat. All the intricate detailing of her face and body. Two human bare feet pointed forward. The people decorating the front and back of the white coat."

Selected by a Gardiner Friend

"The illustration is so lovely and soft."

- 2** Pair of Large Vases Painted by Jefferyes Hammett O'Neale
England, Worcester Porcelain Manufactory, c. 1770
Gift of George and Helen Gardiner, G83.1.1197.1-2

Selected by a Friend of the Museum

"O'Neale was one of the best English painters.

- 4** Mimi Cabri (South African)
Dancing the Fandango Vase, c. 1978
Gift of Gail and Gerry Crawford, G15.13.1

Selected by Ava with an A

"It's fun, eclectic, and the handles very difficult to create."

5 Jeannot Blackburn (Canadian, 1959–1996)
Untitled (Five Urns), 1985

Gift of Gregory Loudon and Pierre Durand in memory of the artist, G01.8.1.1-5

Anonymous selection

"I was drawn to this piece – the colours, the image and its duplicity made it hard to take my eyes off it. Very unique!"

6 Susan Collett (Canadian, b. 1961)
Calcia, 2003

Gift to honour the memory of Jacques Israelievitch with love from Gabrielle, G23.4.1

Selected by vote on the Museum's social media. Some followers commented:

"A loving tribute from Jacques's wife. Jacques gave some wonderful performances at the Gardiner in the 1990s, and his violin was from the same era as the Meissen collection. It was beautiful to hear him play to the connection."

- LUCIE G.

"It seems that she started out with the banal, generic form of a teapot – an everyday object to be found in most cupboards, or countertops, and spun it into a magical form of natural organisms – of shells, and corals. I recall William Blake's *Newton* while viewing this piece. Exquisite."

- ANNIE M.

ROW 2 (LEFT TO RIGHT)

7 Small Cabbage Tureen
France, Strasbourg, c. 1750
Anonymous Loan, L98.2.45a-b

Selected by Heather M.

"The cabbage tureen is magnificent and it deserves its moment in the sun. It's a very fitting earthenware counterpoint to the porcelain rabbit tureen on display in the European galleries."

Selected by a Gardiner Visitor

"For me, *Kings Peas*, curated by Meredith Chilton, was a fabulous exhibition exemplifying all aspects of that century from the food, entertainment, and

culture. I think I learned a lot from that exhibition and found the research done by Meredith outstanding."

8 Two-Handled Drug Jar With Oak Leaf Pattern
Giunta di Tugio, Florence, Italy, c. 1420–1450

Gift of George and Helen Gardiner, G83.1.358

Selected by Thomas Aitken

"I enjoy looking at it and as a maker I find it an inspiring object."

9 Dish with Embracing Lovers
Castel Durante, Urbino, Italy, c. 1540

Gift of George and Helen Gardiner, G83.1.411

Selected by Karine Tsoumis, Gardiner Staff Member

"A birthday kiss. In 2014, two years after I joined the museum, the Gardiner turned 30. On this occasion, we published a compilation of essays for which I wrote on this unique dish. When I look at this object now, I think of the past decade and all the ways in which the Museum has transformed. I also think of my own journey; the projects accomplished, but most importantly the deep connections and relationships forged along the way."

10 Karine Giboulo (Canadian, b. 1980)
Conserve, 2021

Gift of the artist, G23.7.4

Selected by a Gardiner Museum Staff Member

"Choosing this piece reflects my experience as a new staff member during COVID-19. Her work mirrors how our lives were confined and our routines disrupted by the pandemic. In the Museum, we had to quickly adapt to new ways of engaging with visitors while managing the challenges of limited interactions. Giboulo's jar symbolizes this period of adaptation and how we moved forward with new ways of connecting with our audiences and each other."

- 11** **Clock with Harlequin with Bagpipes**
Germany, Meissen Porcelain Manufactory,
c. 1745–1752
Gift of George and Helen Gardiner, G83.1.950

Selected by Christina MacDonald, Gardiner Staff Member

"After 21 years as Collections Manager at the Gardiner Museum, I have had the opportunity to handle every piece in our collection of around 5,000 pieces. To select just one is a difficult task, but I think this work is the perfect choice. I love how the porcelain was used, not only for the Harlequin and pug figures, but also for the intricately detailed flowers, to add colour and interest along with the ormolu mounts. It would have made a whimsical addition to a fireplace mantel in the 18th century and makes me smile every time I pass it in storage."

- 12** **Anemone-Type Flower**
France, Unknown French Factory, 19th century
The Hans Syz Collection, G96.5.148

Selected by Adele Shamie, Gardiner Museum Volunteer since 1983

"As a lover of flowers I was immediately drawn to the delicacy of this piece. I look back on my time with the Gardiner and think how lucky I was. They were some of the happiest moments in my life, to be surrounded by such beauty."

- 13** **Flower**
France, Chantilly Porcelain Manufactory, c. 1750
The Hans Syz Collection, G96.5.86

Selected by Savita, from Brampton

"This elegant and delicately crafted porcelain white Chantilly flower conveys a sense of purity and innocence. The flower is uncoloured, which symbolizes a fresh start or new beginnings, and resonates with me during my current stage in life."

- 14** **Elephant**
France, Chantilly Porcelain Manufactory, c. 1740
Gift of Meredith Chilton in memory of her friend and mentor, Clare Le Corbeiller, G17.7.1

Selected by Meredith Chilton, Curator Emerita, Gardiner Museum

"This rare and personable Elephant, who is so dear to my heart, now has the good fortune to be cared for by Dr. Karine Tsoumis, the Gardiner's outstanding Senior Curator. The Elephant appears on the cover of a book, *A Passion For Porcelain*, which she co-edited to commemorate my retirement. It includes her superbly researched article on him. Thank you, dear Karine."

- 15** **Flower Basket with European Mounts**
Japan, Hizen, c.1690–1710
The Macdonald Collection, G10.3.35a-b

Selected by Jagmeet A.

"A reminder of late spring."

ROW 3 (LEFT TO RIGHT)

- 16** **Wendy Walgate (Canadian, b. 1952)**
***As Quiet as a Mouse*, n.d**
The Raphael Yu Collection, G11.6.94

Selected by Sofia, Local Clay Enjoyer

"This work really made me pause. I'd never seen anything like it before, and it made me wonder why someone would be inspired to make this, and why this shape and the materials were chosen. It looks playful, but feels reflective. It made me think of 'words spilling out' of someone, like they burst uncontrollably from this tiny metal lunchbox."

- 17** **Paul Mathieu (Canadian, b. 1954)**
***Quilted Teapot*, 1989**
Gift of Dan Solomon, G11.10.1a-b

Anonymous Selection

"This teapot reminded me of a piece my son created when he took a pottery class when he was 10–11. I just love its naïveté."

18 Small Bowl with Birds and Flowers
China, Jingdezhen, Ming Dynasty,
Longqing Period (1567–1573)

The Robert Murray Bell and Ann Walker Bell Collection
of Chinese Blue and White Porcelain, G01.2.13

Selected by Gloria from Toronto

"When I was small, we used those basic blue and white bowls and plates as our daily utensils. Their appearance looks like this artifact."

19 Walter Ostrom (American, b. 1944)
Flower Holder, 1984

The Raphael Yu Collection, G11.6.68

Selected by Charles, huge fan of Walter Ostrom's work

"The form is like no other vase, and the decoration has influence of Marsden Hartley and Jasper Johns. Exceptional to have all this in one piece!"

20 Bowl with Dragon
China, Jingdezhen, Qing Dynasty, Kangxi
period, c. 1690–1750

The Robert Murray Bell and Ann Walker Bell Collection
of Chinese Blue and White Porcelain, G01.2.90

Selected by Sofia, 9 years old

"I like this bowl because the dragon inside is funny with his hands that look evil. It makes me laugh."

21 Dame Lucie Rie DBE (English, born in Austria, 1902–1995)

Yellow Bowl, 1981

Gift of George and Helen Gardiner, G08.7.29

Selected by Heather MacIvor

"I love the pots of Lucie Rie, and I would like to see her works more prominently displayed at the Gardiner. Their simplicity, wit, and technical excellence are superb."

22 Dame Lucie Rie DBE (English, born in Austria, 1902–1995)

Striped Bowl, 1978

Gift of Aaron Milrad in memory of Bella and Joseph Milrad, G99.6.59

Selected by Deborah, from Toronto

"To me, this is the most beautiful ceramic I have ever seen (and I have viewed ceramics in many places, over many years). When it is on display at the Gardiner, I always begin every visit by spending some moments with this piece."

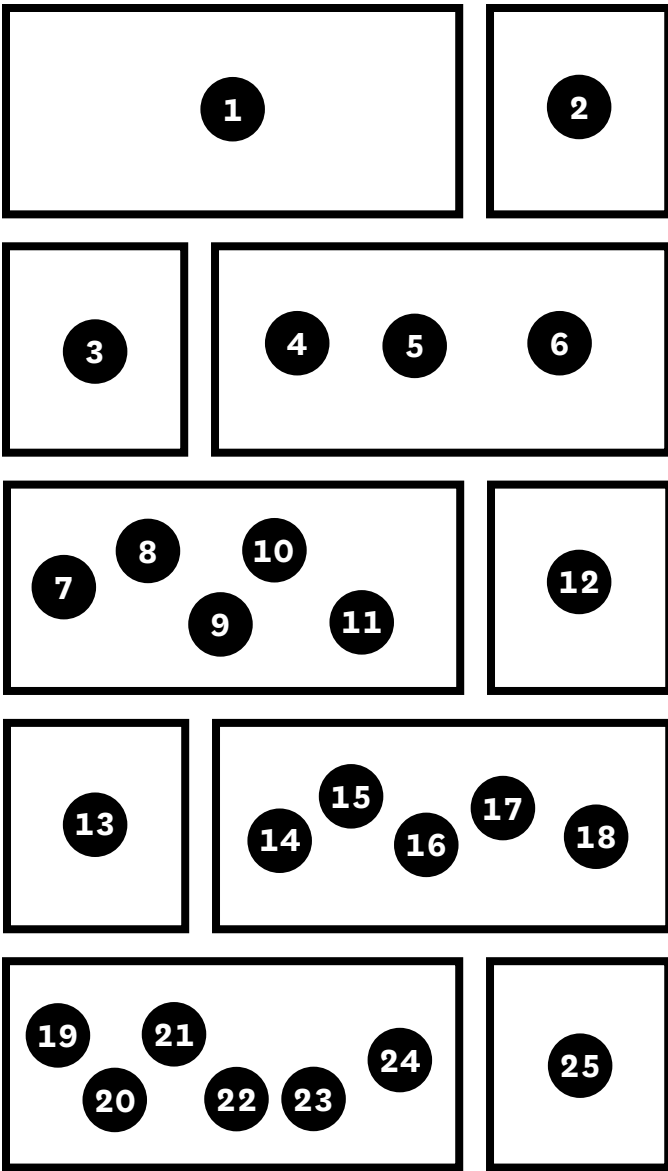
23 Bodil Manz (Danish, b. 1943)

Striped Vessel, 2002

The Diana Reitberger Collection, Gift in Honour of Edmund and Renate Reitberger, G14.11.1

Selected by Andre Morriseau, Fort William First Nation/
Toronto

"I loved the simplicity of contrasting black and white stripes. I was immediately drawn to it thinking in terms of a movie film strip... it touched my imagination nerve."



Level 3 (Second Floor - Third Floor)

ROW 1 (LEFT TO RIGHT)

- 1** Brendan Tang (Canadian, b. 1975)
Manga Ormolu Ver. 5.0-g, 2010
The Raphael Yu Collection, G22.1.7

Selected by Krista from Toronto

"My husband and I were married at the Museum on October 30, 2010. The exhibit on at the time was *Breaking Boundaries: Four Young Canadians Re-Imagine Ceramic Art*, and the sign on the front of the museum featured this piece. It's in many of my wedding photos – one displayed in my living room that I see every day – and for that reason it has a special place in my heart."

- 2** Georges Jeanclos (French, 1933–1997)
Barque Saint Julien/Boat for St. Julien, 1991
Purchased with funds raised by the Twelve Trees of Christmas Gala, G95.5.1

Selected by Terrie Miller

"I cannot take my eyes off this extremely refined, expressive sculpture. It is intensely evocative of loving tenderness with a feeling of external menace surrounding a couple. Its unglazed simplicity brings the viewer to a fundamental point that feels like the central purpose of being: deep attachment to another person."

ROW 2 (LEFT TO RIGHT)

3 Halima Cassell (Pakistani British, b. 1975)
Tulipa, 2023

Anonymous gift in recognition of James Appleyard,
Chair of the Gardiner Museum Board of Trustees from
2018 – 2024, G24.8.1

Selected by Cheryl B., from Durham Region

"I first saw this piece at ICAF and it drew my attention immediately. As I got closer and saw that it is described as hand-carved in black clay I was simply captivated. This piece is so striking in its detail and play on the delicate mess of actual tulips. I was excited to see that the Gardiner has acquired this triumphant piece."

4 Harlan House (Canadian, b. 1943)
Mei Ping Vase, 1999

Purchased by the Gardiner Museum Volunteers with funds raised through the Joy of Ceramics Luncheon and Lecture, 1999, G99.5.1

Selected by a Museum Visitor

"Harlan House has always been one of my favourites. The shape draws my eyes to move up and down the vase. It is graceful and real!"

5 Léopold L. Foulem (Canadian, 1945–2023)
Return from Brokeback Mountain, c. 2006–2007

Gift of Léopold L. Foulem in recognition of curator Susan Jefferies' remarkable and sustained support of modern and contemporary ceramics, G09.7.1a-c

Selected by Leila Fiouzi

"I like the name and found the reference to Mounties appropriate on the eve of Canada Day!"

6 Brendan Tang (Canadian, b. 1975)
Manga Ormolu ver. 4.0-o, 2012

The Diana Reitberger Collection, G17.11.28

Selected by Martina, from Toronto

"I remember seeing a photograph of it and it's what compelled me to start coming to the Gardiner more

often! I love the mix of traditional Chinese form and design with modern technological elements and the contrast between the blue and orange. Also, I admittedly regret never taking a photograph of it myself."

ROW 3 (LEFT TO RIGHT)

7 Lion-Form Candlestick
China, Ming Dynasty, 15th–16th century
Collection of Ann Walker Bell, G10.4.2

Selected by Volunteers at the Museum

"This piece takes me back to when I was a teenager and a student at the ROM Young Explorers Club. The objects in the Asian and Chinese collections fascinated me."

"It is unique and it showcases the creator's fantastic technical skills. Yet what I love the most is its colours, which are bold and magnificent."

"A reminder that Chinese ceramic art is far more than blue and white porcelain."

8 Side Dish with 'Baxian' (Eight Daoist Immortals)
China, Jingdezhen, Qing Dynasty, c. 1650–1660

The Robert Murray Bell and Ann Walker Bell Collection of Chinese Blue and White Porcelain, G01.2.54

Selected by Robert Bell, son of the collectors R. Murray and Ann Bell

"My father, Robert Murray Bell, purchased this porcelain dish from Bluett & Sons, London on October 25, 1963 for \$225. It is from the ex-collection of Sir Harry Garner and illustrated in Garner's book *Oriental Blue and White*. I have always admired the immortal figures in the ethereal landscape - all of which is more fully described in the wonderful catalogue of the Bell Collection entitled *Cobalt Treasures*."

9 Model of a Rabbit
Japan, c. 1700

The Macdonald Collection, T15.2.33

Selected by vote on the Museum's social media. Some followers commented:

"Whenever I visit the Museum, I take photos of the animal pieces, and this would be one more that I'd get to photograph."

- LINDA K.

"The use of overglaze enamels and new approaches for export ceramics during this time period combined with a clearly Japanese subject would be interesting in the exhibit for discussing how Japanese ceramics took a new direction (i.e. compared to traditions of Chinese decoration)."

- ALANNAH D.

10 Shary Boyle (Canadian, b. 1972)
White Fright, 2009

Purchased with financial support of the Canada Council for the Arts Acquisitions Assistance Program, and gifts from Lindy Barrow, Burgundy Asset Management, The Gardiner Museum Board of Trustees, Margaret and Wallace McCain, McLean Budden and Gretchen and Donald Ross, G09.11.1

Selected by Kim T, from Toronto

"Shary is a thoughtful and generous artist. Bats are facing challenging times and this piece captures their fragility. The purity of the white porcelain contrasts beautifully with the much-maligned notion of bats being dark, evil, and dangerous."

11 Pair of Shoes
Brislington, England, 1705–1715

Gift of George and Helen Gardiner, G83.1.549.1-2

Selected by vote on the Museum's social media. One of our followers commented:

"As a lover of historical costume, the shoes are awesome."

- JANE R.

12 Richard Shaw (American, b. 1941)
The Pavillion, 2001

Gift of Alan and Elizabeth Mandell, G23.14.17

Selected by a Staff Member from The 519

"It is all the little details. The backs of the cards, the words in the book. I have a hard time telling that it is not a real stack of cards. It immediately gripped me the moment I saw it, in part due to my own affinity with cards and the time and talent put behind it."

ROW 4 (LEFT TO RIGHT)

13 Sun God Effigy Lid
Maya culture
Guatemala; 500–700 CE

Gift of George and Helen Gardiner, G83.1.78a-b

Selected by the Grade 4-5 Class from Weston Memorial Junior Public School

"This is my favourite because it shows what they worship and it connects to Vietnamese culture and what we worshiped."

- KEVIN, AGE 10

14 Marilyn Levine (Canadian, 1935–2005)
Doctor's Bag, 1970

Leonard Dutton Collection, G12.10.1

Selected by Wayne Morgan, Friend, Curator, Collector

"I went to art school with Marilyn in Regina. She had a degree in chemistry but could not be employed at Regina College because her husband was a new hire there... So she took an art class. She was a scary good painter before she switched to clay... Her works began with local subjects and ... could be very moving if you knew what our province and our families had been through after fifteen years of drought, Depression, and war. For some of us, her work was melancholy metaphor. *Doctor's Bag* is only 8/9 years after medicare was established in Saskatchewan ... And it is a lovely object. Marilyn and I stayed friends over the years and I helped a bit with her retrospective in Boston."

- 15** Hans Coper (English, born in Germany, 1920–1981)
Spade Form, c. 1969
Gift of Jane Corkin, G18.5.2

Selected by James Appleyard, Chair, Gardiner Museum Board of Trustees

"A perfect, perfectly scaled, modernist ceramic object. Copers are rare and special, and whenever I see it, I rejoice that there is such a beautiful one in the permanent collection of the Gardiner Museum."

- 16** Erica Deichmann-Gregg (American, 1913–2007) and Kjeld Deichmann (Danish, 1900–1963)
Goofus, 1950–1963
Collection of the Gardiner Museum, Gift of Gail and Gerry Crawford, G15.13.2

Selected by Jocelyn, granddaughter of the artist

"The Goofus is a fun creature my grandmother created in many renditions, in various colours, textures, expressions, and body language, in both 2D & 3D. It reminds me of my grandmother's sense of humour."

- 17** Wayne Ngan (Canadian, 1937–2020)
Russet and Black Bowl, c. 1991
The Raphael Yu Collection, G19.5.43

Selected by Corrie Jackson, Gardiner Board Member

"Wayne Ngan's work has an elegant complexity that has always resonated with me. His form is confident, but also humble. The glaze on this object elevates it beyond the russet into something almost celestial and otherworldly- it hovers. Wayne's objects have always done this for me, and looking at it reminds me of the impact he had on many Canadian West Coast artists, but also sculptors who appreciate his relationship to material and form."

- 18** Louise Doucet-Saito (Canadian, b. 1938) and Satoshi Saito (Japanese, b. 1935)
Untitled, 1980
Gift of Satoshi Saito and Louise Doucet-Saito, G04.15.3

Selected by D., a Canadian contemporary pottery lover

"Doucet-Saito represents excellence in Canadian pottery and glazes."

ROW 5 (LEFT TO RIGHT)

- 19** Plate with View of Chaudière Bridge - from the Lake Series
England, Francis Morley and Co., 1845–1858
The Barbara and James Moscovich Collection of Canadian Historical China, G13.15.35

Selected by Marie, from Toronto

"I believe the Western interpretation and depiction of the land we call Canada today is a wonderful representation of cultures being influenced and changed forever. How ceramics both depict historical events and still carry their original purpose, in this case depicting the status of wealth and prosperity of the British colonial empire and its "land", while performing its basic purpose of a serving/eating dish, is something we do not necessarily see in modern purpose made ceramics."

- 20** Teabowl and Saucer, after a Japanese Original
Germany, Meissen, c. 1730
The Macdonald Collection, G04.18.3a-b

Selected by Nicholas Zumbulyadis, from Rochester

"This is an object associated with the infamous Hoym-Lemaire affair, a scandal that shook the company when uncovered in 1731. The manufactory director Graf von Hoym and the French dealer Rudolph Lemaire conspired to imitate Japanese Kakiemon porcelain marked with overglaze blue cross swords that could be easily removed, so Lemaire could sell them as Japanese originals in the French market. When Augustus the Strong discovered the plot, the unsold pieces were confiscated, with many eventually incorporated into the Royal collection."

- 21 Dish with the Story of "Shooting at Father's Corpse"**
Urbino, Italy, c. 1535-1550
Gift of George and Helen Gardiner, G83.1.322

Selected by Michael, lover of ceramic art

"Such a profound moral – but gruesome, –tale captured on a beautiful plate. It combines beauty, violence, history, storytelling, and an important lesson about succession. What more can you ask for in a work of ceramic art?"

-
- 22 Solitaire with Village Scenes and a Performance by Harlequin**
Germany, Frankenthal Porcelain Factory, c. 1770
The Hans Syz Collection, G96.5.184.1

Selected by a Museum Volunteer

"The scene on this tray captures the origins of *commedia dell'arte*, when individuals would entertain customers in marketplaces and village squares in Northern Italy as a lure to buy their products. Eventually, people came to watch the performances rather than to buy the goods, motivating the talented merchants to eventually form the first theatrical companies in Europe. By the time this tray was made, *commedia dell'arte* companies were well-established, performing in town squares, theatres, and palaces."

-
- 23 Two Figures of Finches**
England, Derby Porcelain Factory, c. 1760–1770
The Vernon W. Armstrong Collection, G91.7.24.1-2

Selected by a 15-year Gardiner Volunteer

"This work brings back memories of pieces in my family home."

- 24 Figure of a Nurse and Child**
Germany, Höchst Porcelain Factory, c. 1780
The Hans Syz Collection, G96.5.242

Selected by a Museum Volunteer

"Being a cat person, the idea of having the child and the cat in one picture is quite telling of the importance of animals in people's everyday lives, as illustrated in many porcelain pieces and paintings."

-
- 25 Karen Dahl (Canadian, b. 1955)**
Race, c. 1999
Museum Purchase, G03.10.1

Selected by popular vote by Museum's Volunteers during the Open Collections Event as part of 2024's National Volunteer Week. Some attendees commented:

"What this artist is able to create with clay is absolutely amazing."

"It's fun, modern, and made me chuckle when I saw it. While I enjoy everything currently on display at the Gardiner Museum, I feel like I could spend a while staring at this piece and trying to interpret it. Then again, even if there is no meaning, it's still a delightful piece to look at that makes me stop and appreciate the present."

Also selected by Grace Nickel

"Karen Dahl is a rare talent who lives in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and is sorely underrepresented. Her virtuosity needs to be celebrated."