



A DAY IN THE ARTS

Making art accessible to all

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REVIEWS

MASTERPIECE CARDS

<http://www.themasterpiececards.com/>
 \$75 plus shipping 800.410.1066
 75 Fletcher Road
 Belmont, MA 02478

The **Masterpiece Cards** collection contains photos of 250 of the world's greatest

paintings, according to various historians and history books. It's a tremendous undertaking. And it's also a terrific set for art teachers, students, and those just interested in art.

The front of each card presents a full-color reproduction of the painting in question. The cards are printed on heavy stock that looks and feels like it can stand up to a bit of abuse



(Paolo Caliari) Veronese (1528-1588) New York
 Allegory of Virtue and Vice: The Choice of Hercules

MEDIUM oil on canvas
 YEAR ca. 1580
 SIZE 86¼" x 66¾"
 MUSEUM The Frick Collection
 CITY New York

One of a number of large-scale allegories created by Veronese in the 1560's and 1570's, this representation of a young man choosing between virtue and vice is a wonderful Venetian Renaissance updating of an ancient theme. According to an oft-repeated legend, the young hero, Hercules, was confronted by two women who pointed out to him—and in fact personified—alternative paths in life. Here, Vice is shown from the back as a lavishly but loosely dressed woman whose skirts conceal a sphinx, a creature traditionally associated with Thebes, and a symbol of the danger of immortality. Her rival is Virtue, more chastely attired, crowned with laurel, an upright figure in every sense, and one whose pathway leads to immortality. In Veronese's version of the story, the Hercules character is an aristocratic Everyman, himself gorgeously arrayed in the white of innocence and new beginnings, veering toward Virtue, who gathers him into her arms and sets him on a road fraught with Labors but leading inevitably to immortal fame. DAVID NOLTA.

© The Frick Collection, New York.

WORD OF THE DAY

HANIWA

In Japanese tradition, sculptured pottery cylinders, modeled in human or animal figures, or in other forms, and placed in early (archaic) Japanese burial mounds. Human-figured haniwa figurines have generally been found in postdating the mid-5th century. Burial styles changed as stone room tumuli became more common. Typically, several types of clay figurines would be arranged in front of the stone room, almost as if they were attendants at the burial.

“ I had reservations about making art a business, but I got over it.”
 - **Mary Boone**, art collector and gallery owner

ART AEROBICS

Practice you drawing skills

Draw a friend's ear from life. Ten minutes. 🖌️

from students (though they are not plastic coated). The back featured the name of the artist, their birth and date of death, the name of the painting, the country they lived in and a brief intro to the work, including the medium, year created, size, and the museum / city it is located in today.

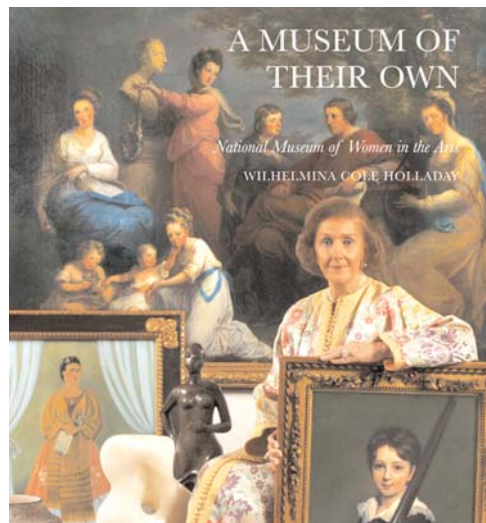
These cards would be great fun to read and look through; to ponder over. If you're a serious art student, they would be very helpful for your art history lessons. And if you plan to travel, you can quickly see which paintings are available in the city in which you'll be traveling, thanks to a handy booklet they provide.

My only complaint, which is really too strong of a word, is that the available information is so limited. After all, there is only so much that you can supply on the back of a recipe sized card. However, they are a great introduction and a nice place to start in your research.

A MUSEUM OF THEIR OWN

National Museum of Women in the Arts
By Wilhelmina Cole Holladay
Cloth, 240 pages
170 illustrations, 130 in full color
Published 2008
ISBN: 978-0-7892-1003-6

Wilhelmina Cole Holladay founded the **National Museum of Women in the Arts** in 1987. This book tells the story of Holladay and



how the museum came into being. Why the need for the museum? Because, according to the founder, the “work of great women artists had been ignored, forgotten, or denied; they had been largely left out of museums and histories of art”.

The book is a large coffee-table sized volume filled with full-color and black and white reproductions. But it's not a book to just browse through but one to read slowly and savor. It takes you on a tour of how a museum is brought into existence the work and vision of those involved. According to the BookPage, “**A Museum of Their Own** includes some gorgeous works from the museum's collection, art by women you may have never heard of, but now have an opportunity to appreciate.” It also features works found in other museums.

The Library Journal adds: “The lavish and plentiful illustrations ... reveal many carefully selected paintings, sculptures, prints, and pottery by women around the globe....The museum and this splendid book will serve as a focal point for rescuing the works and reputations of extraordinary women artists who otherwise might be obscured by time.”

ENCHANTED LIVES, ENCHANTED OBJECTS

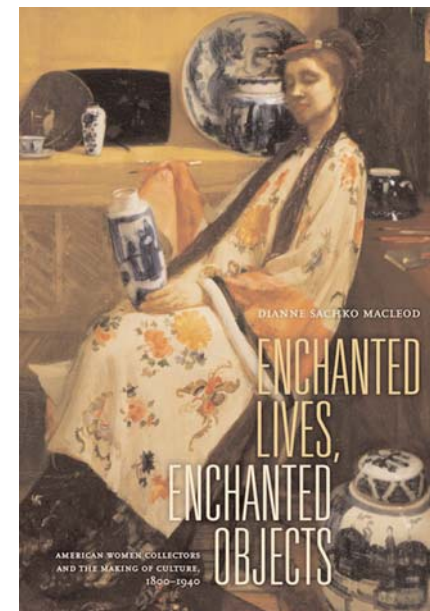
American Women Collectors and the Making of Culture, 1800–1940

Dianne Sachko Macleod
ISBN 978-0-520-23729-2
328 pages, 7 x 10 inches, 86 b/w photographs, 12 color illustrations
<http://tinyurl.com/d2wnt4>

Speaking of women, Danne Macleod wrote another book dealing with women in the arts, although this book is looking at the female collectors. It is written with a feminist slant. It basically tells the story of how various collectors gained freedom and solace but also made a larger contribution to American culture through their collections.

The book is well illustrated with both vintage photos and sketches, as well as gorgeous reproductions of the works. 🐉

Books can also be purchased at our Amazon Store: <http://tinyurl.com/bqbn5x>





ART NEWS

SOCIAL MARKETING

Renée Phillips has written an interesting article, "Social Networking: Benefits for Artists". If you are new to social networking, or marketing, take a moment to read this information and learn how social media may be of help to you. <http://tinyurl.com/dbef99>

SMALL FRENCH PAINTINGS AT THE NGA

Small French Paintings is a permanent installation of French impressionist and post-impressionist works from the Gallery's collection on view on the ground level of the East Building. Their Web feature takes a closer look at these paintings. Visitors may navigate by theme—realism, Barbizon school, early impressionism, late impressionism, alternatives to impressionism, and post-impressionism—and view examples of each in close-up detail. <http://tinyurl.com/daarnk>

KALEIDOSCOPE QUILTS: THE ART OF PAULA NADELSTERN

Every artist must find a voice

that feels true and strong. Paula Nadelstern (b. 1951) found hers early in her career as a quilt artist, inspired by a bolt of sensuous and beautiful Liberty of London fabric. The bilateral symmetry of the design was an epiphany that stirred Nadelstern's imagination and that has

yielded a seemingly infinite vein of creative expression for more than twenty years. Kaleidoscope Quilts is on view at the **American Folk Art Museum** in New York, NY through September 13, 2009. <http://tinyurl.com/dbcco2>



ARTIST TO WATCH

Stefanie Silverman - <http://www.stefaniesilverman.com/>

"Provence in August", Pastel on paper, 12"H x 19"W

Sold but other work available on her site.