600 Main Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06103

New Hours
Starting October 1
Thursday–Sunday: noon–5pm

Holiday Hours
Closed on Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day
Open for Festival of Trees & Traditions*: Thursday, December 2–Sunday, December 12 (closed Monday–Wednesday)
Open during Winter Break: Sunday, December 26–Sunday, January 2

Admission
Adults: $15
Seniors: $12
Students: $5
Members, Hartford Residents, & Youth (age 17 & under): Free
*During Festival of Trees & Traditions, a $5 fundraising surcharge is added to all admissions.

Happy Hour
Free admission 4–5pm, Thursday–Sunday

Group Tours
Groups of 10+ with reservation are eligible for discounted admission.
Email tours@thewadsworth.org or call (860) 838-4046.

Visitor Information

Access
The museum’s accessible entrance is the Avery Memorial lobby, located at 29 Atheneum Square North. Handicapped parking spaces are located nearby on Main Street and Prospect Street. Wheelchairs are available at the Info Desk upon request.

Visitor Guidelines
A face mask/covering is required to enter the museum and must be worn at all times during your visit. Maintaining six feet of distance from visitors outside of your household is encouraged in the galleries. Bring a smartphone or connected device to access audio tours and digital versions of the museum map and interpretive materials in the galleries. Free Wi-Fi is available. The library, food service, and Austin House are closed to the public.

Parking
Park for $3 at the Connecticut Convention Center garage (with validation at the museum), located at 100 Columbus Boulevard. The Wadsworth is also accessible via public transit such as CTfastrak. Street parking is metered 8am–6pm on weekdays, and free after 6pm on weekdays and all day on weekends. For more information visit thewadsworth.org.

Sustaining support for the Wadsworth Atheneum provided by the Greater Hartford Arts Council’s United Arts Campaign with support from the Department of Economic and Community Development, Connecticut Office of the Arts.
New MATRIX Exhibition

Christina Forrer / MATRIX 187
Through January 2, 2022
Contemporary conflict lies at the core of Christina Forrer’s narrative tapestries. The fantastical compositions explore themes of family discord and environmental strife, using a visual language rooted in classical mythology and the regional folk traditions of her native Switzerland. Her raw and energetic weaving style, vivid color palette, and intentionally misaligned panels combine effects of the handmade with the magical. The artist has also curated a selection of objects from the Wadsworth’s holdings, largely from the costume and textiles collection. Displayed in dialogue with her weavings, the additional pieces draw out the cultural themes of the past that find new relevance in the present day.

New Icon Exhibition

Discovering Rose Fried’s Nephew by Alice Neel
Through January 23, 2022
On the heels of Alice Neel’s recent retrospective exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Wadsworth’s own Neel painting, Rose Fried’s Nephew (1963), merits a close look. With its elusive title, the painting seems to ask, “Who was Rose Fried and who was her nephew?” Rose Fried was a pioneering female gallery owner in New York beginning in the 1940s who gave Neel an early solo exhibition in 1944. The identity of her nephew—the sitter—was a more challenging question. With the discovery of his identity, a complex story emerged about shifting trends in the contemporary art scene and the tragic impact of the AIDS epidemic on a generation of artists.


Right: Alice Neel, Rose Fried’s Nephew, 1963. Oil on canvas. The Ella Gallup Sumner and Mary Catlin Sumner Collection Fund. Dedicated to Susan A. Rottner in gratitude for her devoted service as President of the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art Board of Trustees (2008–11)
Women artists played a vibrant yet overlooked role in Italy around 1600. The first exhibition solely dedicated to Italian women artists at the Wadsworth, By Her Hand explores how women succeeded in the male-dominated art world of the time. Artemisia Gentileschi (1593–after 1654), one of the most fascinating seventeenth-century Italian painters, takes center stage.

The exhibition provides the rare opportunity to see side by side and compare Gentileschi’s Self-Portrait as a Lute Player from the Wadsworth’s collection with related paintings from the National Gallery, London, and the Uffizi Gallery in Florence. Additional examples of her pioneering depictions of strong women, such as Judith and Her Maidservant with the Head of Holofernes from the Detroit Institute of Arts, are also on view.

Additionally, By Her Hand introduces and celebrates the accomplishments of a diverse and dynamic group, from the court painter Sofonisba Anguissola (1532–1625) to the Venetian pastel artist Rosalba Carriera (1673–1757), among other talented but little known Italian women artists.

By Her Hand is generously supported by the Cheryl Chase and Stuart Bear Family Foundation, JPMorgan Chase & Co., the National Endowment for the Arts, the David T. Langrock Foundation, the Robert Lehman Foundation, the Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation, the Tavolozza Foundation, the Private Art Dealers Association, Linda Cheverton Wick and Walter Wick, the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, and the Dau Family Foundation.

Left: Rosalba Carriera, An Allegory of Faith (A Sibyl?), early to mid-1720s. Pastel on blue paper, laid down on canvas. Private Collection

Stories in Ivory and Wood Told by Master Carvers
Through January 23, 2022

In the mid-1600s a carver known only as the Master of the Saint Sebastian Martyrdoms created dramatic, emotionally charged works of art in ivory and boxwood. This intimate exhibition features two of his most extraordinary sculptures: The Fall of Man and Agony in the Garden, both triumphs of visual storytelling. Comparing these two biblical stories, the media the artist used, and additional works in ivory and wood by his contemporaries illuminates the artistic world in which this mysterious artist practiced. As only about 20 of his carvings are known today, this exhibition is a rare opportunity to study his distinctive hand in two different materials.

Goya, Posada, Chagoya: Three Generations of Satirists
Through November 7, 2021

Francisco Goya (Spanish, 1746–1828), José Guadalupe Posada (Mexican, 1852–1913), and Enrique Chagoya (American, born 1953) examine their respective cultures through printmaking to establish a visual dialogue about the shared human condition. The exhibition presents prints from the collection by the three artists, whose imagery intersects in Chagoya’s Homage to Goya II: Disasters of War (2003), a portfolio of ten etchings that draws on Goya’s Disasters of War series. Chagoya reimagines the prints for contemporary audiences with visual references to precolonial mythology, Mexican culture, American politics, and pop culture. Posada is known for popular cartoons and illustrations printed in newspapers. His work provided early inspiration for Chagoya, who was born and raised in Mexico. The three artists are even depicted together in one of Chagoya’s prints.

Milton Avery: The Connecticut Years
Only through October 17, 2021

A close look at the formative years of celebrated American artist Milton Avery highlighting his local roots. Two dozen sketches, watercolors, and oils from the 1910s and 1920s, including rarely seen works on loan from the Milton Avery Trust, demonstrate how Avery’s time in Connecticut sparked his passion for exploring a sense of place through his work, a trait that remained a constant throughout his career. Avery’s artistic training began in downtown Hartford, at the Connecticut Art Students League and the Hartford Art School, and the first public exhibition he participated in took place at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art.

A selection of artwork by Avery’s teachers and colleagues, plus archival materials drawn from the Wadsworth’s library and archives, further develop the art scene in Hartford at the time. This exhibition and the corresponding illustrated catalogue, available in the Museum Shop, are generously supported by the Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation, Inc.
Leonardo Drew: Two Projects

Main Street sculpture: Through November 14, 2021
Gray Court sculpture: Through January 2, 2022

Raised in Bridgeport, Connecticut, and now residing in Brooklyn, New York, artist Leonardo Drew responds to a long-standing fascination with the life cycle of material decomposition and transformation in his work. In this two-part project, Drew has created a site-specific installation: an expansive sculptural work the artist refers to as an “explosion” inside museum’s Main Street lobby, and an outdoor, interactive sculptural landscape spanning the museum’s front lawn. Originally realized in 2019 as a commission for Madison Square Park in New York, City in the Grass has been modified specifically for the Wadsworth. Drew’s participatory art sculpture is designed for public interaction, a place for rest and reflection as much as performance and play. Drew invites and encourages visitors to engage with it directly in order to fulfill its purpose. Join us for programs that creatively and physically activate the sculpture throughout the fall.

This exhibition is made possible through major support provided by the estate of James B. Lyon and generous support from Agnes and Billy Paule.

Changing Lanes:
African American Mobility in Connecticut

December 9, 2021–April 3, 2022

Many people take the ability to move easily and freely for granted. From the Amistad Case of 1841 to the struggle for equality today, Connecticut has a long and complicated history in terms of African American mobility. The United States created barriers by law and prejudice for African Americans in travel, housing, education, and excessive policing. Across time, this inequality generated response from local community members and activists to encourage positive change.

Inspired by Dr. Gretchen Sullivan Sorin’s book Driving While Black, this exhibition explores the successes, struggles, and ongoing efforts of activists fighting for racial equality in Connecticut.

But the question remains: What barriers still exist, and what can we do to eliminate them?

Docent-Guided Tours

Reservations are encouraged for daily docent-guided tours for individuals and small groups, as capacity is limited. Check thewadsworth.org for current tour schedules and availability. Face masks are required and social distancing is encouraged. Group tours are available at a discounted rate for 10+ people and must be reserved at least 3 weeks in advance. Email tours@thewadsworth.org or call (860) 838-4046 to schedule group tours, both in-person and virtual.

Highlights Tours
Wednesdays; 11:30am
Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays; 11am

Virtual Highlights Tours
Every second and fourth Thursday; 1pm
Enjoy a docent-guided tour of collection highlights from the comfort of your own home. See thewadsworth.org for details.

Special Theme Tours
By Her Hand: October 1–January 9
Wednesdays; 1pm
Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays; 12:30pm
Women Artists in Focus: October 6–January 9
Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays; 2:30pm

Family Tours: Eyes on Art
Every second and fourth Saturday; 12:15pm
Little ones, strollers, and intergenerational bonding expected. Recommended for ages 12 and under. Adults unaccompanied by children are encouraged to sign up for our Highlights or Special Theme Tours.

Mobile Guide
Explore over 100 works in the collection in depth with audio insights from artists, curators, and scholars, layered with video and images for a deeper understanding. Bring your own device to access from the museum or browse from wherever you happen to be. Cast your vote for the Artwork of the Month to see your favorites featured on social media and in collection highlight emails. Go to thewadsworth.org/mobile-guide to check it out.

Second Saturdays for Families
Noon–2pm—in museum
Free Admission
Explore art with your family, encourage creativity, and expand your imagination through conversation and discovery. Check our online events calendar at thewadsworth.org/events for free onsite family activities. Visit thewadsworth.org/from-home to find a digital library of 3D virtual tours, family-friendly art activity packs, program recordings, and videos featuring staff, exhibitions, and artwork from the collection.

Season’s Greetings
Saturday, December 11
Welcome the changing seasons with a day of winter fun. Enjoy a special performance by the New England Ballet Theatre of Connecticut and then create your own wintery artworks to take home or give as a gift to a friend.

Second Saturdays for Families is supported by the Ensworth Charitable Foundation, the Newman’s Own Foundation, and the Charles Neison- Robinson Fund, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee. Program supplies are generously donated by SS&S Worldwide.

Second Saturdays
Free Admission

Turnip Tales
Saturday, November 13
Put your spin on a paper sampler designed by MATRIX artist Christina Forrer. Then help us complete our turnip mural based on the Enormous Turnip, a classic folktale that has inspired the artist’s work.

Latinx Heritage Day
Saturday, October 9
Join us at the museum to celebrate Latinx heritage and culture with art making, storytelling, and performances. View Goya, Posada, Chagoya: Three Generations of Satirists with a docent and learn how printmaking is used to illustrate the shared human condition.
Public Programs

By Her Hand: Artemisia Gentileschi and Women Artists in Italy, 1500–1800: The Exhibition and Its Making with Oliver Tostmann
Thursday, October 7—in theater
5pm exhibition viewing, 6pm lecture
Curator Oliver Tostmann offers insights and reflections on curating the special exhibition and discusses its relevance today. Free and open to the public.

The Emily Hall Tremaine Lecture in Contemporary Art with Leonardo Drew
Thursday, October 14—in theater
5pm reception, 6pm lecture
Leonardo Drew’s installations at the Wadsworth speak to his fascination with the life cycle of material decomposition and transformation. Drew discusses his works at the Wadsworth, his practice, and how he invites audiences to engage with his compositions. Free and open to the public.

This lecture is generously supported by the Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation.

Posada’s Prints: Humor and Satire
Friday, October 22; 1pm—in museum
Erin Monroe, curator of American paintings and sculpture, explores how José Guadalupe Posada (Mexican, 1852–1913), who worked primarily in Mexico City, criticized social and political issues of the time using humor and satire in his prints. Free with museum admission. Meet in front of the Museum Shop.

Artemisia Gentileschi: Conservation Notes
Saturday, November 6; 1pm—in museum
Paintings conservator Allen Kosanovich leads a discussion of the techniques, materials, and creative process that became visible by studying Artemisia Gentileschi’s Self-Portrait as a Lute Player in the conservation lab. Free with museum admission. Meet in front of the Museum Shop.

Leonardo Drew installing Number 82

Pop-Up Conservation!
Friday, October 29 and November 19
Saturday, November 13 and December 4
Sunday, October 17 and December 12
1pm—in museum
Find one of our conservators at work in a gallery and ask about their processes for taking care of art. Check for a gallery location at the Information Desk on your way in. Free with museum admission.

Conservation Talk: Leonardo Drew and Material Transformation
Saturday, October 2; 1pm—in museum
Conservator Casey Malinckrodt shares special challenges in caring for large-scale interactive installations like Drew’s. This talk will take place both outside and inside the museum, rain or shine. Free with museum admission. Meet in front of the Museum Shop.

Speak Up! | The Art of Female Creativity
Saturday, October 23; 7pm—in theater
Seven amateur and professional storytellers share true stories based on the theme of women and creativity. A collaboration between the Wadsworth Atheneum and Speak Up! Speak Up! is a Hartford-based storytelling organization that seeks to promote the art of storytelling to a wide audience. Cash bar opens at 6pm.
Tickets: $20, $15 members; purchase tickets at thewadsworth.org.

Lecture: Nevertheless, She Persisted: Artemisia’s Adventures
Thursday, October 28—in theater
5pm exhibition viewing, 6pm lecture
The women artists in By Her Hand are outstanding for their persistence and their talents. Elizabeth Cropper, Dean Emerita of the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC, will focus on the persistence and fortitude of Artemisia Gentileschi, suggesting that we still have much to learn from her life and work despite the advances of women, and especially women artists, over the centuries. Free and open to the public.

This lecture is supported by the Trinity College Department of Fine Arts.
CT Lyric Opera

La liberazione di Ruggiero by Francesca Caccini
Sunday, November 7—in museum
1pm Tour of By Her Hand, 2pm opera

Presented in celebration of the exhibition By Her Hand, this comic opera in four scenes tells the story of two sorceresses and their competition to own the body and soul of the warrior Ruggiero. Written by Italian composer, singer, and poet Francesca Caccini (1587–1640), a contemporary of Artemisia Gentileschi.

For information and tickets, visit ctlyricopera.org.

Christina Forrer and Sabrina Orah Mark in Conversation
Thursday, November 11; 6pm—Virtual

Eavesdrop on Christina Forrer in conversation with contemporary poet and fairy tale writer Sabrina Orah Mark, whose imaginative tales describe our fears, much like Forrer’s visual narratives in her tapestries. Free and open to the public. Register online at thewadsworth.org.

Sunday Serenades: By Her Hand: Women in Art and Music
Sunday, November 14—in museum
1pm gallery talk with curator Oliver Tostmann
2pm Sunday Serenades Concert with Hartford Symphony

This performance by the Hartford Symphony chamber musicians takes inspiration from two artists on view, Artemisia Gentileschi and Alice Neel, who were making art four hundred years apart. Hear musical works by female composers spanning four centuries, including Isabella Leonardi, Fanny Mendelssohn, Lili Boulanger, and Kaija Saariaho.

Tickets: $30 each; $25 for HSO subscribers and Wadsworth members. For tickets and information, visit hartfordsymphony.org or call (860) 987-5900. Tickets go on sale September 7.

The Sunday Serenades Chamber Music Series is made possible, in part, by the Saunders Foundation Music Endowment at the Wadsworth Atheneum and Nancy D. Grover in honor of Leonid Sigal, Concertmaster, Hartford Symphony Orchestra.

Alice Neel Gallery Talk with Patricia Hickson
Thursday, November 18; 1pm—in museum

Join curator Patricia Hickson for the inside story of how Rose Fried’s nephew’s identity was discovered and how the painting’s narrative unfolded. Free with museum admission. Meet in front of the Museum Shop.

World AIDS Day Poetry Reading and Performance
Wednesday, December 1; 6pm—in museum

Poet laureate of Hartford and HIV/AIDS activist Frederick Douglass Knowles II reads his works in collaboration with Hartford artists. Held in conjunction with Alice Neel: Rose Fried’s Nephew. Free and open to the public.

Festival of Trees & Traditions
Thursday, December 2—Sunday, December 12

Join us in celebrating the holidays by enjoying trees and wreaths decorated by community members, artists, and organizations. All items are for sale and help support the museum’s special exhibitions, educational programs, and operating expenses.

A $5 fundraising surcharge is added to all museum admissions during Festival of Trees & Traditions.
Hartford Gay Men’s Chorus Concert | Holiday Hijinx
Saturday, December 11; 8pm
Sunday, December 12; 3pm
In theater
Get ready for a marvelous dose of holiday cheer with the return of this annual tradition. For more information and tickets, visit hgmc.org.

CONNetic Dance | Nutcracker Suite and Spicy
Friday & Saturday, December 17 & 18; 8pm
Sunday, December 19; 2pm
In theater
A contemporary twist on the classic holiday ballet, featuring a fusion of athletic dance forms including tap, jazz, and hip-hop—all with a sense of humor! For more information and tickets, visit conneticdance.com.

Films
Film admission (unless otherwise noted). Tickets may be purchased at the door or online at thewadsworth.org.
$10 adults
$9 seniors (62+) and students (with school ID)
$7 for members
Free for Film Stars
Cash bar available 30 minutes before showtime

Manhattan Short Film Festival Weekend
Friday, October 1; 7pm
Saturday & Sunday, October 2 & 3; 2pm*
*Films on Saturday and Sunday preceded at 1pm by a docent-led tour of works from around the world. Tours are free with film admission.
A favorite annual tradition that the Wadsworth missed participating in last year, over 100,000 cineastes from around the world unite for one week to screen and vote on a favorite work from a lineup of international short films.

Alice Neel
Sunday, October 17; 2pm
Preceded at 1pm by a tour of the Alice Neel icon exhibition. Tour free with film admission.
Filmmaker Andrew Neel, Alice Neel’s grandson, puts together the pieces of the painter’s life using intimate one-on-one interviews and personal archival video footage. The documentary explores the artist’s personal challenges and tragedies, and Alice Neel’s legacy.
By Her Hand: Artemisia Gentileschi and Women Artists in Italy, 1500–1800 exhibition catalogue
This generously illustrated volume surveys a sweeping range of early modern Italian women artists, exploring their practice and paths to success within the male-dominated art world of the period. $40

2022 calendars are here!
Boxed holiday cards: Whether you like religious, whimsical, or artist cards, we have what you need.

Member Shopping Days
November 19–21
Get a jump start on your holiday shopping with an extra 10% discount.

Museum Store Sunday
November 28
THE day to shop and support museum stores worldwide. Special discounts and promotions throughout the day. Plus free shipping on online orders!
Shop in the museum or online anytime via wadsworthshop.org. Members receive 10% off in store and online. The Museum Shop is open during all regular museum hours.

The support of our members has helped preserve the Wadsworth as a place for art on Main Street. Your contributions make it possible for us to create an exciting lineup of new exhibitions and an array of artist and curator talks, tours, lectures, performances, films, and family programs for the year ahead. Not a member? Join or renew today.

Artful Conversations
This program series features a single work from the collection selected by a curator. Premier members enjoy an intimate look at the object and the opportunity to hear fascinating, untold, behind-the-scenes stories that bring it to life. To enhance the evening, mix up a specialty cocktail inspired by the artwork. Open to Society of Daniel Wadsworth and Atheneum Associates members only.

Lee Krasner’s Self-Portrait
Thursday, November 4; 6pm—Virtual
Enjoy a preview of Lee Krasner’s Self-Portrait (c. 1931–33). This recent acquisition offers a rare glimpse into the artistic beginnings of a leading female Abstract Expressionist artist. Hear from Erin Monroe, Krieble Curator of American Paintings and Sculpture, about the significance of Krasner’s self-assured look and how this work provides a counterpoint to her later composition, Broken Gray (1955), also in the collection.

Member-Only Docent-Guided Tours
Availability is limited. Register online in advance via thewadsworth.org.

Food & Family
Friday, November 12; 11am
Friday, November 19; 11am

Member-Only Films
Once a month, free films are available for streaming to members only. Check your email for the link to watch and participate in related member-only tours.

Member-Only Films

Calendar

Highlights Tours
Every Wednesday, 11:30am
Every Thursday, Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, 11am

Virtual Highlights Tour
Every second and fourth Thursday, 1pm

Special Theme Tours
Wednesdays, 1pm & 2:30pm
Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, & Sundays, 12:30pm & 2:30pm

Family Tours: Eyes on Art
Every second and fourth Saturday, 12:15pm

October

October 1–3
Manhattan Short Film Festival Weekend
October 1; 7pm
October 2–3; 2pm

October 2
Conservation Talk: Leonardo Drew and Material Transformation
Conservator Casey Mallinckrodt
1pm—in museum

October 7
By Her Hand: Artemisia Gentileschi and Women Artists in Italy, 1500–1800
The Exhibition and Its Making with Oliver Tostmann
Exhibition viewing: 5pm
Lecture: 4pm—in theater

October 9
Second Saturdays for Families
Latinx Heritage Day
Noon—in museum

October 14
The Emily Hall Tremaine Lecture in Contemporary Art
with Leonardo Drew
Reception: 5pm
Lecture: 6pm—in theater

October 17
Alice Neel
Tour: 1pm—in museum
Film: 2pm—in theater
Pop-Up Conservation!
1pm—in museum

October 22
Posada’s Prints: Humor and Satire
1pm—in museum

October 23
Speak Up!
The Art of Female Creativity
7pm—in theater

October 28
Christian Forrer and Sabrina Orah Mark in Conversation
11am—in museum

November

November 4
Member-Only Artful Conversation with Curator Erin Monroe
Lee Krasner’s Self-Portrait
6pm—Virtual

November 6
Artemisia Gentileschi: Conservation Notes
1pm—in museum

November 7
CT Lyric Opera
La liberazione di Ruggiero by Francesca Caccini
Tour of By Her Hand: 1pm
Opera: 2pm—in theater

November 9
Second Saturdays for Families
Alice Neel
Tour: 1pm—in museum
Film: 2pm—in theater
Pop-Up Conservation!
1pm—in museum

November 11
Posada’s Prints: Humor and Satire
1pm—in museum

November 12
Christina Forrer and Sabrina Orah Mark in Conversation
6pm—Virtual

November 14
SUNDAY
Sunday Serenades:
By Her Hand: Women in Art & Music
1pm: Gallery Talk
2pm: Sunday Serenades with the Hartford Symphony

November 18
THURSDAY
Alice Neel Gallery Talk
with Patricia Hickson
1pm—in museum

November 19
FRIDAY
Member-Only Docent Guided Tour
11am—in museum

November 21
SATURDAY
Pop-Up Conservation!
1pm—in museum

November 25
WEDNESDAY
World AIDS Day Poetry Reading and Performance
6pm—in museum

November 28
SUNDAY
Museum Store Sunday

December

December 1
Member Shopping Days

December 11–12
Hartford Gay Men’s Chorus Concert
Holiday Hijinx—in theater
December 11; 8pm
December 12; 3pm

December 12
Second Saturdays for Families
Season’s Greetings
Noon—in museum

December 14
Pop-Up Conservation!
1pm—in museum

December 17–19
CONNetic Dance
Nutcracker Suite and Spicy—in theater
December 17–18; 8pm
December 19; 2pm