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Maxfield Parrish Exhibition to Open at Nassau County Museum of Art

ROSLYN HARBOR , New York -- 09 November 2015



Maxfield Parrish (1870-1966), Moonlight – Deep Snow, 1944, oil on panel, 13 1/2” x 15 1/2”, signed lower right, (c) Copyright 2015 National Museum of American Illustration, Newport, RI, Photos courtesy Archives of American Illustrators Gallery, New York, NY

(ArtfixDaily.com) Works by the American imagist Maxfield Parrish (1870-1966), one of the greats of the Golden Age of Illustration, will be on view at [Nassau County Museum of Art](#) from November 21, 2015

to February 28, 2016. The works are drawn from the National Museum of American Illustration, Newport, Rhode Island, and curated by Judy and Laurence S. Cutler, co-founders of the [National Museum of American Illustration](#).

Maxfield Parrish: Paintings and Prints from the National Museum of American Illustration embodies the artist's long career and extraordinary accomplishments, displaying Parrish's lush coloristic effect with amazing detail. The exhibition includes original artworks as well as a large collection of vintage prints. Through this showing of artworks and vintage reproductions, today's viewers will have the unique opportunity to see the way that viewers of an earlier age observed these images, comparing the mass-produced reproductions against the original luminous canvases.

Parrish described himself as "a businessman with a brush," and was proud of his ability to market his artwork to the public. In 1904, a time that the average annual income for an American worker was \$500 or less, Parrish signed a six-year contract with Collier's Magazine for \$1,250 per month. His fee rose to \$2,000 a painting, but each Parrish cover was a guaranteed sell out for that month's edition of Collier's.

Parrish's universally popular and instantly recognizable images were produced between the late 1890s through the mid 1960s; they were seen on magazine covers, greeting cards, art prints, calendars, novels, advertisements and packaging. Clear and bold, with uncomplicated subjects, Maxfield Parrish's art prints papered the walls of American homes for decades.

Nassau County Museum of Art is offering public programming to enhance the experience of viewing the exhibition. There are daily screenings of a 30-minute documentary, *Parrish Blue: An American Art History* that includes images of many of Parrish's original canvases as well as comments by the artist's son, Maxfield Parrish, Jr., and Norman Rockwell, a friend and fellow artist. These screenings are free with museum admission. Also free with museum admission are three Brown Bag Lectures—December 17, January 7 and February 4—in which Museum Docent Riva Ettus discusses Parrish's works and career. On December 5, Judy and Laurence Cutler, curators of the exhibition and co-founders of the National Museum of American Illustration, present a talk on Parrish and other American imagists. On December 19, Gemini Journey presents a violin/cello concert of music from the early 20th century, the Golden Age of Illustration. Additional information about these and other events and registration for the December 5 and 19 events will be available on the museum's website beginning on November 9. Visit nassaumuseum.org/events

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Maxfield Parrish (1870-1966), *The Desert Without Water*, 1902, mixed media on paper laid on canvas, 17" x 11 1/2", initialed lower right, "The Great Southwest" by: Ray Stannard Baker, *Century Magazine*, 1902, (c) Copyright 2015 National Museum of American Illustration, Newport, RI, Photos courtesy Archives of American Illustrators Gallery, New York, NY



Maxfield Parrish (1870-1966), *Plainfield Town Hall Stage Set – Center Stage*, 1916, oil on paper on stretchers, 8 1/2" x 12", *Plainfield Town Hall Stage Set Study*, (c) Copyright 2015 National Museum of American Illustration, Newport, RI, Photos courtesy Archives of American Illustrators Gallery, New York, NY