The National Museum of American Illustration

The National Museum of American Illustration was founded in 1998 by Judy and Laurence Cutler to house their American Imagist Collection from the ‘Golden Age of American Illustration.’ The NMAI is located at Vernon Court (1898), a Beaux-Arts adaptation of a 18th century French chateau, designed by noted architects Carrère & Hastings, it is the first national museum dedicated exclusively to American illustration art.

Illustration is widely considered to be “the most American of American art” and consists of the original artworks created to be reproduced in books, magazines, other media and advertisements. Original paintings by such masters as Norman Rockwell, Maxfield Parrish, NC Wyeth, Howard Pyle, Jessie Willcox Smith, Charles Dana Gibson, JC Leyendecker, and over 150 other luminaries are displayed in the “Gilded Age” architectural masterpiece Vernon Court, creating a truly unique national treasure, a cultural alliance of art and architecture.

The Museum is operated and administered by the nonprofit American Civilization Foundation with the goal to present the best possible venue for appreciating the greatest collection of illustration art and preserving this art form in perpetuity. These paintings provide us with beautiful renditions of our history and a visual record of our distinctive cultural heritage: our American civilization.

200 words

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