NMAI Unveils New Exhibition

The National Museum of American Illustration (NMAI) in Newport, R.I., announces the debut of a new traveling exhibition, "Howard Pyle, His Students & the Golden Age of American Illustration," which premiered to rave reviews from invitees on April 3 at Diesel University's Pennoni Honors College in Philadelphia. Concurrent exhibitions will begin at the American Illustrators Gallery (AIG), New York City, May 15 and at NMAI on May 26 for Memorial Day weekend, the start of NMAI's summer season.

"Howard Pyle, His Students & the Golden Age of American Illustration" is an exhibition featuring oil paintings, works on paper and accompanying artifacts that highlight the work of Howard Pyle, known as the "Father of American Illustration," and the generation of celebrated illustrators he taught. Pyle was a prolific illustrator as well as a major author of books and periodicals in the late Nineteenth and early Twentieth Centuries, writing and illustrating 34 books of his own, illustrating more than 160 books by others and creating an estimated 2,200 drawings and paintings reproduced in periodicals. In 1894, Pyle founded the first School of Illustration in America at Drexel Institute of Art, Science and Industry, now Drexel University, shaping the way illustrators created artworks thereafter.

Today everyone knows the name Norman Rockwell but few people know the name Howard Pyle, let alone his art or his impact on generations of artists and American illustration," said Judy Goffman Cutler, co-founder and director of the NMAI. "This exhibition will give viewers a firsthand and close-up look at the marvelous original paintings that most people have only seen in reproduction form."

Cover of the new exhibition catalog. Howard Pyle, His Students & the Golden Age of American Illustration, printed in conjunction with this exhibition.

The exhibition at Drexel University comprises artworks from the collections of AIG, NMAI and notable private collections. It is located in the Paul Peck Alumni Center, 3142 Market Street in Philadelphia and is free and open to the public, Monday to Friday, 9 am to 4 pm. To schedule a tour or for information, visit www.drexel.edu/pennoni.

The American Illustrators Gallery (AIG) is open by appointment only, 18 East 77th Street, New York City. AIG has led the nation as the most influential and important illustration art dealer, providing clients with both knowledge and guidance to satisfy their passion for collecting masterpieces. All artworks on display at AIG are available for sale. For more information or to schedule an appointment, www.americanillustrators.com. 212-744-5190 or email art@americanillustrators.com.

The National Museum of American Illustration's Summer Seaso begins Memorial Day Weekend, May 26, opening Thursdays to Sundays to 5 pm, with a guided tour every Friday at 3 pm. It is at Vernon Court, 492 Bellevue Avenue, Newport, R.I. For information, call 401-851-8549 or visit www.americainillustration.org. The NMAI is an independent, educational and aesthetic organization with the goal to present the best venue for the public to appreciate the greatest collection of illustration art.

"Harvest," Jessie Willcox Smith (1863–1935), 1928, mixed media on board, 22½ by 16½ inches, signed lower left. Published on the cover of Good Housekeeping, November 1928.

"Howe Pyle, His Students & the Golden Age of American Illustration' to Debut in Spring.

"Comforting Words," Howard Pyle (1863–1911), 1906, oil on canvas, 25 by 18 inches, signed lower right. Published in Tales of Pirates and Buccaneers.

"Horse Race," N.C. Wyeth (1882–1945), 1926, oil on canvas, 40¼ by 32¼ inches, initialed lower right. Published in Drums by James Boyd, Scribner's Sons, 1926.

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The National Museum of American Illustration

Presents the Premiere of

Howard Pyle, His Students &
The Golden Age of American Illustration

This exhibition highlights the work of Howard Pyle, known as the “Father of American Illustration,” and the generation of illustrators he taught. In 1894, Pyle founded the first School of Illustration in America at Drexel Institute, then in 1900 starting the Howard Pyle School of Illustration in Wilmington, Delaware. His students at both schools became known as “The Brandywine School,” which included some of America’s greatest illustrators, who are represented in this exhibition: Stanley Arthurs, Anna and Ethel Betts, Harvey Dunn, Anton Otto Fischer, Philip R. Goodwin, Elizabeth Shippen Green, W.H.D. Koerner, Violet Oakley, Frank Schoonover, Jessie Willcox Smith, Sarah Stitwell Weber and N.C. Wyeth.

Drexel University
April 3rd - June 18th
Paul Peck Alumni Center
Philadelphia, PA
www.Drexel.edu

American Illustrators Gallery
May 15th - October 27th
18 East 77th Street • New York, NY 10075
www.AmericanIllustrators.com
212.744.2190

National Museum of American Illustration
May 26th - December 1st
492 Bellevue Avenue • Newport, RI 02840
www.AmericanIllustration.org
401.851.8949