



# PERSPECTIVES

*Quarterly stories for A&H members & donors*

**Summer 2022 Newsletter**

Volume 2 | Issue 2

## **In This Issue**

- 2 | Membership Updates
- 3 | Upcoming Exhibition
- 4 | Founder's Spotlight
- 5 | Pan's Big Adventure
- 6 | Artist in Residence
- 7 | Event Highlights
- 8 | Calendar of Events

# Dear Friend of the A&H,

From Last Wednesday happy hours to Little Creatives at the A&H, we're regularly adding new ways for all ages to engage with us. (See our calendar of events on the back page, and visit [artandhistory.org/events](http://artandhistory.org/events) for all the details!) Here's a few of the ways we're increasing access to art & history:



- Expanded hours – including one additional day a week, and evening hours with free admission
- More youth programming – including Family Day with free admission & art activity for each exhibition, and Little Creatives & Me for toddlers and their caregiver
- Art outreach at 11 Boys & Girls Clubs this Summer
- Spanish translations of our exhibitions and some signage
- Digitization of our André Smith collection for worldwide access
- Restoration of historic campus, including recently reclaiming a statue in South Carolina that was displayed on campus from the 1930s-50s
- Partnership with Maitland Civic Center showcasing curated selections from A&H's art collection

And, here are a few more fun updates from the A&H:

**Museum Store** - we've added new items to our little museum store at the front of the Art Center gallery. We've recently added: ornaments, 3 postcard designs, stickers, wine glasses, a new coffee mug design, and more items are still being added. We're considering enamel pins, puzzles, travel mugs, and stone coasters too. Plus, we'll soon have a small cooler with drinks and snacks so you can picnic on the grounds or grab something to go! Later this year, we'll have a book all about our history as the Research Studio, in the *Images of America* series of books.

**Summer Art Auction** - Get ready for this third annual opportunity to add to your collection (or start one!), support local artists, and help fund the things you love about the A&H! There will be a variety of sizes, styles and price points. In person previews are July 21 & 22, then the online auction closes July 23.

**Collaborative Campaign** - Many thanks to all of you who supported the A&H during the United Arts Collaborative Campaign 2022. While we haven't received our final total yet, we are grateful to all who invested in the A&H at this time, to allow us to receive a 15% match from United Arts of Central Florida. We absolutely cannot do all we do without your contributions of all sizes!

I look forward to seeing you soon. As always, please reach out if I can be of service!

Sincerely,

Jessi VanPelt

Director of Advancement (and art & history super fan!)

407-539-2181 x 260 / [jvanpelt@artandhistory.org](mailto:jvanpelt@artandhistory.org)

## Contributors to this issue of

**Perspectives:** Katie Benson, Becky Bruni, Dan L. Hess, Danielle Thomas, and Jessi VanPelt.

**On the cover:** *Spring in the Chapel*. Photo by A&H Marketing Manager Hannah Miller.

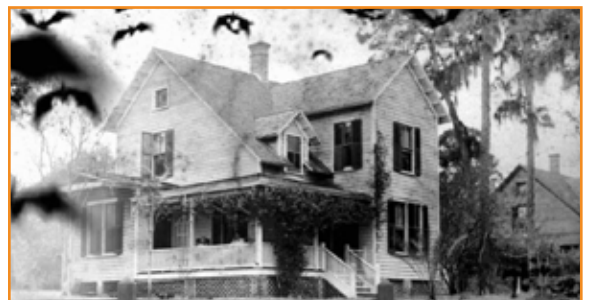
## A&H CAMPUS HOURS

**Maitland Art Center  
Maitland History Museum  
Telephone Museum**

Wednesday-Sunday 11am-4pm

**Waterhouse Residence Museum**  
Saturday & Sunday 11am-4pm

**Grounds: Chapel / Main Garden**  
Tuesday-Sunday 11am-4pm



Don't miss Haunted Tours at the Waterhouse Residence with American Ghost Adventures, Friday, May 13 – timed, advance tickets only!



# Upcoming Exhibitions

**CORPUS DELICTI, a solo exhibition by Jessica Caldas, runs  
May 21 – September 18, 2022 in the Maitland Art Center galleries**

Our Summer exhibition, *Corpus Delicti*, features the work of multi-disciplinary artist Jessica Caldas. Caldas is a Florida-based Puerto Rican American artist and advocate, and her artistic practice



combines drawings, collage, sculpture, and performance into expansive mixed media works and immersive installations. Her work in our exhibition will require the viewer to navigate the physical gallery space in an experience that mirrors the complexities of the issues being explored, issues that focus on the generational experiences of women; and the complicated spaces, both personal and public, that these women must negotiate.

Our exhibition title, *Corpus Delicti*, translates from Latin as the “body of the crime”. Legally the term means that requisite elements of a crime, such as a body, must be provided before an individual can be convicted. This title was chosen because the art of Jessica Caldas, in both spirit and form, seeks to provide evidence – of injustices that often go unspoken or seek to remain in darkness. The body of her work as well as the individual “bodies” represented state to the viewer that even though these factors have been hidden for generations, this can no longer be the case.

In this, her first solo museum exhibition, Caldas acts as witness and silent storyteller while the viewer finds themselves standing where all the major themes of her work to date converge. We will see the realization of a major work, the expansive *Matriarch Timeline*, originally conceived during her *Master of Fine Arts* thesis, alongside major examples of her *Tired Bodies* series. A new, large-scale *Tired Body* work created just for this exhibition carries on a conversation with the next iteration of her massive outdoor sculptural installation *The Endeavor*. Even the titles of these featured works, such as *The Caretaker*, speak to the maternal themes of protection and nurturing that run throughout the exhibition. In addition to the grand scale pieces, we are given intimate access to view

the behind-the-scenes processes and preparation involved in the works, including her past performance pieces. These miniature installations hold various objects and images from Caldas’ performances, stacked texts from her research, and other collateral relating to each work and to her personal history as both artist and advocate, daughter and mother.



As engaging as this bold statement of text and color, form and image is, it could not be concluded without conveying the story behind it. In our initial exhibition planning meeting with Caldas, we suggested a small community panel of artists be formed to watch over the exhibition’s development. What this concept grew into is truer to the spirit of the show than we could have hoped. Caldas invited seven women – mentors, family members and fellow makers – who were instrumental and pivotal in her artistic success and development, to write text for the exhibition. Seven panels containing these writings are now an integral part of this exhibition. This is more evidence that Caldas’ story resonates with a larger, tight-knit community that exists far beyond the scope and walls of our historic gallery.



# Founder's Spotlight: André Smith's scrapbooks

by Exhibitions Manager Katie Benson

Before blog posts and Pinterest boards, the best way to collect and preserve images and sentimental memories was through scrapbooking. While A&H founder Jules André Smith actively documented his art through sketchbooks, as we explored in last quarter's issue, you may be surprised to know that he also chronicled his life through avid scrapbooking.



Throughout the 21-year run of the Research Studio, Smith collected memorabilia detailing all the happenings of the artist's retreat. Artifacts like exhibition announcements and reviews, newspaper clippings, and photographs fill each book's pages. Indeed, Smith's scrapbooks have proved to be so full of information that even staff members whose jobs are to be particularly familiar with such artifacts, like myself, find something new with every look through.



Figure 1 (1938)

Among all the valuable pieces of history found in each Scrapbook, photographs are especially useful in uncovering what life at the Research Studio really looked like. The images in Figure 1, for instance, showcase the original vegetation and decoration of the campus, including orange trees still on campus from Maitland's citrus farming days. Captions for photographs also have proved to be valuable sources of information, as is evident in the 1947-48 scrapbook. Featuring a photograph of the Garden Chapel (figure 2), the caption describes the scene as a "Chapel of St. Francis", a dedication which was unbeknownst by A&H staff until researching images for this article.



Figure 2 (March, 1948)

Photographs of the resident artists also frequented the pages of Smith's scrapbooks. Figures 3 and 4 show the camaraderie of the small artist community, and some big names of the art world that visited the campus. All these images, along with the newspaper articles and exhibition catalogues, paint a vivid picture of what the Research Studio was like. But the true essence of the Research Studio is perhaps best captured in the personal touches that Smith made on each page. The small sketches, poems, cartoons, and even a reminder of mealtime (figure 5) truly encapsulate the true spirit of The Research Studio as it represents one man's vision to push boundaries and to open new doors.



Figure 3 (ca. 1940)



## Founder's Spotlight continued



Figure 4 (ca. 1950)

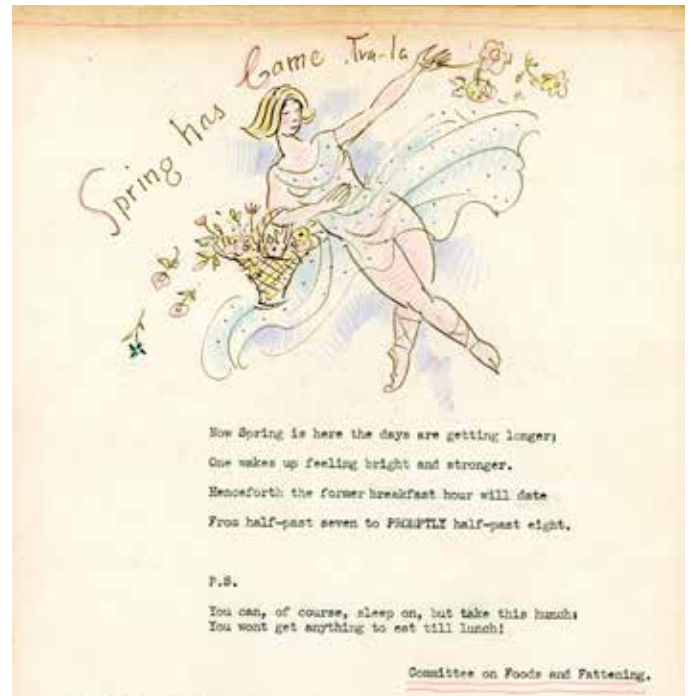


Figure 5 (ca. 1939-1940)

## Pan's Big Adventure

We recently made a trip to South Carolina to retrieve an approximately 500 lb. statue of the Greek figure Pan that was displayed on our campus from the 1930s-50s, for the most part behind the lily pond. The statue was donated back to the Center by Cynthia Blair, whose parents Jeanne and Carl Dauksch were given the statue in the 1960s. Pan will reside in the Studio Court (near the Main Garden) after a platform is built.

There are several other concrete sculptures and relief carvings that were originally on the campus during André Smith's lifetime that we would like to return to their former home here, such as the apostles that adorned the Chapel, including the one pictured here. We encourage anyone who would like to donate them back to the Center to reach out to us, so that we can restore the Research Studio back to its original state. We are happy to come collect any pieces that may resurface, and will provide a donation receipt.



Preparing for transport from South Carolina



Apostles in the Chapel



Pan's temporary home outside Studio 2

# Artist in Residence: Carole D’Inverno

by guest writer Becky Bruni

The A&H is excited to welcome a familiar face back to our campus! In 2019, artist and traveler Carole d’Inverno came to Florida as an A&H Artist-in-Residence. She was immediately captivated by the wild greenery, white-washed walls, and seclusion of our campus. Her initial inspiration turned into a productive residency and a series of works that could only have been created in Maitland. Art can be a universal language, and every artist speaks in his or her own voice. As Carole d’Inverno says, “We all have stories to tell.”

Her story began in Europe. After growing up in Belgium and Italy, d’Inverno immigrated to the United States. Describing her impressions of her new home, “I saw the disparity in wealth, the gun violence, the racial tension, but also the familial interactions in close-knit communities, the pride in country, the belief in ‘everything is possible.’ I turned to history to understand the contradictions.” d’Inverno’s observations became insight and her insight became her passion. She grabbed a sketchbook and put everything she learned down on paper. The more she saw, the more she wanted to see.

“To prepare for a new series I visit the local communities. I take in the scenery and spend time with locals. I listen to stories, go to museums and art centers, look at monuments, read at the local library, and even peruse restaurant menus! I consult maps, photos, relevant books, and fill sketchbooks with notes and drawings. A unique picture starts developing in my mind. In the studio my intuition takes the lead and I let the facts, places, and local stories coalesce in my mind. The data is humanized. Paintings and drawings naturally reflect the community, and its people. Each new series becomes part of the whole and teaches me more.” –Carole d’Inverno

Using vinyl paint, watercolors, acrylics, ink, or pencil, d’Inverno interprets what she discovers through the lens of abstraction. The result is a body of work that is not only aesthetically pleasing, but vividly real. Like the Maitland Art Center itself, d’Inverno’s art is a living organism that serves as a monument to the community that supported and inspired its creation.

During her 2019 residency, d’Inverno hosted a workshop titled Personal Histories: an Abstraction. Participants were invited to research and discuss their ancestries, family lore, and places they grew up. With the guidance of d’Inverno and an abstract vocabulary, all of these

elements were realized on one long paper scroll. It was an afternoon of sharing and connecting through art that would have made André Smith proud.

From May 3 to June 13, Carole d’Inverno will be returning to the A&H for her second residency. She is most excited to go deeper into the museum’s archives and spend more time in the Telephone Museum. We can’t wait to see what she creates! Stay tuned for upcoming events with Carole d’Inverno, including another Personal Histories: an Abstraction workshop. And stop by the main garden to catch a glimpse of her working in the Bok Studio (Studio 14). If you see the “Studio Open” sign on the door, don’t hesitate to introduce yourself!



*If you’re on Instagram, follow Carole @caroledinverno. You can also keep up with our last Artist in Residence @lorilarusso. And be sure to follow us at @ahmaitland of course – lots of extra, fun content there!*



# Thanks to all who joined us for the first annual A&H: The Art Party on March 26!



Caroline Duvall, Michael Thomas (A&H Board),  
Tatum Murphy



Ashonte & Marlon Lyles



Meadow Good & Andrew Smith



Bill & Barbara Lynch, Dan Hess (A&H Chief  
Curator), PJ Svedja (artist), Scott Thomas



Karen Torrecampo, Ellen Torrecampo, Sara Murphy,  
MJ Torrecampo (Artist in Action)



Mär Martinez & Leo Cordovi  
(Artists in Action)



Beth Landa, Lou Ziemba and Kim Carroll



Kate Raleigh, Johnny & Cathy Sandifer, June & Jeff Flowers



Dave & Dorothy Benson

Photos by Roberto Gonzalez

## A&H in the Community



Partnership with Maitland Civic Center showcasing curated  
selections from A&H's art collection



At Central Florida Earth Day  
festival in downtown Orlando



Eatonville Chamber of Commerce mixer at  
Audubon Center for Birds of Prey



**ART & HISTORY MUSEUMS**  
MAITLAND

231 W. Packwood Ave. | Maitland, FL 32751

DATED MATERIAL  
PLEASE EXPEDITE

The A&H is a non-profit organization supported by generous individual, business, government and community partners including:



# Summer 2022 Newsletter

## Upcoming at A&H

May	June	July
13   Haunted Waterhouse: A Ghost Tour (8:00-9:00 or 9:30-10:30pm)	6   Young Artist Summer Workshops begin	20   Little Creatives & Me at the A&H
18   Little Creatives & Me at the A&H (10-11:00am)	8   Picnic & Conversation with Artist in Residence: Carole d’Inverno	23   History Trivia Night
20   Exhibition Opening Party: CORPUS DELICTI (6:30-9:00pm)	11   Family Day at A&H	25   Last week of Young Artist Summer Workshops
25   Last Wednesday: After Hours (5:30-8:00pm)	22   Little Creatives & Me at the A&H	27   Last Wednesday: After Hours + Gallery Tour with Chief Curator
26   Historic Architecture Tour (10:30-11:15am)	23   Historic Architecture Tour	
	27   Art School Summer Session begins	
	29   Last Wednesday: After Hours + Gallery Tour with Chief Curator	

*Advance registration required for many events. Please visit our website to register  
and to discover even more events: [artandhistory.org/events](http://artandhistory.org/events)*