

Regina Library

Art Tour

Welcome to Regina Library!

Please enjoy our art tour. Throughout our building there are several art pieces on view for patrons to appreciate and enjoy. These works, by varying artists and in a multitude of media, are part of a larger, permanent collection belonging to Rivier University, and maintained by The Art Gallery.

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Art Pieces | First Floor

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We have various art pieces on display throughout the building for patrons to appreciate. Please enjoy your tour of our paintings, prints and sculptures currently on view courtesy of the larger Rivier University permanent collection.



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Art Pieces | First Floor

1

Statue: of The Virgin Mary, Artist Unknown (marble, n.d.) in memory of Horace Francoeur and Mary A. Keady.

2

Signposts, by Samuel Bak (serigraph 26/150, n.d.) Born in Vilna, Poland (1933) Samuel Bak's distinguished international career has been based in the United States since 1974. Dedicated to artistic reflection on the destruction and dehumanization which make up his childhood memories of the Warsaw Ghetto, he specifically interprets what are deemed to be the unspeakable atrocities of the Holocaust. He nevertheless hesitates to limit the boundaries of his art to a post-Holocaust genre. Instead, he creates a visual language to remind the world of commonalities among the most desperate moments of its vast history. His paintings and serigraphs are meant to warn against complacency in the face of profound ruptures in civilization. (Rivier University purchased from the Pucker Gallery, Boston, MA)

3

S'Brent (Our Town is Burning) by Samuel Bak (mixed media on paper, 1992) A Yiddish poem/song written in 1938 by Mordechai Gebirtig, *S'Brent* speaks of the apathy of bystanders in Poland as they watched the pogroms, violent riots aimed at persecution of the Jews. Cracow's underground Jewish resistance adopted the song version as its anthem. Today it is often sung in Israel and around the world on Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom Ha Shoah). Samuel Bak's visual interpretation typically mixes biographical references with well-known images from both Jewish and Western civilianization. (Gift of Bernie and Sue Pucker of the Pucker Gallery, Boston, MA)

4

Orangerie V by Frederick Phillips (mixed media serigraph, 152/295, n.d.) Originating with the Renaissance gardens of Italy, the orangerie -- a stylish greenhouse or conservatory -- peaked in popularity during the 19th century as a symbol of prestige and wealth. It became an expected dimension of design for fashionable residences in both Europe and America. Critics have acclaimed Phillips (b. 1958) for his precise, post-surrealist approach, and the artists has concurred, "My images are not realistic portraits of the world around me. Rather, [they] are like half-remembered images of places I have visited on my travels." He explains that his purpose is to create a timeless, almost mythic atmosphere, hoping--through the portal of his subtle Kafkaesque treatment of Romantic subjects--to transport his viewers into the creative realm of their own imaginations. (Gift of Antoinette LaVoie in memory of her daughter, Jeannette)

5

Mah-Jongg by Erte (Romain de Tiroff) (embossed serigraph with foil stamping 11/50, 1985) Erte was born in Russia in 1892 and Paris-based from 1912 until his death in 1990. He became renowned as a designer who created for theater, film, fashion, and magazine publication, particularly *Harper's Bazaar*. His work, which also included painting, printmaking, and sculpture, is now in the collections of major museums and is recognized for its influence on the art movement that became known as *Art Deco*. Ma-Jongg, a game that originated in China, is played with a set of tiles displaying various characters and symbols. (Gift of John and Ann Dagianis).

6

Still Life with Flowers by James Aponovich (oil on canvas, 2009) The still life painting of James Aponovich (b. 1948) is distinguished by technical rigor and compositional complexity. It characteristically idealizes reality while referencing a broad array of historical developments in art, especially masterworks of the Renaissance period and still life paintings in the Dutch and Flemish Styles of the 17th century. Other influences are as far reaching as Chinese landscapes and the surrealist movement of the mid 20th century. Aponovich paintings and drawings are represented in major museums and private collections and he has been honored as the State of New Hampshire's Artist Laureate and Lifetime Fellow. (Gift of Michael and Carol Gagne)

7

Stained glass tribute to Blessed Anne Marie Rivier, Artist Unknown (Dedicated 2008) Blessed Anne Marie Rivier, for whom Rivier College [now University] is named, was born on December 19, 1768 in Montpezat in the Ardeche region of southern France. On November 21, 1796, she founded, at Thueyts, in the Ardeche, the Congregation of the Sisters of the Presentation of Mary. At the height of the French Revolution when religious orders were being suppressed, she opened her first school. She also opened orphanages, taught classes to uneducated women, and reached out in many ways to the poor, giving them food, clothing, shelter, money and hope. During the Reign of Terror, when members of the clergy were imprisoned, exiled or executed and many Catholics were deprived of the Eucharist and other sacraments, Marie Rivier led Sunday scripture services in her parish, reciting some of the prayers of the Mass and distributing the Eucharist. She founded 141 schools in her lifetime, and died on February 3, 1838. Within five years of her death, Pope Pius IX declared her "Venerable," and her congregation spread first to Canada, then to the United States and throughout the world. Her legacy lives on at Rivier University since 1933. Anne Marie Rivier was beatified by Pope John Paul II on May 23, 1982. She was canonized, i.e. officially declared a Saint of the Church, by Pope Frances on May 15, 2022. (A Rivier University Commission)

8

Fifth Avenue by Thomas McKnight (serigraph, 30/30, 1983) By the end of the 1980s McKnight's silkscreen technique with its brilliant colors and clean shapes had become popular worldwide. Whether his subject is a carnival in Venice, a tropical beach, a sun-drenched village in Greece, a cozy room, or a street in New York, his theme is always one of nostalgia for an earthly paradise. His joyful prints and paintings continue to have global appeal in the contemporary art market. (Gift of John and Ann Dagianis).

9

Exhibition Poster by Victor Vasarely (limited edition serigraph, 1973) French artist, Victor Vasarely was born in Hungary in 1908. Vasarely is widely regarded as the father of Op-Art. During the 1960s and 1970s, his optical images became part of the popular culture, having a deep impact on other art forms and foreshadowing a new global reality shaped by computer programming. The artist donated this piece from 1973, 24 years before his death, as the signature image announcing one of the early exhibitions put forth by the Rivier College (now University) Art Gallery. (Acquired in collaboration with Cynthia and Ken Knapton).

10

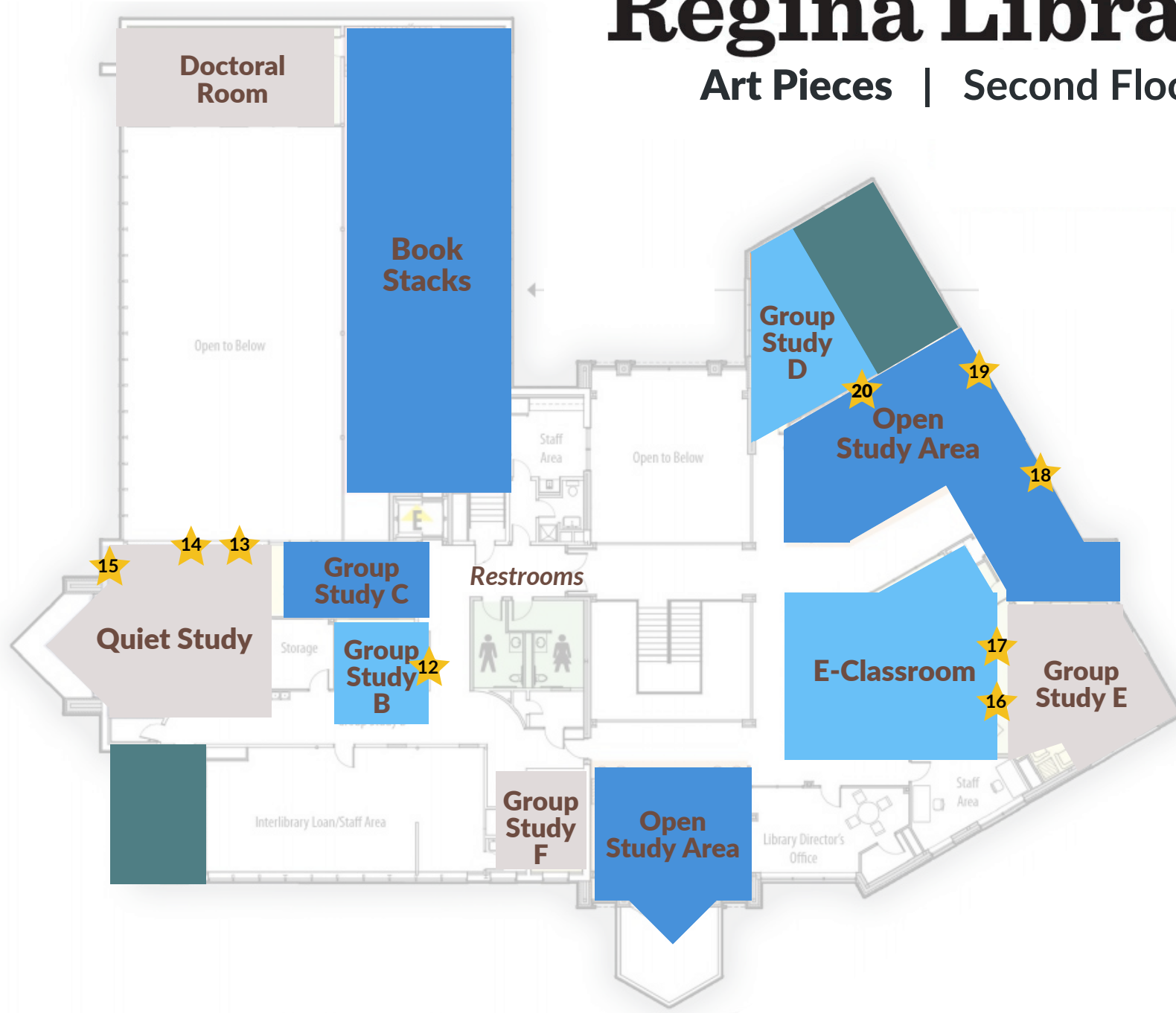
Seal of Rivier College Wall Hanging by Sister Valentine Dumont, PM (wool--traditional rug hooking, 1984) In addition to serving Rivier College (now University) as Director of Food Services, Sister Valentine was a skilled seamstress and a master craftswoman in traditional rug hooking. Having learned the technique of Pearl McGown, a New Englander, who in the early 20th century formalized the study of rug hooking, she created this piece from hand cut strips of woven wool. These wool pieces were hand dyed with vegetable dyes, which she pulled through a stiff woven base with a simple hook. The resulting loops formed a tight, even surface that allowed her to render fine lines and detailed letterforms. (Commissioned by Rivier College in 1984)

11

The Risen Christ as King, Artist Unidentified (wooden figure hand-carved in Italy, c. 2008) The figure presented here represents the interrelatedness of two Scriptural emphases pertaining to the life of Jesus. As Image of the invisible God, Jesus is the embodiment of Divine Sovereignty, the firstborn of creation, and thus King of the Universe. As the Risen Christ who has overcome suffering, death on across, and sinfulness, He is the cosmic redeemer and reconciler of all creation. Hence the common use of this image in memorializing the deceased faithful. The wooden cross was handcrafted by Jay Ricard, a former member of the Rivier University facilities staff. (Gift of the Birck family)

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Art Pieces | Second Floor



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12

Homage to Bernstein in B Major by David Chamberlain (hand painting, 1994) David Chamberlain is a sculptor, painter, musician, and also a former adjunct studio professor at Rivier College (now University). He is the developer of the Chamberlain Method of monotype oil painting and the pioneer of Duetts, an approach to collaborative compositional painting. His work is in museum and private collections worldwide. The piece shown here, like all of his monotype paintings, is created with hands and fingers rather than brushes. "As a sculptor," says the artist, "I imagine these compositions as sculptural paintings and I endeavor to give them a feeling of depth and dimensionality... I am carving and forming the paint (and light)." The title refers to Leonard Bernstein, the famed orchestral conductor and composer. (Gracious gift of the artist).

13

Korean Scenes (East Asian fine art prints, believed to be from a limited edition, n.d.) These two prints (numbers 12 and 13) were acquired without accompanying documentation. However, research suggests that the artists and the works themselves are Korean. The clothing is *hanbok*, traditional South Korean outfit. The square red 'lettering' on the image of a horse-led procession is Korean; the remaining is Chinese--a common mix. The frames and matting are typical of Korean and other East Asian art. (Gift of Sister Jeanne Perreault, former President of Rivier University)

14

15

Red Square and the Forbidden City by David Hockney (five-color lithograph, 903/1000, 1982) Hockney is known worldwide as a versatile and prolific painter, printmaker, photocollagist, and stage designer. The signature "bird's eye view" was created for the Stephen Spender and David Hockney travelogue *China Diary*. In its application, it is meant to be folded three times to form four paper panels and, in its own folder, to be inserted into the book. (Gift of John and Ann Dagianis).

16

Horseman I by Salvador Dali (intaglio print, 147/300, 1975) Though Salvador Dali is well known as a Surrealist who used bizarre dream imagery to create landscapes of his inner world, *Horseman I*, like *Merchants of Venice* (17) attests more simply to exquisite draftsmanship through delicately expressive line. Horsemen frequently occur in his work, often with symbolic intention. Here, it is close observation of the sheer dynamism of the horse and its rider that animates this dynamic work. (Gift of John and Ann Dagianis).

17

Merchants of Venice by Salvador Dali (intaglio print, 9/300, 1975) Spanish artist, Salvador Dali was born in 1904. A flamboyant painter, sculptor, printmaker and experimental filmmaker, Dali is well known as a Surrealist who used bizarre dream imagery to create landscapes of his inner world. *Merchants of Venice* is a late work from what the artist called his "classic period." During this time (1940-1970) Dali looked back to Classical and Renaissance art for inspiration even while he yielded to a fascination with modern developments. (Gift of John and Ann Dagianis)

18

Homage to the Founder, by Joan Miro (lithograph, 9/90, n.d.) Spanish artist Joan Miro's (1893-1983) work was influenced by both the Surrealist and Dada movements. This piece, with its organic, flat forms drawn with sharp lines, is characteristic of his approach. It demonstrates a particular style derived from Catalan folk tradition, the art of children, and an appreciation for randomness. The "founder" of the title is probably Andre Breton who is considered the founder of Surrealism. (Gift of John and Ann Dagianis).

19

Aerial View: Way of the Cross, by ----Tacho (oil on wood panel, 1968) Though this piece is assumed to have been painted by a Puerto Rican artist, research produces no definitive information about the Tacho whose signature is on the painting. The village scene depicted is clearly inspired by devotional reenactments of the Passion of Jesus Christ, a Good Friday tradition among Hispanic peoples. (Gift of Ethel Slawsby)

20

Ducks in the Boston Public Garden, by Thomas R. Dunlay (print of original oil painting on hand-made watercolor paper, c. 1994) Thomas R. Dunlay, a nationally celebrated painter, is also distinguished for his revolutionary role in replicating original artworks by coupling digital technology with time-honored techniques of fine printmaking. A past president of the Guild of Boston Artists and a painting instructor, he is influenced in his own works by artists of the early 20th century *Boston School*, a group that placed a high value on technical skill, accurate visual representation, and classical beauty, while exploring the looser techniques of French Impressionism. This inclusive approach ultimately synthesized a distinct regional style that Dunlay applies to depicting everyday life and scenes in New England, particularly in the greater Boston area. (Gift of the artist and Dr. Charles L. and Stella M. Mitsakos)

As always, Rivier University appreciates the generosity of our many donors and is always happy to grow our collection through additional acquisitions. If you are interested in donating an art piece to the Rivier University Permanent Collection, please contact the Director of the Art Gallery directly at 603-897-8280--we appreciate your generosity!