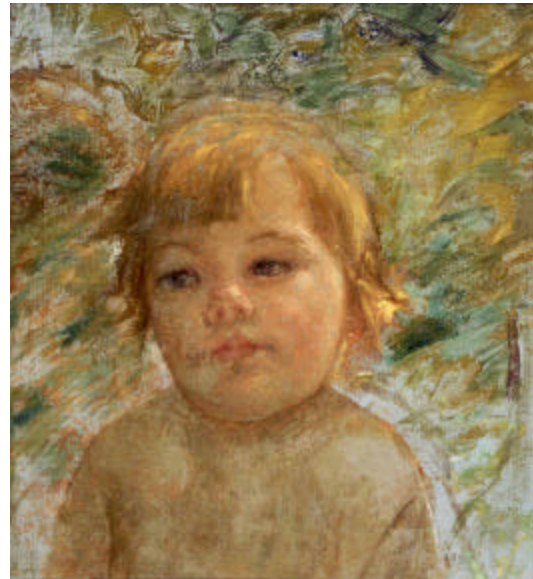




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Marc Chagall, *Horse-Woman (Femme à Cheval)*, 1945. Oil on canvas. Santa Barbara Museum of Art.



Mary Cassatt, *The Blond Baby*, ca. 1875. Oil on canvas, laid on board. Santa Barbara Museum of Art.

For the Love of Art Recent Gift Marks Firsts in SBMA Collection

On View April 28 – December 2007

April 3, 2007 — Noted as one of the most significant gifts of art given to the Santa Barbara Museum of Art in its 66-year history, the recent contribution by Dwight and Winifred Vedder will be unveiled in an exhibition entitled *A Gift for Santa Barbara: The Dwight and Winifred Vedder Collection*. The assemblage of 13 significant works represents French, British, and American artists from the late 19th to mid 20th centuries and was recently given to the Museum by local Santa Barbara resident Mrs. Winifred Vedder and on behalf of her late husband, Dwight Vedder. The exhibition will open April 28 to the public and will remain on view through the end of 2007.

The collection includes works by such notable Impressionist artists as Mary Cassatt, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Armand Guillaumin, and Berthe Morisot, but also includes two works by self-taught artists, Anna Mary Robertson "Grandma" Moses and Helen Bradley. The intermingling of genres within the collection not only reflects Mr. and Mrs. Vedder's self-described "eclectic" tastes, but also illustrates the wide scope that gave them the most pleasure. "We never had a very large collection," states Mrs. Vedder, "but we had what we really enjoyed."

The addition of this collection plays a significant role in the growth of the Santa Barbara Museum of Art's permanent collection. Phillip Johnston, SBMA Director, states, "Amazingly, before this generous gift, the Museum never owned a Renoir. Now we have two. The same holds true for paintings by Mary Cassatt." Other firsts added to the Museum's collection through the Vedder Collection are paintings by Helen Bradley, Armand Guillaumin, and Victoria Dubourg Fantin-Latour.

Dwight and Winifred began collecting in the late 1970s and early 1980s with the help of art dealer and friend, Louis Stern, of Louis Stern Fine Arts in Los Angeles. Mrs. Vedder recalls the first time she and her husband attended an art auction at Sotheby's. "Good thing Louis was with us. With those [bidding] paddles you can get carried away." She further notes, "I was able to stop. My husband did not."

Throughout the years, the Vedders continued to receive counsel from Louis Stern and through his guidance their collection grew. Making it certainly easier was the fact that Mr. and Mrs. Vedder had a similar taste in art. Mrs. Vedder notes, "Often when we'd go into galleries or museums, and even if we had not been walking together, it would almost invariably be the same painting that was our favorite." While their collective tastes were complementary, each had favorites from this collection. For Dwight Vedder, it was Chagall's *Horse-Woman (Femme à Cheval)*, 1945 and Renoir's *Woman in a White Chemise*, ca. 1900. For Winifred Vedder, her favorites are the two works by Mary Cassatt, *The Blond Baby*, ca. 1875 and *Hélène of Septeuil with Parrot*, ca. 1889, but she is also enamored of Morisot's *Portrait of Marthe Givaudon*, 1892, by describing the illustrated figure as "just a wistful, little thing."

The decision to give such a significant collection now was primarily brought about by a change of residence by Mrs. Vedder – but also by a deep philanthropic philosophy. She notes, "We both [my husband and myself] had the same philosophy – you should give back to what gives to you." For her and her late husband, it was art that gave them joy.

This exhibition has been made possible through the generosity of Vicki and Patrick Stone and Mrs. Edward E. Stepanek.

The Santa Barbara Museum of Art is a privately funded, not-for-profit institution that provides internationally recognized collections and exhibitions and a broad array of cultural and educational activities as well as travel opportunities around the world.

Santa Barbara Museum of Art, 1130 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA. Open Tuesday - Sunday 11 am to 5 pm. Closed Monday. Free every Sunday. 805.963.4364 www.sbma.net

Included in the exhibition *A Gift for Santa Barbara: The Dwight and Winifred Vedder Collection*:



Helen Bradley, *Grandma and the Two Aunts Called*, ca. 1965-70. Oil on panel. Santa Barbara Museum of Art.



Victoria Dubourg Fantin-Latour, *Roses, Zinnias and Pinks*, ca. 1880. Oil on canvas. Santa Barbara Museum of Art.



Mary Cassatt, *The Blond Baby*, ca. 1875. Oil on canvas, laid on board. Santa Barbara Museum of Art.



Armand Guillaumin, *Haystacks*, ca. 1890. Oil on canvas. Santa Barbara Museum of Art.



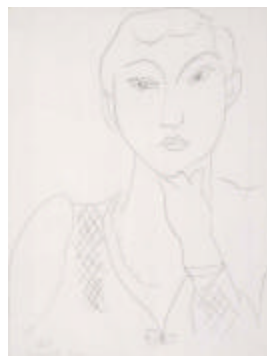
Mary Cassatt, *Hélène of Septeuil with Parrot*, ca. 1889. Pastel on gray paper. Santa Barbara Museum of Art.



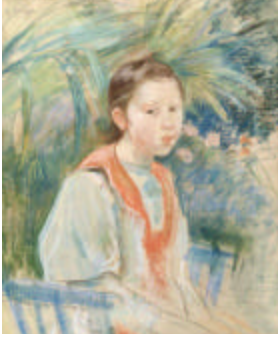
Armand Guillaumin, *Banks of the Creuse*, 1903. Oil on canvas. Santa Barbara Museum of Art.



Marc Chagall, *Horse-Woman (Femme à Cheval)*, 1945. Oil on canvas. Santa Barbara Museum of Art.



Henri Matisse, *Bust of a Woman with Her Hand Under Her Chin*, 1943. Pencil on paper. Santa Barbara Museum of Art.



Berthe Morisot, *Portrait of Marthe Givaudon*, 1892. Oil stick and pastel on canvas. Santa Barbara Museum of Art.



Pierre-Auguste Renoir, *Roses*. Oil on canvas. Santa Barbara Museum of Art.



Pierre-Auguste Renoir, *Woman in a White Chemise*, ca. 1900. Oil on canvas. Santa Barbara Museum of Art.



Anna Mary Robertson Moses (Grandma Moses), *Bringing in the Yule Log*, 1949. Oil on panel. Santa Barbara Museum of Art.



Paul Signac, *Croix-de-Vie*, 1920. Watercolor and pencil on paper. Santa Barbara Museum of Art.