



**AMERICAN & EUROPEAN
FOLK ART**
from the Permanent Collection

ON VIEW: November 19, 2016 - June 18, 2017

This exhibition is dedicated to three centuries of American and European folk art from the Museum's permanent collection, with many artworks on view for the very first time. A variety of artworks and types of objects will be exhibited, including quilts, weathervanes, needlepoint samplers, baskets, Victorian anniversary tin, trade signs, sailor-made love tokens and a carnival figure, mostly by unknown makers.

Exhibition Resource Guide

Variety from the Museum's Permanent Collection

This particular exhibition celebrates the breadth and depth of the Museum's permanent collection which contains over 26,000 objects. Artworks included in this exhibition were either donated or purchased.

Symbols in Folk Art

This exhibition contains many figurative and whimsical shop signs and weathervanes from the 19th and 20th centuries. Trade signs reflected the shop's retail in as few words as possible and often became symbols for those particular businesses. Some on display will include an oversized pocket watch as a watchmaker's trade sign, a handcrafted wooden barber pole, and a wooden pocket knife replica from New York Cutlery Company. Weathervanes not only indicate which direction the wind is blowing but are often representative of the surrounding land, such as the cow, rooster and fox which are indicative of the rural surroundings.

Self-Taught & Unknown Makers

The majority of the exhibition objects were created by artists who have no academic education or formal training, but rather, were self taught in their craft. Most of the objects were created by unknown makers. This exhibition will contain a few self-taught known makers such as Felipe Archuleta, Beatrice Wood, and Gérard Cambon.

Household Objects

Featured objects in the exhibition were used in everyday life in the United States and Europe but offer a simple and humble beauty. They include clothing, baskets, boxes, hat forms, rugs, quilts, needlepoint samplers, ceramic vessels and toys.

Student will Explore

- Analyze and respond to symbolism in folk art
- Compare and contrast everyday objects from the past with their own in the present
- Various art forms and processes including ceramics, woodworking, metalsmithing, blacksmithing, weaving and dyeing



Roadrunner and Rattlesnake, 1984
Felipe Benito Archuleta (1910-1991)
New Mexico
Wood, paint, bottle caps
Museum Purchase, 2015-105-005
Photo by Steve Oliver



Child's Quilt, c. 1920
Unknown African American maker
United States
Wool, acetate, cotton
Gift of Margaret Robson, 2012-42-001
Photo by Steve Oliver



Trade Sign, 19th century
Unknown maker
United States
Wood, paint
Museum Purchase, 2015-05-002



Running Fox Weathervane, c. 1840
Unknown maker
England, Sussex
Copper, iron
Museum Purchase, 2014-10-002
Photo by Steve Oliver



Trade Sign, 19th Century
Unknown maker
Painted wood, metal
Mingei International Museum Purchase
Photo by Steve Oliver



Barber Pole Trade Sign, c.1875-1899
Unknown maker
Yellow pine
Mingei International Museum Purchase
Photo by Steve Oliver