



For Immediate Release
February, 2024

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF PORTRAITURE

A New Queens College Exhibition, *"The Psychology of Portraiture,"*
Explores Global Culture Through Godwin-Ternbach Museum's Expansive Collection,
February 15 – May 16, 2024



Charles V of Spain, Self-Portrait, Muhammad Ali Looking Down,
Brooke Lord Cobham, Tete de Pierrot, and Head of a Woman.

"The Psychology of Portraiture" reveals the breadth and vitality of artistic expression across a period of several thousand years from diverse cultures in a truly global exhibition.

January 25, 2024, Flushing, NY — A new exhibition at Godwin-Ternbach Museum (GTM) at Queens College (CUNY), *"The Psychology of Portraiture,"* features over sixty outstanding works from antiquity to modern times drawn from the museum's encyclopedic collection. GTM is unique among museums in Queens as this world class institution focuses on exposing the breadth of its 7,000 object collection, beginning with ancient archeological works that then range to modern and contemporary art, and everything in between.

GTM was founded in 1981 though the art collections at Queens College date from the year of its founding in 1937. In the museum's collection, cultures of Asia, Africa, Egypt, Greece and Rome, South Pacific and India, as well as European (Medieval and Renaissance), Pre-Columbian, and the Americas, are represented.



(from the left) Cowboys and Indians: Sitting Bull, It's Too Bad You're Not Young Anymore, and Black Revue (from Boston Massacre portfolio)

Earliest works in the exhibition include Mask of Silenus, 5th century BC, and Funerary Head, Syria-Palmyra, c. 1365-200 BC. Medieval to Renaissance objects include a lunette depicting della Robbia's "Madonna between Saints Francis and John," c. 1460-1520, a Flemish Reliquary Bust, early 16th century, and "Charles V of Spain," 1550, attributed to the Circle of Antonio Moro. Some modern and 20th century works include works by Surrealist Max Ernst and his granddaughter, Amy Ernst, social realist works by William Gropper and Kathe Kollwitz, and contemporary works by Larry Fink, Andy Warhol, and Claudia DeMonte.



Dr. Frances Gray Godwin, 1908-1979
Photo courtesy Edward O'Donnell



Joseph Ternbach, 1897-1982
Photo courtesy Godwin-Ternbach Museum

Periodically, GTM chooses to shine a light on the legacy of its founders. This exhibition honors the primary mission and values of Dr. Frances Gray Godwin and Joseph Ternbach. That is, to develop a teaching collection for students to be able to handle and study works of art and cultural artifacts without the usual constraints of a museum environment, and to create a general resource for the wider communities of Queens and New York City.

Beloved professor of Medieval Art, Dr. Godwin was eulogized by art historian and NYU professor Robert Rosenblum upon her passing in 1979, "At Queens College, where she taught from 1945 to 1970, she had become a living fable, a teacher who, fusing enchantment and scholarship, had inspired both love and respect for the history of art." Rosenblum, Robert. "Frances Gray Godwin, 1908-79." *Art Journal* 38, no. 4 (1979): 282-282. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/776379>.

With renowned art restorer Joseph Ternbach's vast knowledge of materials and techniques, his intellectual curiosity and passion for history brought this awareness to classes of students from the mid-1950s on. On speaking of a small Hellenistic bronze of a draped female figure, Ternbach said, " I can only tell you I have never had such great pleasure. When I cleaned this figure, I saw those living folds, the beautiful form of her body, the beautiful design, the movement of her body—she was so beautiful..." Weintraub, Steven. "Conversations with Joseph Ternbach," *Joseph Ternbach Conservator/Collector, Queens Museum* (1984), 16-29.

Through Godwin and Ternbach's collaboration, the museum was able to attract world class collectors Jack and Belle Linsky, Charles B. Rogers, Cyril and Walter Frank, Judge Irwin Untermeyer, Ernest Erickson, co-founder of the WPA Federal Arts Project and New York Regional Director Audrey McMahan, and of course, works from the private collections of the founders themselves. Later important donors include the Lannan Foundation, The Andy Warhol Foundation, Allen Rosenbaum, and Estate of Rose Choron, among others.

The show is organized by Louise Weinberg, GTM's co-director, director of exhibitions and collections, and curator. A public opening reception will take place on Thursday, February 15th, from 6 pm to 8 pm at the Godwin-Ternbach Museum. Visit www.gtmuseum.org for information, hours, location, and directions to campus.

Support for "The Psychology of Portraiture" is provided by the Friends of the Godwin-Ternbach Museum, Kupferberg Center for the Arts, and Queens College, CUNY. Education programs and initiatives are supported in part by the Milton & Sally Avery Arts Foundation, and public funds from the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with NY City Council. Additional support for the care of the collection is made possible by the Pine Tree Foundation.



About the Godwin-Ternbach Museum

The Godwin-Ternbach Museum, a part of Queens College's Kupferberg Center for the Visual and Performing Arts, presents contemporary and historical exhibitions and programs that provide exciting educational opportunities and aesthetic experiences to the college community and residents of Queens, Manhattan, and Long Island. As the only museum in the CUNY system, and the only encyclopedic collection of art and artifacts in the borough housing over 7,000 global objects that date from ancient to modern times, the museum introduces visitors to works they might not otherwise encounter. Virtual and in-person programs complement and interpret the art on view to serve the needs and interests of local and international communities. All exhibitions and programs are free.

About Queens College

Queens College enjoys a national reputation for its liberal arts and sciences and pre-professional programs. With its graduate and undergraduate degrees, honors programs, and research and internship opportunities, the college helps its students realize their potential in countless ways, assisted by an accessible, award-winning faculty. Located on a beautiful, 80-acre campus in Flushing, the college has been cited by Princeton Review as one of America's Best Value Colleges for five consecutive years, as well as being ranked a U.S. News and World Report Best College and Forbes Magazine Best Value College thanks to its outstanding academics, generous financial aid packages, and relatively low costs. Visit our homepage (www.qc.cuny.edu) to learn more.

For exhibition information and publicity images, please contact Louise Weinberg,
louise.weinberg@qc.cuny.edu.

For education and public programs, please contact Maria Pio,
maria.pio@qc.cuny.edu.

Godwin-Ternbach Museum, Queens College, CUNY

65-30 Kissena Blvd., 405 Klapper, Flushing, NY 11367

Telephone 718-997-4724 Fax 718-997-4734

www.gtmuseum.org