

WUNDERKAMMER II: ANIMALIA



In these visual storage cases, Godwin-Ternbach Museum (GTM) is highlighting holdings from the museum's extensive permanent collection of 7,000+ unique works of art and artifacts from across the globe. Visible storage is a necessary component of modern museology whereby objects that typically remain hidden in storage rooms are shared in public spaces for viewing by students, scholars, and the public. For example, in the New York City metropolitan area, the Henry R. Luce Foundation has generously funded comprehensive Luce Centers for American Art at Brooklyn Museum, Metropolitan Museum of Art, and New-York Historical Society.

GTM has created our own version of periodically changing displays under the designation of a Wunderkammer, rooted in the notion of a 16th to 17th century cabinet of wonders. These miraculous collections of art and artifacts from the spheres of science and natural history, were sourced globally and housed in one marvelous space devoted to the tastes of the individual owner.

This is the second iteration in the series. The first, Wunderkammer: Material Pleasures, was on view from 2022 – 2023. This vibrant selection of objects is presented in a non-hierarchical, non-linear arrangement, challenging the conventions of a typical museum installation in the service of creating a more inclusive museum. This gallery of art and marvels strives to capture the attention and imaginations of our students, many of whom are not even studying art or art history. While rushing past to a class or an appointment, to a job or home, we strive to inspire wonder through exposure to our diverse collections.

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