Impact Report 2023



Photo: Runyon Colie

and a second

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to share with you the wide-reaching impact the Frye's work has had over the last year. In this document, you'll find more than the basic facts and figures of an organizational overview. You'll see the work of an art museum forging ahead, after an unprecedented pandemic, to bring to life the bold visions of artists near and far. You'll see evidence of communities finding meaning and significance with art and within our galleries. And you'll see stories about the importance of new and historical art's capacity to inspire delight and wonder in people of all ages.

As the Frye's new executive director, I'm entering the next year energized by the possibilities of what's happening at the museum. I invite you to join us in our mission to support art, artists, and the diverse creative communities that make Seattle so special.







With gratitude,

Jamilee Lacy Executive Director

Amplifying local voices

The Boren Banner Series is a billboard-sized manifestation of the Frye's commitment to showcasing diverse and emerging artists of the Pacific Northwest. The flip side of this report features Seattle artist Molly Vaughan's design (on view October 22, 2022–April 16, 2023) *After Boucher: Untitled* (2022), which inserts genderqueer mythological characters into the opulent world of 18th-century Rococo.



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To see a nude transwoman on the outside of a museum, 16-foot high, at the same time that across the country there's something like 400 anti-trans bills [in legislatures]...I just really want to thank the Frye for stepping up for that moment."

-Molly Jae Vaughan

Installation view from Boren Banner Series: Molly Jae Vaughan, Frye Art Museum, October 22, 2022–April 16, 2023.



Acquisition Highlight

Newly created for the Frye's group show Door to the Atmosphere (October 29, 2022–January 15, 2023), Stylite Alterpiece is emblematic of Seattle painter Eden Seifu's fantastical narrative style.

Eden Seifu Stylite Altarpiece, 2022

Left: Eden Seifu with Stylite Altarpiece (detail), 2022. Acrylic on canvas. 71 x 56 x 1 ½ in. Purchased with funds partially provided by The Roux Collection, Panama City, 2023.003



Browse our full collection fryemuseum.org/collection

Centering Makers at the Museum Store

By providing a platform for exposure and sales for over 50 small-scale makers and designers, the Frye Store extends our support of a local network of artists beyond those exhibiting in our galleries.



Featured maker

Jacinthe Demmert Haida Nation textile artist

Store commission: Opposites Coincide, 2023 Yellow Cedar Mat



MariPili at Café Frieda

The Frye aims to be a destination for cutting-edge creative experiences—culinary included! We're thrilled to partner with Chef Grayson Corrales on the exciting new concept for our recently reopened café. With an elevated yet accessible menu showcasing Spanish-inspired classics, contemporary flavors, and local ingredients, MariPili at Café Frieda offers diners-from Frye patrons to neighborhood residents and local hospital workers—a much needed lunchtime destination in First Hill.

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Whenever and wherever I travel, I go to museums. The Frye still remains one of my favorites I've ever visited. It makes Seattle still feel like home, a space that cares about the city it resides in. If you have the means, support and lift up what you love.

-Ursula Rose Brown

Salon, Interrupted

Contemporary artist interventions are a dynamic way to connect ideas of the present to the works of the past. The exhibition LINEAJES by Tacoma percussionist and educator Antonio M. Gómez offers a collection of global instruments and soundscapes that illuminate the intercultural histories of world music and an artistic heritage long obscured by the Western canon.

Set amid the Frye's collection, LINEAJES lovingly disrupts our tendency to perceive art as individual expression. Not even the stateliest tree can stand without the forest floor's nutrients and detritus...Below the surface are roots fed from a multitude of soils.

–Antonio M. Gómez





From Education to Learning & Engagement

The Frye's Education department is now called Learning & Engagement. As we appoint a new department director into this important leadership role, they'll attend to this important internal shift, which signals our commitment to an active, reciprocal, and dynamic approach to community engagement—one that meets our diverse audiences where they are and better honors the mutual meaning-making relationship between artists, community members, and museum staff alike. Stav tuned to see this new vision come alive!



Looking Ahead

Our 2024 season opens with two major exhibitions that exemplify the Frye's goal of connecting the local to the global.



Jessica Jackson Hutchins: Wrecked and Righteous opens January 27

Jessica Jackson Hutchins. world's end. 2020 Glazed ceramic, upholstered tartan chair. spraypaint. 39 x 25 x 35 overall. Courtesy of the artist and Adams and Ollman. Portland



Sky Hopinka: Subterranean Ceremonies opens February 17

Sky Hopinka. Kicking the Clouds (still, detail), 2021. Digital video (color, sound): 15:36 min Courtesv of the artist

