

PRESS KIT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 11, 2024

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DELIGHTS OF THE SENSES
An Exhibition Exploring 17th Century Dutch Art and Life
at the Albany Institute of History & Art



ALBANY, NY—The Albany Institute has developed a major exhibition opening on September 14 that marks the 400th anniversary of the founding of Fort Orange, the first permanent Dutch settlement that developed into the present-day city of Albany. ***Delights of the Senses: Seventeenth Century Dutch Art and Life*** is centered around a partnership between the Albany Institute and The Leiden Collection, one of the preeminent private collections of seventeenth-century Dutch paintings in the United States.

Delights of the Senses will present paintings and objects that examine seventeenth-century Dutch culture through the five senses. In addition to twenty paintings from The Leiden Collection, the exhibition will include several prints from the Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center at Vassar College, along with objects from First Church in Albany, Friends of Historic

Kingston, Historic Huguenot Street, Historic Hudson Valley, the New York State Museum, and from the rich holdings of the Albany Institute.

Paintings of everyday life by Dutch artists such as Gerrit Dou (1613–1675), Jan Steen (1626–1679), and Gabriel Metsu (1629–1667), will be presented alongside objects similar to those in the paintings. The Albany Institute has produced a 116-page, full-color, illustrated exhibition catalogue written by the curator of The Leiden Collection and scholars of Dutch art and culture.

“Displayed together,” explains chief curator W. Douglas McCombs, “these paintings and objects will invite viewers to imagine daily moments in an earlier time—whether it be an encounter with lively music, soft fur, a fragrant bouquet, or a hoppy glass of beer—as they were perceived not just through the eyes, but all the senses.”

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The 400th anniversary of the founding of Fort Orange is part of a broader commemoration of the establishment of the Dutch colony of New Netherland and the settlement of New Amsterdam (present day New York City). ***Delights of the Senses*** has been prominently featured in the commemorative activities around the anniversary which have been sponsored and promoted by the DutchCultureUSA / Future 400 program of the Consulate General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in New York.

The Albany Institute is partnering with the New Netherland Institute to present the 46th New Netherland Institute's Joint conference, "Dutch Albany in History & Art" on Saturday, September 21. Additional diverse, engaging exhibition-related programming for families, adults, and school groups will take place throughout the duration of the exhibition, which runs through December 31.

This exhibition is paired with the exhibition ***People of the Waters that are Never Still: A Celebration of Mohican Art and Culture***. The connection between these two exhibitions is rooted in 400 years of the rich history of Albany and the upper Hudson Valley region.

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ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

FACT SHEET

Delights of the Senses: Seventeenth-Century Dutch Art and Life Featuring Paintings from The Leiden Collection

September 14-December 31, 2024

EXHIBITION SUMMARY:

This exhibition presents paintings and objects that examine 17th-century Dutch culture through the five senses, and is centered around a partnership between the Albany Institute and The Leiden Collection, one of the preeminent private collections of seventeenth-century Dutch paintings in the United States. ***Delights of the Senses*** commemorates the 400th anniversary of the founding of Fort Orange, the first permanent Dutch settlement that developed into the present-day city of Albany.

Features twenty paintings from The Leiden Collection, plus more than 100 additional items including paintings, prints, silver, metals, ceramics, glass, textiles, furniture, tools, printed matter and manuscripts.

Installed in Entry, West Gallery, Hall, and Albany Gallery (3,800 sq. ft.)

This exhibition is paired with the exhibition ***People of the Waters that are Never Still: A Celebration of Mohican Art and Culture***. The connection between these two exhibitions is rooted in 400 years of the rich history of Albany and the upper Hudson Valley region.

CURATORS:

W. Douglas McCombs, AIHA Chief Curator, and Diane Shewchuk, AIHA Curator, in collaboration with The Leiden Collection curator Elizabeth Nogrady

LENDERS TO THE EXHIBITION:

- The Leiden Collection
- First Church in Albany
- Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center of Vassar College
- Friends of Historic Kingston
- Dennis Holzman Antiques
- Historic Huguenot Street
- Historic Hudson Valley
- New York State Museum
- Private Collection
- Andrew Rutherford

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EXHIBITION CATALOGUE:

Paperback, 116 pages, full color; \$40.00. On sale in Albany Institute Museum Shop and on Amazon

Edited by Elizabeth Nogrady, Curator, The Leiden Collection, and Diane Shewchuk, Curator, Albany Institute of History & Art

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- Director's Foreword, Kayla R. Carlsen, Executive Director, Albany Institute of History & Art
- Acknowledgements, Diane Shewchuk and Elizabeth Nogrady
- Introduction, Elizabeth Nogrady with Annie Correl
- *A World of Sound: Voices and Music in Seventeenth-Century Dutch Art* by Natascha Veldhorst
- *The Delights and Displeasures of Smell in Dutch Genre Scenes* by Lizzie Marx
- *Rye Bread and Cheese: The Tastes and Smells of the Early Modern (New) Netherlands* by Marieke M. A. Hendriksen
- *Experiencing Beverwijck through the Senses* by Erin Kramer
- *Catalogue: Paintings from The Leiden Collection* by Elizabeth Nogrady and Annie Correll
- Exhibition Checklist
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PARTNERS & SPONSORS:

Delights of the Senses is supported by Albany County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding provided by the U.S. Department of Treasury. The project is also supported by a grant awarded to the Albany Institute of History & Art by Empire State Development and I LOVE NY / New York State's Division of Tourism through the Regional Economic Development Council initiative.

This exhibition is supported as part of the DutchCultureUSA / Future 400 program by the Consulate General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in New York.

Additional support for ***Delights of the Senses*** is provided by the Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation, John D. Picotte Family Foundation, Netherland-America Foundation, the Maurice D. Hinchey Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, Discover Albany, the Holland Society of New York, Douglas L. Cohn, D.V.M. and Barry Brown, and Louise Falk Marwill and Lawrence R. Marwill, MD.

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ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

PRESS IMAGES

Delights of the Senses: Seventeenth Century Dutch Art and Life

These images may be used by accredited media solely for purposes of publicity for the exhibition *Delights of the Senses* at the Albany Institute of History & Art. Images may not be altered, and must be accompanied by the captions as noted below.

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For high-resolution images, or other urgent requests, please contact the Communications Office at communications@albanyinstitute.org or 518-463-4478. Please allow a minimum of one full business day for image requests.



Man with a Fur-Trimmed Hat, Ferdinand Bol (1616–1680), oil on canvas, ca. 1646–48
The Leiden Collection, New York



Young Woman in a Niche with a Parrot and Cage, Gerrit Dou (1613–1675), oil on panel, ca. 1660–65
The Leiden Collection, New York



Herring Seller and Boy, Gerrit Dou (1613–1675), oil on panel, ca. 1664
The Leiden Collection, New York, GD-106



Young Man Smoking and a Woman Pouring Beer, Gabriel Metsu (1629–1667), oil on panel, ca. 1656–58
The Leiden Collection, New York



Two Women in an Interior with a Basket of Lemons, Caspar Netscher (ca. 1639–1684), oil on panel, ca. 1664–65
The Leiden Collection, New York



Peasants Merrymaking Outside an Inn
(Previously Fair at Warmond), Jan Steen (1626–1679), oil on canvas, ca. 1676
The Leiden Collection, New York



Birdcage, unidentified maker, the Netherlands, seventeenth century, brass
Historic Huguenot Street



A Map of New England and New York
Engraved by Francis Lamb (fl. 1667–1701), London, England
Published by Thomas Based and Richard Chiswell, London, England 1676, engraving on paper
Albany Institute of History & Art, gift of the family of Michael S. Insel in his memory, LIB2021.75.5



Floral tiles, unidentified maker, the Netherlands, ca. 1625, tin-glazed earthenware with polychrome decoration
Albany Institute of History & Art, gift of Mabel Brady Garvan, 1949.2.2



Gold-weighing scale, unidentified maker, the Netherlands, seventeenth century, wood, brass, paper
Friends of Historic Kingston



Standing salt cellar, attributed to Gaeff Meynertsz Fabritius (1602–1666), Haarlem, the Netherlands, 1652, silver Albany Institute of History & Art, gift of Leslie Stafford Crawford Hun in memory of her husband, Dr. John Gale Hun, 1964.13



Kas, unidentified maker, the Netherlands, 1650–1670, oak with ebony
Albany Institute of History & Art, gift of George H. Way, 2019.7

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PEOPLE OF THE WATERS THAT ARE NEVER STILL
A Celebration of Mohican Art and Culture
at the Albany Institute of History & Art



ALBANY, NY—An exhibition exploring historical and contemporary Mohican art and culture opens at the Albany Institute of History & Art on September 14 and continues through December 31. ***People of the Waters that are Never Still: A Celebration of Mohican Art and Culture*** honors the Muh-he-con-ne-ok people, known today as the Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians.

“The Albany Institute of History & Art is located on the traditional homelands of the Mohican people,” notes chief curator W. Douglas McCombs, PhD. “They are an integral part of our regional history, even though, through forced relocations, much of the community now resides in Wisconsin.”

Traditionally, the Albany area is called Pempotowwuthut-Muhhecanneuw, meaning “the fireplace of the Mohican nation.”

The Muh-he-con-ne-ok have a rich and illustrious history which has been retained through oral tradition and the written word.

The historical and contemporary art in ***People of the Waters that are Never Still*** evokes not only the five physical senses, but also a sense of connection—to place, the Earth, water, animals, relatives, ancestors, stories, traditions, identity, and community. The contemporary artists in this exhibition reflect upon their heritage through self-discovery, repurposing materials, carrying on traditions, preserving moments and memories, and telling their own narratives through various compositions.

The exhibition features more than 40 objects, including historical objects and documents, crafts, contemporary works of art from ten artists, and a community beadwork project created by members of the Stockbridge-Munsee Mohican community. Works of art include paintings, sculptures, photography,

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baskets, beadwork, a visual poem, and a musical composition. ***People of the Waters that are Never Still*** includes objects on loan from the Arvid E. Miller Museum, New York State Museum, and Historic Huguenot Street.

People of the Waters that are Never Still has been curated by Tamara Aupaumut, a self-taught multidisciplinary artist and independent curator living in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She descends from the Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Indians, the Oneida, and Brothertown Indian Nations.

“Mohican art is a connection to culture,” Aupaumut explains, “and their culture is an art in itself.”

This exhibition is paired with ***Delights of the Senses: Seventeenth-Century Dutch Art and Life***. The connection between these two exhibitions is rooted in 400 years of the rich history of Albany and the upper Hudson Valley region.

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ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

FACT SHEET

People of the Waters that are Never Still: A Celebration of Mohican Art and Culture

September 14-December 31, 2024

EXHIBITION SUMMARY:

This exhibition explores historical and contemporary Mohican art and culture that celebrates the Muh-he-con-ne-ok people, known today as the Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians. *People of the Waters That Are Never Still* honors the original inhabitants of the Upper Hudson Valley region, in a location that was part of the traditional homelands of the Mohican people. Mohican, or Muh-he-con-ne-ok, means “people of the waters that are never still,” a reference to the tidal nature of the Hudson River.

Features more than 40 objects, including historical objects and documents, crafts, contemporary works of art from ten artists, and a community beadwork project created by members of the Stockbridge Munsee Mohican community. Works of art include paintings, sculptures, photography, baskets, beadwork, a visual poem, and a musical composition.

Installed in East Gallery and Swawite Gallery, 2ndFloor. (1,226 sq. ft.)

This exhibition is paired with *Delights of the Senses: Seventeenth-Century Dutch Art and Life*. The connection between these two exhibitions is rooted in 400 years of the rich history of Albany and the upper Hudson Valley region.

CURATOR:

Tamara Aupaumut, a self-taught multidisciplinary artist and independent curator living in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She descends from the Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Indians, the Oneida, and Brothertown Indian Nations.

ARTISTS:

- Tamara Aupaumut, artist—painting and sculpture
- Rebecca Burr, artist—painting
- Brent Michael Davids, composer and musician—musical composition
- Reva Furhman, artist—beadwork
- Bonney Hartley, poet—poem
- Donna Hogerhuis, artist—baskets
- Quinn Miller, artist—photographs
- Terri O'Connor, artist—drawing
- Monique Tyndall, artist—beadwork and ribbon work
- Al Wadzinski, artist—sculptures
- Stockbridge Munsee Mohican Community—beadwork

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MUSEUM LENDERS TO THE EXHIBITION:

- Arvid E. Miller Museum—historic and contemporary art
- New York State Museum, Ethnology Department—contemporary art and historic objects
- Historic Huguenot Street—historic object

FUNDING:

Support *for **People of the Waters That Are Never Still: A Celebration of Mohican Art and Culture*** is provided by the Carl E. Touhey Foundation, the Maurice D. Hinchey Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area, and Discover Albany. ***People of the Waters That Are Never Still*** is supported by Albany County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding provided by the U.S. Department of Treasury. The project is also supported by a grant awarded to the Albany Institute of History & Art by Empire State Development and I LOVE NY / New York State's Division of Tourism through the Regional Economic Development Council initiative.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

It is with gratitude and humility that we acknowledge that we are learning, speaking, and gathering on the ancestral homelands of the Muh-he-con-ne-ok or Mohican people, who are the indigenous peoples of this land. Despite tremendous hardship in being forced from here, their community rebuilt and resides in Wisconsin and is known as the Stockbridge-Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians. We pay honor and respect to their ancestors past and present as we commit to building a more inclusive and equitable space for all.

In further recognition of this acknowledgment, we would like to invite all self-identifying Indigenous Peoples to access our current exhibitions without charge.

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ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

PRESS IMAGES

People of the Waters that are Never Still: A Celebration of Mohican Art and Culture

These images may be used by accredited media solely for purposes of publicity for the exhibition ***People of the Waters that are Never Still*** at the Albany Institute of History & Art. Images may not be altered, and must be accompanied by the captions as noted below.

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She Honors the People of the Waters That Are Never Still
Terri L. O'Connor
2017
Graphite pencil, pen, and colored pencil on paper
Courtesy of Terri L. O'Connor



Halving My Pye and Eating It Too
Tamara Aupaumut
2023
Oil on canvas
Courtesy of Tamara Aupaumut



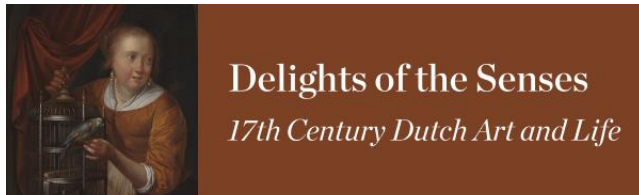
Whisper of the Past
2024
Glass beads, cotton, and wool
Courtesy of Reva Fuhrman

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ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

BACKGROUND

A Conversation with Albany Institute Chief Curator Doug McCombs and Curator Diane Shewchuk



ALBANY INSTITUTE
OF HISTORY & ART

September 14 – December 31, 2024

People of the Waters
that are Never Still
Mohican Art and Culture



In fall 2024, the Albany Institute of History & Art is presenting two exhibitions that are uniquely distinct from each other, and yet, when viewed together, an implicit relationship between them is revealed. ***Delights of the Senses*** explores concepts related to the five senses in 17th century Dutch art and culture, while ***People of the Waters that are Never Still*** is a celebration of Mohican art and culture, both historical and contemporary. The connection between these two exhibitions is rooted in 400 years of the rich history of Albany and the upper Hudson Valley region.

Q: How did the ideas for these two exhibitions evolve?

Doug: We first connected with The Leiden Collection several years ago, with an exchange between Albany Institute curator Diane Shewchuk and Leiden Collection curator Lara Yeager. The initial thought was simply to bring a selection of Leiden Collection paintings to Albany, these beautiful 17th century paintings by Dutch masters.

Diane: In 2003, the Institute presented a wonderful exhibition focused on the theme of food in 17th century Dutch art, called *Matters of Taste*, which was a huge success, so we knew there was great audience potential.

Doug: And fundraising potential too! Because even the very best exhibition ideas need funding to come to life.

Diane: But the project grew more ambitious when plans began developing among local and regional cultural organizations and with the government of The Netherlands, to shape commemorations around the 400th anniversary of the Dutch arriving in what became New Netherland. And of course, the Dutch settlement of Fort Orange, which became the city of Albany, was first established in 1624. So this gave us an opportunity to expand our thinking about the kind of exhibition we wanted to include in the broader anniversary activities.

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Doug: We knew early on that we wanted to present two exhibitions representing two cultures that came together in 1624. *People of the Waters that are Never Still* represents the culture of the Indigenous people who originally inhabited this area. *Delights of the Senses* looks at the culture of the Dutch who arrived from Europe and began to settle in the region.

We'd already been thinking of exploring the five senses as a thematic framework for the Dutch show (it didn't have a name yet!), because so much of the detail in these beautiful paintings provides a window into everyday life as the Dutch experienced it four hundred years ago. So we thought the theme of the senses might also work for a complementary exhibition focused on Indigenous art and culture. And we began to this about this two-part project as presenting "Two Worlds."

Q: How did you select the Mohican culture and community for the second exhibition?

Doug: The year 2024 marks the 400-year anniversary of the first permanent Dutch settlement in the Upper Hudson Valley at Fort Orange. When the Dutch arrived, however, they encountered the Mohican people, who had been living along the river for centuries. The name Mohican, in fact, means "people of the waters that are never still," referencing the tidal nature of the Hudson River. This anniversary year, therefore, is about two cultures who came together 400 years ago. It set forth a clear path for us to develop an exhibition celebrating Mohican art and culture, which is a continuing, living culture as demonstrated in the works by several contemporary artists in the exhibition.

Q: *Delights of the Senses* is a much more elaborate project than just a few paintings. How did you expand the early plans to include additional objects in the project?

Diane: We knew we wanted to produce a publication to accompany the exhibition, and organizing the authors and their topics helped us create a checklist of objects that we were interested in exhibiting alongside the twenty Leiden paintings. It also gave us a deadline much earlier than we are used to. I looked through other publications to see what 17th century objects were in public collections that we could borrow. I also contacted colleagues to see if they had any objects that fit our theme. We were aware that the First Church in Albany had an amazing 17th century silver beaker made in Netherlands, but we didn't know that Historic Huguenot Street in New Paltz owned a rare 17th c birdcage. We were thrilled that they allowed us to borrow it, especially since the exhibition's signature image is a painting is of a young woman with a birdcage.

Planning this exhibition also gave us an opportunity to look through the Albany Institute's collection at objects we haven't paid much attention to, like a large collection of lace the museum acquired in the 1930s. It was very exciting when I was able to match our samples of 17th century lace to the lace trimmed clothing depicted in the paintings!

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Q: It seems like a very complicated undertaking to present two exhibitions like this at the same time. How does it all come together?

Diane: It all comes together because we have years of experience, have a wide professional network of colleagues, historians and curators, and a terrific in-house staff.

Doug: We were also fortunate to have the lead time to develop the ideas in these exhibitions and attract the funding through grants and contributions that made it possible to bring our ideas to life.

Q: Do you have any personal favorite objects in these exhibitions?

Diane: I love the personal things. One favorite in *Delights of the Senses* is the Dutch dictionary from 1710. This dictionary bears evidence that at least four individuals owned it at different times. Jeremiah Van Rensselaer pasted his engraved armorial bookplate into the book. Leonard Gansevoort Jr. signed it, and Harriet Gansevoort added her signature. Thomas Hun later pasted his bookplate on the endpaper. The dictionary was undoubtedly an invaluable reference book for residents of Albany, where the Dutch language persisted well into the nineteenth century. Personal histories, memories, and family stories are embodied in objects like this.

Doug: I've always admired the clean look of mid-century modern design. The printed textile panels and table runner produced at the Stockbridge-Munsee Community Craft Shop during the 1960s and 70s have that wonderful, simplified design aesthetic that incorporates a Mohican visual vocabulary of turtles, fish, and ears of corn. I see these textiles and the craft movement of the twentieth century as a bridge between traditional, historical products made by Mohican basket weavers and wood workers and the rich array of artwork created by contemporary artists from the community.

The exhibitions *Delights of the Senses* and *People of the Waters that are Never Still* will be on view at the Albany Institute of History & Art through December 31, 2024. Please check the museum website at www.albanyinstitute.org for information on related programs and events.

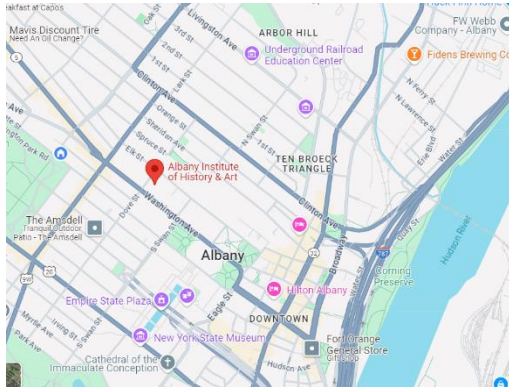
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ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

ABOUT THE ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART

LOCATION

The Albany Institute of History & Art is located at 125 Washington Avenue in Albany, New York. Free parking is available in the museum's lot at the corner of Elk and Dove Streets.



HOURS

The exhibition galleries and Museum Shop are open Wednesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 12 to 5 p.m. The Research Library is open by appointment only.

ADMISSION

Current general admission rates are \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors and students with ID, \$8 for children aged 6-12, and free for children under 6 and self-identifying Indigenous Peoples. Albany Institute members are admitted for free. The museum offers free and discounted admission opportunities (which are outlined in the Admission Fees section of the website), including free admission for SNAP EBT and WIC cardholders (up to four people per card) through the Museums for All Program. There is no admission charge to visit the Museum Shop.

MISSION

Founded in 1791, the Albany Institute of History & Art is New York's oldest museum. Its collections document the Hudson Valley as a crossroads of culture, influencing the art and history of the region, the state, and the nation. With more than 35,000 objects and one million documents in the library, it is an important resource for the region, giving our community a sense of the part the Hudson Valley played in the American story, and our own place in history. Permanent and temporary exhibitions are open year-round and create a sense of place, allowing visitors to meet the people who helped shape this region. Among the museum's best-known collections are the 19th century Hudson River School landscape paintings by artists like Thomas Cole and Frederic Church.

For more information, please visit www.albanyinstitute.org or call (518) 463-4478.

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