



Tuesday, February 26, 2002

## Gallery features works on 18th, 19th century

Meadow Brook Art Gallery's next exhibition, "Artisan Painters: American Fold Portraits and Landscapes of the 18th and 19th Century," will feature 40 paintings, watercolors and early photography from the collections of the Detroit Institute of Arts along with objects that show how Americans of this period saw themselves and their surroundings from the Flint Institute of Arts, Public Museum of Grand Rapids and Philadelphia Museum of Art.

The majority of the works fall into the pre-Civil War period when rural residents, especially in the northeast, emerged into a burgeoning middle class able to afford commercial and artistic goods with which to decorate and memorialize their lives.

Although there is a range of aptitude displayed in the exhibition's paintings, their plain forthright qualities reflect, in many instances, a deliberately crafted identity that raised good-old Yankee ingenuity and simplicity above the dissolute and fancy ways of both Europeans and Americans in major urban centers like Boston and New York.

The exhibition opens Friday, March 1, and runs through April 10. **Meadow Brook Art Gallery**, located across from the Meadow Brook Theatre entrance, is open Tuesday through Friday from noon to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 5:30 p.m., and during Meadow Brook Theatre performances, the gallery is open Wednesday through Friday from 7 p.m. through the first intermission and Saturday and Sunday from 5:30 p.m. through the first intermission. Admissions is free.

The "Artisan Painters: American Fold Portraits and Landscapes of the 18th and 19th Century" exhibition was organized by the Detroit Institute of Art and is supported by a grant from the Consumers Energy Foundation. Additional support has been provided by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the City of Detroit.

### SUMMARY

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