

## August 2019 Public Tour: **State Fair-ish**

Website tour description:

*Explore themes related to The Great Minnesota Get-together.*

Think about the wide array of experiences you can have at the Minnesota State Fair. I suggest bringing a map of the fairgrounds with you and connect the various areas with our collection. (There will be a couple of laminated maps in the tour office.) There are lots of ideas here; use what suits you!

### **Animals**

G215 (Han): Celestial Horse, Pig Sty

G357: Troyon, Landscape with Cattle and Sheep

Top of stairs by G304: Weathervanes of roosters, horses

G379: Cocktail set (looks like mother hen and chicks)

### **Performers/parade**

G215 (Han): Dancing figures, Drummer. Long-sleeve dancer

### **Beer**

G236: Africa, Zulu, Beer pot

Traditional rimless pots made by women. Used for drinking a sorghum and maize beer that is brewed in larger, roughly made clay vessels. The drinking of this beer is associated not only with the living, but also with the dead, to whom it is offered for remembrance and appeasement. The pots are decorated with designs inscribed onto the surface around the opening, not only for beauty, but to add grip.

<https://africaumoja.com/passing-of-the-beer-pot/>

[http://www.connectingcultures.us/resources/artifacts/art\\_item.php?accno1=DRNK&accno2=ZAF&accno3=251](http://www.connectingcultures.us/resources/artifacts/art_item.php?accno1=DRNK&accno2=ZAF&accno3=251)

G350: Beer jug with inebriated putti (74.60.1); also many various tankards in silver gallery

G311: Claesz, Still Life – note the tall, marked glass, used for a drinking game, and the goblet (rummer) with knobs (prunts) to ensure a better grip when handled with fingers greasy from eating.

### **Agriculture: products/farming**

G250: Africa, Bamana, Tyiwara headcrest – shows a composite creature (antelope, pangolin, aardvark) who taught humans how to farm; a mask danced during agricultural ceremonies

G380: Teo Nguyen, Untitled 14 – shows a landscape of the upper rural Midwest with its vast space, boundless fields, big skies and chilling sense of isolation: the State Fair celebrates the bounty of Minnesota's agricultural products

G260: Chalchiuhtlicue – her extended hands would have held small ears of an ancient variety of corn; represents fertility

**Horticulture: floral arrangements, hybrids**

G305: Van Os, Arrangement with Flowers – development of hybrid tulips in Holland

G309: Cornelis de Heem, Floral Still Life

G321: Delacroix, Still Life with Dahlias, Zinnias, Hollyhocks, and Plums

G368 (photography): Mapplethorpe, Calla Lilly; Steichen, Sunflowers

**Pet Pavilions/Dogs**

G260: Colima dog

G380: Robert DeForest, Camp Monet – lots of dogs!

**DNR Fish Pond**

G341: Bassano, The Element of Water – among all the fish is a relative of the Minnesota Northern Pike (far left, on table); importance of fishing in Minnesota

**Merchandise Mart**

Hartigan, Billboard – commercial and food products

**Midway/Rides**

G307: Canaletto, Grand Canal - water ride!

**Creative Activities building exhibits**

G260: Boomin' Out Quilt – hand made; exquisite use of fabric, beads, and wampum (shells)

G261: Americas, Plateau, Corn Husk Bag

G304: Norwegian chest (99.93A,B) – rosemaling

G304: Howard, Writing Desk – wood carving, furniture making

**Eco Experience Progress Center**

G378: Frankfurt Kitchen – new designs in homes, use of new materials, greater efficiency and environmental concerns

G379: Modernism gallery – look for objects that made life easier, more efficient

**Machinery Hill**

G359: Richard Stankiewicz, Untitled, L2014.234.86 – metal assemblage (iron and steel) of mechanical parts

**International Bazaar (shops)**

G209: Chinese export porcelain – learning about other cultures through the goods produced

**Food on a stick**

G200: Buddhism; mudras on sticks (in activity box in Tour Office cupboard)