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Images available upon request.

Newfields announces robust 2019 exhibition lineup at the Indianapolis Museum of Art

Discover Japanese couture, interactive sculpture, the Clowes collection and more

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 29, 2018—Next year, Newfields will showcase a diverse group of art exhibitions at the Indianapolis Museum of Art. Guests are invited to explore Japanese culture across campus as *Seasons of Japan* captivates audiences. From Japanese paintings and samurai swords to groundbreaking fashion designs, *Seasons of Japan* celebrates a culture like never before at Newfields.

This spring, don't miss the return of *Orchids* as the exotic flowers expand into the IMA Galleries for the first time in history. To keep the fragrance alive come back for *Spring Blooms* as this year's display of more than 500,000 blooms fills The Garden with color once more. Debuting in the summer, *Life and Legacy: Portraits from the Clowes Collection* showcases the extensive collection of portraiture from Dr. George H.A. and Edith Whitehill Clowes in a whole new light.

Read on to learn more about all the exhibitions arriving at Newfields in 2019.

[Orchids](#)

Curated by Sue NordPeiffer, Ian White and Marian Keith, Greenhouse Team
Feb. 8–Mar. 3, 2019

For the first time ever, *Orchids* will expand from the Madeline F. Elder Greenhouse into the IMA Galleries. Living, exotic orchids will bloom surrounded by beautiful works of art. One focused installation will be featured on each floor, some drawing inspiration—like texture or style—from nearby artworks. Others will contrast. The show continues in the Elder Greenhouse with three dedicated spaces. One combines bonsais with Japanese orchids and features their fascinating history. The showy orchids of Asia will also be highlighted, where you'll learn about their surprising contemporary uses. The year-round collection is still the place to see a wide range of tropical varieties. Classes will return, from basic to advanced. You'll find the alluring flowers available for purchase in the Pop-Up shop, along with accessories like special soil and free take-home care sheets. *Support provided by the SIA Foundation.*

[Ben Russell: River Rites](#)

Curated by Elisabeth Smith, guest curator
Feb. 8–June 9, 2019

Filmed in one take and played in reverse, this captivating and ambitious work by filmmaker Ben Russell, titled *River Rites*, is an exercise in what the artist called "psychedelic ethnography." However, far from functioning as an objective document, this film works aggressively against the notion of representing an ethnographic "other". Filmed in a rural community on the Upper Suriname River in Suriname, South America, *River Rites* explores a riverside bank where children and young adults congregate, wash garments, and frolic in shallow waters. The magic of film comes with Russell's undoing of time, playing with viewers' perceptions and understanding of what may or may not come next (or, in this case, before). The film's immersive installation involves a free-standing screen and reflective floor.

Step into Seasons of Japan

Curated by Tascha Horowitz, Director of Interpretation, Media, and Publishing
Feb. 2–Dec. 8, 2019

Step into Seasons of Japan invites guests into an immersive, interactive, multi-sensory experience. This fun, mesmerizing installation was created by a cross-departmental team to introduce guests to the four seasons of the Japanese landscape. Upon entering the gallery, they will be greeted by the fragrance of traditional plant life, followed by a peer out the window from a Japanese interior. Approaching a touch screen, guests will unlock the magic of *Teika's Poems for the Twelve Months*, a living painting. Guests can trigger surprising animations and sounds like birds chirping, snow falling, and boats rowing. Step into the Japanese landscape, then return to see, smell and taste the many offerings of *Seasons of Japan* at Newfields. *This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.*

Studio Drift: Meadow

Curated by Shelley Selim, Associate Curator of Design & Decorative Arts
Feb. 22–Feb. 23, 2020

Amsterdam-based art and design collective Studio Drift is known for its large-scale installations that emphasize the connection between humans and earth. *Studio Drift: Meadow* is the American debut of their self dubbed, "upside-down landscape," a masterwork of kinetic lighting comprising eighteen mechanical blossoms that open and close in response to visitors passing below them. Inspired by the biological behavior of nyctinasty—the ability of certain plants to bloom in the daytime and close their petals at night—visitors operate as sunlight proxies, activating motion sensors that cause the petals to react and change color in their presence. The fabric flowers are dyed in gradient shades that harmonize with colored LED lights to evoke the changing tones of a skyscape as dawn transitions to dusk. *Made possible by the Efroymsen Contemporary Art Fund and the Christel DeHaan Family Foundation.*

Samuel Levi Jones: Left of Center

Curated by Dr. Kelli Morgan, Associate Curator of American Art and Bryn Jackson, Assistant Curator of Audience Engagement and Performance
Mar. 15–Sept. 15, 2019

Jones provides striking visual commentary on the duplicitous and oppressive nature of American power structures. The exhibited works particularly examine how injustices pervade systems of education, criminal justice, healthcare, and the American historical narrative more broadly. *Left of Center* offers an in-depth look at how Jones's deconstruction of biased sets of encyclopedias, law books, medical texts and football equipment manifest extraordinary abstract paintings and sculptures. *Support is provided by Galerie Lelong & Co., Judith Murphy, and Alan and Sally Mills.*

Spring Blooms

Curated by Jonathan Wright, Ruth Lilly Deputy Director for Horticulture and Natural Resources
Mar. 22–May 26, 2019

Imagine an idyllic, pastoral campus carpeted with over 500,000 blooms. A ravishing cascade of flowers will unfold, from tulips to peonies. Thousands of dwarf iris, crocus, hyacinth, and early daffodils have been planted all across campus. Native, perennial wildflowers will enhance our permanent beds. As the weather warms, the outdoor displays begin to swell. Look for the tall, Dr. Seuss-like blooms of Allium 'White Giant' near the Sutphin Fountain and the slate-purple colored bell-like flowers of the Persian Fritillary at the front of Lilly House. For this year's outdoor exhibition, our massive team of staff and volunteers planted even more bulbs than last year. One hundred thousand more, to be specific! To top it off, our Beer Garden returns in the spring. You're welcome to grab a beverage and wander The Garden. Come early and often to watch nature paint the landscape in slow motion at Newfields.

Dining by Design: Silver 1925–2000

Curated by Dr. Charles L. Venable, The Melvin & Bren Simon Director and CEO.
Mar. 22–Oct. 20, 2019

Despite the fact that most Americans decided using silver was too much trouble in an age of automatic dishwashers and tiny houses, 20th-century designers and craftsmen produced a glistening array of objects that can still enchant the eye. This exhibition will walk you through the history and development of modern American silver, and show how casual dining and cocktail parties changed the industry, and the tradition of dining in the American home in the 20th century. The silver featured will be on display on the second floor of the Lilly House, where the setting of the home will provide more context for the artworks presented. Guests will see a progression of style, from the art deco era to space-age modern and beyond.

[Fashion Redefined: Miyake, Kawakubo, Yamamoto](#)

Curated by Niloo Paydar, Curator of Textile & Fashion Arts

April 28–January 5, 2020

In the 1980's Japanese designers challenged the principles of Western fashion by introducing clothing that draped and wrapped the body, concealing its contours and silhouette. Issey Miyake, Rei Kawakubo for Comme des Garçons, Yohji Yamamoto and other avant-garde Japanese fashion designers rejected the idea that women's clothing had to fit an idealized hourglass-shaped female body. Their innovative designs set new standards for shape and proportion and coined a contemporary definition of universal beauty.

[Life and Legacy: Portraits from the Clowes Collection](#)

Curated by Kjell Wangensteen, Assistant Curator of European Art

May 4–Aug. 18, 2019

Life and Legacy: Portraits from the Clowes Collection spotlights the fascinating life and art collection of two of the IMA's greatest benefactors, Dr. George H. A. Clowes (1877–1958) and Edith Whitehill Clowes (1885–1967). While Dr. Clowes was renowned for his role in the mass production of insulin at Eli Lilly & Company, he was also an avid art collector. His collection encompassed works of art from all over Europe and across five centuries, ranging from fourteenth-century Italy to eighteenth-century England. Portraits comprise the largest part of Dr. Clowes' collection. The *Life and Legacy* exhibition at Newfields examines the many portraits and artist self-portraits that Clowes collected over his lifetime, offering a fresh look at his interesting life story, his important art collection, and the development of portraiture over the span of several hundred years. *The preservation, study presentation, and interpretation of works in the Clowes Collection is supported by the Clowes Fund and the Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Foundation.*

[Nihontō: The Samurai Sword](#)

Curated by Dr. John Teramoto, Curator of Asian Art

May 10–Nov. 3, 2019

This exhibition will explore the history, physical attributes, symbolism, aesthetic qualities and utility of the Japanese samurai sword from the vantage point of beauty and function. The scope of the exhibition will be expanded to include sword fittings, other weapons and suits of armor that further demonstrate the exacting importance placed on both beauty of form and practicality of performance and use. Through permanent collection objects and over 80 loans from private collections, visitors will be introduced to historical development, various schools and styles of swordsmiths, function and connoisseurship of the art of sword making and the related crafts and accessories that amplified the beauty of these objects whose ultimate purpose lay in warfare, injury, and death, but that also came to symbolize honor, courage, self-discipline, self-sacrifice and benevolence as hallmarks of a samurai. *Support is provided by the Christel DeHaan Family Foundation.*

[Outside In: The Art and Craft of William S. Rice](#)

Curated by Marty Krause, guest curator

June 7–Dec. 1, 2019

Outside In is a visually rich and instructive display of the work of noted block printmaker William Rice (1873-1963). Arriving in California in 1900 to accept a teaching position, Rice explored the High Sierras, Yosemite, the desert Southwest, the Pacific coast and the forests of sequoias and redwoods—all exotic locales to a transplanted Pennsylvanian. These landscapes were reduced to their color components, carved into printing blocks, and reformed into precise, brilliant and translucent images. Rice began creating his color block prints in 1915 and exhibiting them nationally. But such a devoted Arts and Craftsman couldn't confine himself to one media.

Included among the exhibition's 41 items are oils, watercolors, lithographs, metalwork and all the paraphernalia of block printmaking, which have been made available exclusively for this exhibition by the artist's family.

[47 Ronin: A Tale of Honor and Loyalty](#)

Curated by Dr. John Teramoto, Curator of Asian Art
July 19–Nov. 17, 2019

This exhibition examines the story of the 47 Rōnin, one of the most widely-known and popular historical tales in Japan, where a group of samurai successfully attacked the villa of an important government official, Kira Kozuke no suke, to avenge the death of their lord. Once this vengeance was enacted, and after surrendering to the authorities, all 47 were ordered to commit seppuku. Their determination to demonstrate their loyalty to their late lord at the sacrifice of their lives electrified Japan, and the famous playwright Chikamatsu Monazaemon turned it into a drama for the stage. Using woodblock prints from the IMA collection to illustrate the main and side stories, we will explore why this tale of murder and vengeance was, and remains, so popular.

[A Brush with Beauty: Japanese Paintings in Ink, Color, and Gold](#)

Curated by Dr. John Teramoto, Curator of Asian Art
Oct. 26, 2019–Jan. 26, 2020

The Indianapolis Museum of Art at Newfields has one of the best collections of Edo period (1600-1868) Japanese paintings in the United States. This exhibition will feature the best of the Edo collection, as well as masterpieces across 700 years of Japanese painting. The rich collection features signature paintings by important artists from all the major schools of Japanese painting and will form the centerpiece of a year of exhibitions and programs (indoors and out) inspired by Japan. *This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Jan B. Rubin Art Exhibition Fund.*

About Newfields

Newfields: A Place for Nature & the Arts, offers dynamic experiences for guests of all ages. The 152-acre cultural campus features art galleries, lush gardens, a historic mansion, performance spaces, a nature preserve and sculpture park. From inspiring exhibitions in the Indianapolis Museum of Art Galleries, to concerts in The Toby, and a stroll through The Garden with a glass of cheer, guests are invited to interact with art and nature in exciting new ways. Newfields is home to the Indianapolis Museum of Art, among the ten largest and oldest general art museums in the nation; the Lilly House, a National Historic Landmark; The Garden, featuring 40 acres of contemporary and historic gardens, a working greenhouse and an orchard; and The Virginia B. Fairbanks Art & Nature Park: 100 Acres, one of the largest art and nature parks in the country. The Newfields campus extends outside of Indianapolis with Miller House and Garden in Columbus, Ind.—one of the nation's most highly regarded examples of mid-century Modernist architecture. For more information visit www.discovernewfields.org.

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Media Contacts:

Mattie Wethington
Public Relations Manager
317-923-1331 ext. 265
mwethington@discovernewfields.org