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Life's Pleasures: The Ashcan Artists' Brush with Leisure, 1895-1925
Programs and Activities

In addition to the activities listed below the following are also offered:

- Audio tours for adults and children (included in the exhibition ticket price)
- Guided tours of works in the DIA collection related to leisure-time activities
- A film clip of the 1923 boxing match between Jack Dempsey and Luis Firpo, depicted in John Sloan's painting in the exhibition *Dempsey and Firpo*
- Make up of Friday night musical performers will mirror works in the exhibition
- Speakers Bureau volunteers available for slide presentations to adult groups at their location

Sunday, March 2, 2 p.m.

Lecture: Bars, Cafes and Parks: The Ashcan's *Joie de Vivre*

Jim Tottis, associate curator of American art and curator of the *Life's Pleasures* exhibition, discusses the celebration of leisure in works by the Ashcan artists, a subject often ignored.

Saturdays, March 15-April 19, 4 p.m.

Celluloid Pleasures: American Pastimes of the Silent Era

The DIA's Detroit Film Theatre offers FREE matinees of silent films presented with live music.

March 15: Short Films of Douglas Fairbanks; *Mystery of the Leaping Fish; Down to Earth; Matrimaniac*

Before Douglas Fairbanks made the swashbucklers and epics he is famous for, he appeared in films that expressed a culture that idealized athleticism. Very popular in their time, Fairbanks' "single reelers" remain largely unknown to modern audiences.

March 22: *Sally of the Sawdust*

W.C. Fields plays Professor Eustace McGargle, the unlikely guardian of an orphaned circus waif.

April 5: *Daddy Long Legs*

Mary Pickford plays an orphan found in a trash can who finds her way out of institutional abuse and neglect to become a college student and budding author.

April 12: *The Freshman*

Harold Lloyd, film comedian of the 1920s satirized American optimism for upward social mobility. His working class boy in an ivy-league college is pitted against scheming football teammates and the inscrutable heart of his landlady's daughter.

Sunday, March 16, 2 p.m.

Lecture: Representing Women in American Art

During the last decades of the 19th century and the first decade of the 20th, the American woman took on a new importance as she came to represent the values of the nation. Marianne Doezema, Florence Finch Abbott director, talks about ways the American woman was represented in visual and literary texts.

Thursday-Monday, March 27-31

Symposium: Circa 1900: Celebrating American Turn-of-the-Century Arts

This national symposium includes a day and a half at the DIA devoted to the Ashcan School as well as receptions at the Manoogian collection and the Scarab Club. Arts and Crafts will be the focus of the next two days, with lectures, visits to Pewabic Pottery, the Guardian Building and other architectural gems. A day-long trip to Cranbrook rounds out the symposium. Call 313-833-4025 for ticket prices and to register.

Saturdays, April 5-May 3, 1-5 p.m.

Artist Demonstration: Richard Lewis: 1–5 p.m.

Watch as artist Richard Lewis paints a portrait from a live model in the same vein as Ashcan painters over the course of five weeks.

Sunday, April 6, 2 p.m.

Lecture: Sports: The Hype and Hypocrisy

Frank Deford, author, National Public Radio commentator, and senior contributing writer for *Sports Illustrated*, will discuss the spectatorship and an assortment of phenomena associated with one of America's favorite leisure activities. Members \$10, nonmembers \$12.

Friday, April 11: Friday Night Live!

Music: Ben Smolder and Audrey Causilla: 6:30 & 8 p.m.

Bass-baritone Benjamin Smolder has enjoyed a varied national and international performance career. Pianist Audrey Causilla has performed in numerous solo, chamber music, and art song recitals. Together they will present a spectacular performance.

DIA Moment: Aerial Angels: 7:15 & 8:45 p.m.

The Aerial Angels are high-flying female circus artists performing feats of grace, beauty, and strength on a tightrope. They will re-create the circus/vaudeville atmosphere depicted in paintings featured in the *Life's Pleasures* exhibition. Accompanying music provided by composer Frank Pahl and pianist Dave Drazin.

Friday, April 18: Friday Night Live!

Music: Project: 7 & 8:30 p.m.

Project's sound is a fusion of jazz, hip-hop, and world music, balanced out by a sincere allegiance to their classical roots. Flutist Greg Patillo, cellist Eric Stephenson, and bassist Peter Seymour are symphony orchestra veterans on a mission to reach out to new audiences with a style completely their own.

Friday, April 25: Friday Night Live!

DIA Moment: Happendance Homage to Isadora Duncan: 6:30 & 8 p.m.

Professional dance company Happendance pays homage to Isadora Duncan through modern dance evoking the spirit and the art of the *Life's Pleasure* exhibition.

Music: Detroit Brass Society: 7 & 8:30 p.m.

The award-winning Detroit Brass Society has thrived for nearly 30 years as a horn quintet that brings a unique approach to a wide range of musical styles. Their instruments include trumpets, French horn, trombone and tuba. Their DIA performance will feature American music from the early part of the 1900s, which is the same time period of artists featured in the exhibition *Life's Pleasures*.

Friday, May 23: Friday Night Live!

Music: Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings: 7 and 8:30 p.m.

Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings are a 10-piece, 1920's style jazz and dance band under the direction of Grammy-nominated pianist James Dapogny. The Pleasant Moments Vintage Dancers will join them for this unique evening of 1920s-style music and dancing.