The Natural World & Me

By: Adriana Quealy, Quincy Harris, Nolan Graca, Zachary Nielsen
While looking through all the artworks, try to find all the animals you see. What animal is your favorite?
The Holy Trinity in the Tree of Life Adored by Franciscans
c. 1625

- By Jacques Callot
- 19 x 19 cm (17 ½ x 17 ½ in.)
- Etching
- Gift of the Reverend William J. Fletcher
- 1971.1.2
• The idea of a 'tree of life' appears across many of the world's mythologies, religious, and philosophical traditions and can be found as far back as ancient Mesopotamia
• Examples of this include Yggdrasil the world tree, a massive tree that the Nine Worlds existed around in Norse mythology
• Are often related to immortality or fertility
• Paintings like these demonstrate how humans have been utilizing things in the natural world to symbolize or embody concepts and ideas, especially in a religious context, in a way that everyone can easily understand
On the Champs Elysée (In den Champs Elysée)
c. 1898

- Henri Edmond Cross
- 20.2 x 26.1 cm (7 15/16 x 10 ¼ in.)
- Lithograph printed in color on chine volant
- Purchase with gifts from family and friends in memory of William Weiner, husband of Hazel Canfield Weiner ’46
- 2007.10
• Cross studied at the Ecoles des Beaux-Arts in Lille, and in Paris with Francois Bonvin
• In 1884 he helped organize the Salon des Indépendants, where Georges Seurat exhibited his first painting in the divisionist style
• Inspired by Seurat, Cross abandoned his academic style and became a follower of Seurat
• This painting demonstrates how mankind uses natural spaces, in this case a park, for relaxation and entertainment

Georges Seurat
Detail of *Study for "A Sunday on La Grande Jatte*, 1884
Oil

Henri Edmond Cross
*In den Champs Élysée* (detail), c. 1898
Lithograph printed in color on chine volant
Christmas Snow
1930

James Britton
Hartford, CT 1878-1936 Hartford, CT

Oil on board, 39.05 x 51.44 cm (15 3/8 x 20 1/4 in.)
Gift of the Reverend Andrew J. Kelly
1937.1.11
Within a *Christmas Snow* we see a snow covered church with a person struggling against the elements. The person appears to be wearing heavy clothes not allowing any skin to show due to the cold weather and snow on the ground. The painting is impressionistic and appears to be slightly fuzzy which alludes to the fact that it has not only just snowed but it is also currently snowing.
Autumn Gold

James Britton
Hartford, CT 1878-1936 Hartford, CT

Oil on cardboard

50.8 x 34.93 cm (20 x 13 3/4 in.)
Gift of the Reverend Andrew J. Kelly

1937.1.10
Autumn Gold as the name suggests depicts a forest where the trees are shedding their golden-red leaves. Within Autumn Gold beyond the trees, we can see a person wearing a jacket and long pants, a common scene due to the colder weather experienced in Autumn. This person is walking along what appears to be a river seemingly enjoying the weather and the colorful leaves before they fall from the trees they are attached to.
Landscape

Charles Ethan Porter
Hartford, CT c. 1847-1923 Rockville, CT

Oil on canvas
Gift of Rosemary Zazzaro Cardwell '51 and Mimi Marie Cardwell
2002.1
Landscape shows the beauty of a sunrise in nature. Many people like to wake up early to see the sunrise as it is seen as such a beautiful thing. The colors in the sky light up the morning as well as reflect on the water.
Beached

Anthony Thieme
Rotterdam, Netherlands 1888-1954 Boston, MA

Oil on canvas
76.2 x 63.5 cm (30 x 25 in.)
Bequest of the Reverend John J. Kelley
Beached

*Beached* shows two ships pulled out of the water at a dock for cleaning and repair. Can you see the two people standing next to the boat on the left side? These boats are huge compared to the two people standing next to them. These boats are built to be bigger so that they can carry people as well as other things across the water to different locations. People utilize boats in the water as a way of transportation by nature.
March Wind
1931

John C. E. Taylor
New Haven, CT 1902-1985 Hartford, CT

Oil on canvas
51.3 x 40.8 cm, (20 3/16 x 16 1/16 in.)
Gift of the Reverend Andrew J. Kelly
1937.1.58
March Wind shows a person hanging up a tablecloth or sheet, fighting against the wind. They are doing laundry as seen by the basket of clothes nearby. Fresh air is often used as a resource to dry clothes. Using the wind to their benefit, though proving to be somewhat irritable, was one way for people to effectively work alongside nature.
ACTIVITY BREAK

Can you find these things?

- A Dog
- 7 flower trees
- 5 windows
- A house
- 2 Chimneys
- An open door
- A bucket
Vacation Time

Edward Dufner
Buffalo, NY 1872-1957 Short Hills, NJ

Watercolor
76.2 x 63.5 cm (30 x 25 in.)
Bequest of the Reverend John J. Kelley
1966.1.8
Vacation Time

As seen here, two children are relaxing and spending time with their dog by a lake. The piece shows the simple pleasures in life spending time with siblings and enjoying a picnic in the sun. The piece created by New York artist Edward Dufner can be interpreted as children spending their vacation away from the hectic city life and relaxing in the countryside.
About

This presentation was created by Nolan Graca, Adriana Quealy, Quincy Harris and Zachary Nielsen in Autumn, 2021