

Suitable for framing

Museums rolled out dazzling array of beautiful, provocative works in 2014

North Texas' major museums hosted crowd-pleasing exhibitions that combined beauty with scholarship. Diversity rose to the forefront in shows at the Dallas Museum of Art, Nasher Sculpture Center and Amon Carter Museum of American Art.

Rick Brettell's top five exhibitions

1. "Faces of Impressionism" at the Kimbell Art Museum in Fort Worth: The blockbuster dazzled us all with its combination of time-tested masterpieces and lesser-known portraits from the Musée d'Orsay in Paris. It continues through Jan. 25 in the museum's Piano Pavilion.

2. "Bouquets" at the Dallas Museum of Art: French paintings of flowers suffuse five rooms of the DMA with sheer beauty. Although not as packed with famous masterpieces as the Kimbell's "Faces," this offers the same consistently high level of quality. Catch it before it closes Feb. 8.

3. "Navigating the West" at the Amon Carter Museum of American Art: The Fort Worth museum is presenting a brilliantly concentrated look at the paintings and preparatory drawings that John Caleb Bingham made along the Mississippi and Missouri rivers in the mid-19th century. It continues through Jan. 18.

4. "Sorolla and America" at the Meadows Museum: The major exhibition reclaimed the faded reputation of Spaniard Joaquín Sorolla y

See **DIVERSITY** Page 6E
Bastida, one of the "masters of the loaded brush."

5. "Sedrick Huckaby:

Everyday Glory" at Valley House Gallery: This was an unsettling introduction to one of North Texas' most original artists, who paints men and women in the most traditional of old-master mediums, oil on canvas, with a confidence and painterly élan that evoke European masterpieces.

Rick Brettell holds the Margaret McDermott distinguished chair at the University of Texas at Dallas. He is a former director of the Dallas Museum of Art.

Michael Granberry's top five events

1. The Dallas Museum of Art ushered in its first treasure from the renowned Keir Collection: the rock crystal ewer long considered one of the rare wonders of Islamic art. The unveiling coincided with the museum announcing in February a 15-year renewable loan of one of the world's largest private holdings of Islamic art.

2. The DMA helped launch Art Everywhere US, which united five leading American museums in presenting the nation's largest outdoor art show, a lavish spread from the West Coast to Times Square. DMA Director Maxwell Anderson spearheaded the effort.

3. The Nasher Sculpture Center closed out its momentous 10-year anniversary celebration, dubbed Nasher XChange. Its artist in residence, Rick Lowe, who played a key role in XChange with his Vickery Meadow project, won a MacArthur Foundation genius

grant worth more than \$600,000.

4. The Nasher presented several innovative and impressive exhibitions, from David Bates, German Bettina Pousttchi, Mark Grotjahn and Anna Bella Papp, and to close out the year, a rare look at the one-of-a-kind world of British architect and designer Thomas Heatherwick.

5. Kudos to the Amon Carter Museum of American Art in Fort Worth for hosting the traveling exhibition, "Archibald Motley: Jazz Age Modernist," the first retrospective of the artist's paintings in two decades.

Michael Granberry covers the art scene for The Dallas Morning News.

Coming up

Watch for more Year in Review features:

Tuesday: Television

Wednesday: Classical music and opera

Friday: Guide's Best in DFW: New restaurants

Saturday: Theater and dance

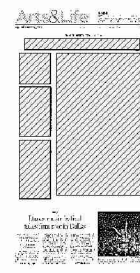
Dec. 28: Architecture and books; Travel

Dec. 29: Pop music

Dec. 31: Celebrity and arts deaths

Jan. 1: Look-ahead in the arts

Jan. 2: Joy's Jaunts of the year in Guide





St. Louis Art Museum/Bequest of Ezra H. Linley

Raftsmen Playing Cards, an 1847 work by George Caleb Bingham, was part of the “Navigating the West” exhibition at the Amon Carter Museum of American Art.



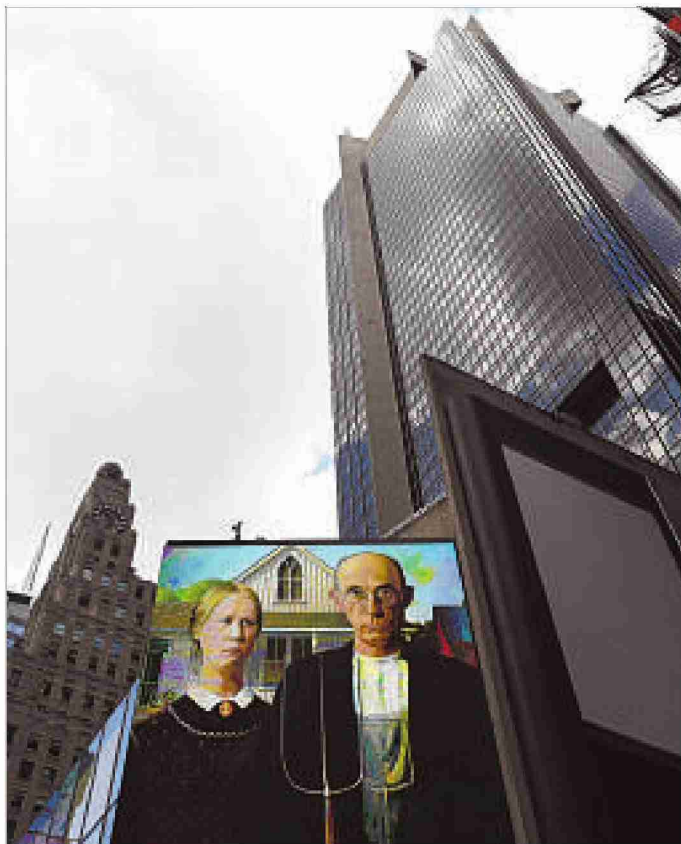
Meadows Museum

Joaquín Sorolla y Bastida painted *My Wife and Daughters in the Garden*, which was part of a major exhibition at the Meadows Museum.



File 2013/

“Sedrick Huckaby: Everyday Glory” at Valley House Gallery displayed paintings by one of North Texas’ most original artists.



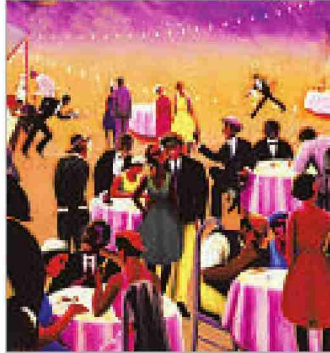
File 2014/Agence France-Presse

Grant Wood's *American Gothic* is shown on the side of a building during Art Everywhere US, a national outdoor art show spearheaded by the DMA's Maxwell Anderson.



File 2013

Nasher Sculpture Center artist in residence Rick Lowe played a key role in Nasher XChange with his Vickery Meadow project.



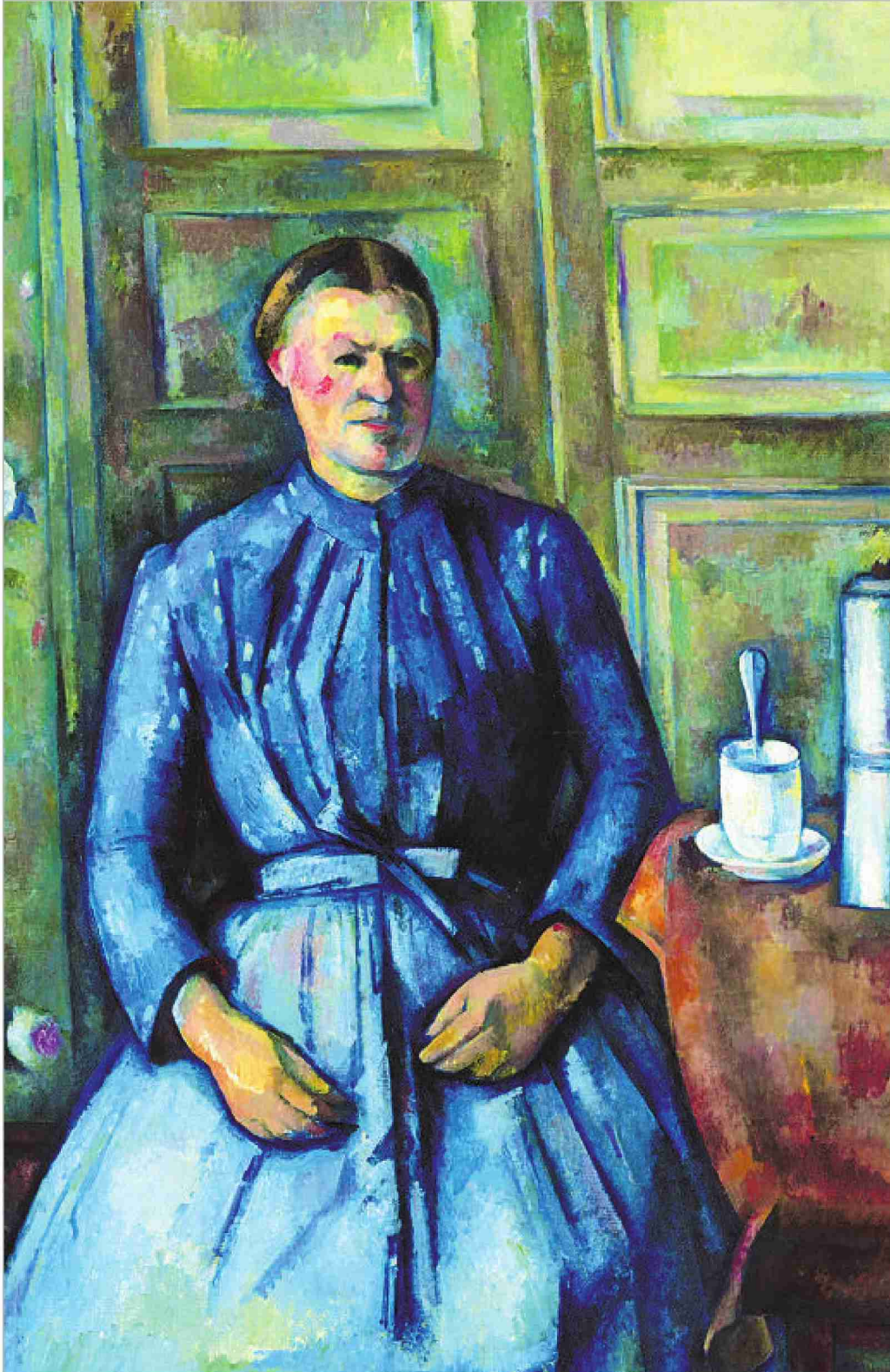
Collection of the Howard
University Gallery of Art

**“Archibald Motley: Jazz Age
Modernist”** at the Amon
Carter included *Barbecue*.



Dallas Museum of Art/

Matisse's *Flowers* is part of “Bouquets:
French Still-Life Painting From Chardin to
Matisse” at the Dallas Museum of Art.



Musee d'Orsay in Paris/

Paul Cezanne's *Woman With a Coffeepot*, an 1890s oil on canvas from the Musee d'Orsay in Paris, is part of the "Faces of Impressionism" exhibit at the Kimbell Art Museum.