

## About the Amon Carter Museum of American Art

The Amon Carter Museum of American Art (the Carter) is a dynamic cultural resource serving audiences in the Dallas-Fort Worth region and across the United States with a variety of free exhibitions and programs that provide unique access and insight into the history and future of American creativity. The Carter's preeminent collection of masterworks by legendary American artists, innovative exhibition program, and engagement with living artists make it a must-see destination for art lovers and scholars of all ages nationwide.

The museum's expansive collection of American art features superlative examples of painting, sculpture, and works on paper from the late eighteenth century to the present, with works by renowned artists such as Ruth Asawa, Alexander Calder, Frederic Church, Stuart Davis, Robert Duncanson, Thomas Eakins, Georgia O'Keeffe, Jacob Lawrence, Louise Nevelson, John Singer Sargent, and Grant Wood, among many others. The Carter has been actively acquiring photographs since well before the medium's rise in popularity in the art market, and today it houses one of the country's foremost repositories of American photography—a collection of 45,000 exhibition-quality photographic prints and 250,000 photographic objects. Home to the premier primary research collection in the region and one of the most comprehensive research libraries and archives in the country, the Carter is a vital resource for curators, scholars, researchers, and the public nationwide.

Founded in 1961 by siblings Amon G. Carter Jr. and Ruth Carter Stevenson, the museum was named for their late father, Amon G. Carter Sr., whose will provided for the creation of a museum for his exemplary American art collection that would be free to the public. Located in the heart of Fort Worth, the Carter's building was designed by renowned American architect Philip Johnson in 1961, who also oversaw the museum's expansions in 1964, 1977, and 2001. Inspired by the Renaissance-style loggia—a covered gallery that opens onto a courtyard—Johnson created vistas that highlight expansive views of downtown Fort Worth. In 2019, the Carter unveiled a renovation that updated galleries to enhance presentation of its collection, dedicated 7,000 square feet for special exhibitions, enhanced accessibility to the building, and expanded the museum's cold storage for photography preservation. These state-of-the-art upgrades improved the visitor experience and increased openness throughout the campus—all while retaining the integrity of Johnson's vision.

A core aspect of the museum's history, since its founding, has been commissioning and exhibiting the work of living American artists. From Georgia O'Keeffe's trailblazing 1966 retrospective to Richard Avedon's acclaimed *In the American West* series (1979–84) to recent site-specific installations by artists such as Natasha Bowdoin, Mark Dion, and Justin Favela, the museum's engagement with artists working today ensures that the Carter continues to tell the story of American art's past while also cultivating its future.

Through its evolving exhibition program and community-driven events, the Carter fosters intimate and meaningful encounters with art that help tell the diverse and wide-ranging stories of artistic

creation in America. Deeply entrenched in Fort Worth's artist community, the museum employs an annual initiative to fund local artists who co-create programs rooted in the community. Beyond the walls of the museum, the Carter engages audiences of all ages with both in-person and virtual programs, including community-based initiatives for healthcare workers and repeat-visit afterschool and summer programs for students.