

SPRING 2025 PRAXIS

WOODMERE ART MUSEUM



Pascale Lowell

Advised at Bryn Mawr by Professors Scott and Houghteling, Supervised at Woodmere by Amy Gillette, Praxis Coordinator Tiffany Stahl

Woodmere:

Woodmere is a museum in Germantown focusing on art and artists from the Philadelphia area. They display art both from well known and influential artists and unknown artists with incredible art to share. They serve as influential community builders in Philadelphia, bringing kids and adults into the art world.



Fieldwork:

- Cataloging and assessing accuracy of existing labels to be added to Woodmere's new building, Maguire Hall
- Creation of labels for pieces that do not already have them.
- Meeting with different teams and learning about their career paths and job responsibilities
- Visiting Woodmere every other week to assess progress and discuss questions, concerns, etc.

I struggled with deciding on which pieces to write on quite a bit, and I spent a lot of time I could have been writing deliberating between hundreds of options. It is a stressful prospect to attempt to encompass what an artist was hoping to achieve in something as short as a label (or even in a longer format) and it took me a long time to internalize that the labels were a jumping off point and did not have to capture everything an artist was attempting to portray.

Challenges

A major goal of mine for the course was to develop my ability to write professionally, and I'm really satisfied with the way I've grown in that regard.

Goals

I really loved getting to research all of these amazing Philadelphia artists! And as someone who creates art themselves, it was such a cool way to learn about art theory and gain inspiration.

Highlights



A Day at the Beach, Martha Walter

Projects:

Favorites

- Violet Oakley, Sam Feinstein, Arthur B. Carles
- Struggles
- The Tornado, Violet Oakley, Cecilia Beaux

In this painting, Martha Walter captures a stormy day at the beach. Rain and wind create a hazy atmosphere, utilizing the impressionistic style in its soft brushstrokes. Feeling restricted by the classical styles of her schooling, Walter spent time studying in France, learning the techniques of French Impressionists. She developed a style of bold brushstrokes and often painted beach scenes like the one pictured. Here, women and children dressed in brightly colored clothes play and socialize in the water and along the coast, their faces non-distinct. A storm rushes in, light filtering through the clouds. The viewer is unacknowledged by the beachgoers, welcomed into the scene and made a part of the experience.

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Many many thanks to the amazing teams at Bryn Mawr and at Woodmere, and especially Amy, an absolutely incredible supervisor!