

Ambassador Geeta Pasi

I am thrilled to share this collection with guests at the Ambassador's Residence. I would like to highlight the tremendous work that the staff of both Art in Embassies and Embassy Addis Ababa have put into this project. From organizing to transporting to installing, visitors to my home will experience this collection in person. Others can enjoy the collection virtually or in print. I hope the exhibition stirs the imagination and sparks curiosity, wonder, and pleasure.

Home is a place we treasure. The collection includes art that captures images meaningful to me, including the ways Americans live and work. I hope the themes captured in this exhibition, which are drawn from city and country life and reflect journeys, hopes, and perseverance, will capture your imagination as well.

The variety and vibrancy of the collection are significant to me, and, I believe, relevant to Ethiopia. Like the United States of America, Ethiopia is a country of incredible diversity, a diversity that brings strength, creativity, and resilience. I can think of no better temporary home for this collection of art than Ethiopia, a country with an immensely rich cultural and artistic heritage.

Welcome to the United States Embassy in Addis Ababa. I am honored to host this Art in Embassies exhibition at my home. I chose these works of American art with great consideration. The pieces in this exhibition capture each artist's personal story, style, struggle, and creative journey. The diversity of art exemplifies the breadth of the American creative spirit. My emphasis on American textile artworks honors the tradition of handmade textiles in Ethiopia.

Welcome

<https://art.state.gov/>

Established in 1963, the U.S. Department of State's office of Art in Embassies (AIE) plays a vital role in our nation's public diplomacy through a culturally expansive mission, creating temporary and permanent exhibitions, artist programming, and publications. The Museum of Modern Art first envisioned this global visual arts program a decade earlier. In the early 1960s, President John F. Kennedy formalized it, naming the program's first director. Now with over 200 venues, AIE curates temporary and permanent exhibitions for the representational spaces of all U.S. chanceries, consulates, and embassy residences worldwide, selecting and commissioning contemporary art from the U.S. and the host countries. These exhibitions provide international audiences with a sense of the quality, scope, and diversity of both countries' art and culture, establishing AIE's presence in more countries than any other U.S. foundation or arts organization.

Art in Embassies

Man and Woman Reading, undated
Oil on canvas, 36 x 29 3/4 in. (91.4 x 75.6 cm). Collection of Art in Embassies, Washington, D.C. Gift of the Estate of Gifford Beal. Courtesy of Krushaar Galleries, New York



Gifford Beal was a painter, draughtsman, muralist, and chronicler of American life influenced by French Impressionism and the people and landscapes around him. (1879–1956)

Chinese Restaurant #2, undated
Oil on Masonite, 24 1/2 x 36 1/2 in. (62.2 x 92.7 cm). Collection of Art in Embassies, Washington, D.C. Gift of the Estate of Gifford Beal. Courtesy of Krushaar Galleries, New York



Street Scene, c.1915
Oil on panel, 27 1/2 x 31 3/4 in. (69.9 x 80.6 cm). Collection of Art in Embassies, Washington, D.C. Gift of the Estate of Gifford Beal. Courtesy of Krushaar Galleries, New York

Gifford Beal (1879–1956)

Reginald Marsh (1898–1954)



Small Town House, undated
Watercolor, 26 1/2 x 32 1/4 in. (67.3 x 81.9 cm). Collection of Art in Embassies, Washington, D.C. Gift of William Benton



Farm Scene, 1927
Watercolor, 25 x 31 1/8 in. (63.5 x 79.1 cm). Collection of Art in Embassies, Washington, D.C. Gift of William Benton

Reginald Marsh (1898–1954)

The unpopulated landscapes of *Small Town House* and *Farm Scene* reveal a lesser-known side of Reginald Marsh, who was known primarily for his depictions of Coney Island and the energy of New York City life—and sometimes its irony.

Cover: Marcia DeCamp | *Doormats (detail), undated*
Art quilt, 49 x 67 in. (124.5 x 170.2 cm). Courtesy of the artist, Palmyra, New York

Acknowledgments

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Art in Embassies
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE



Harlem Street Scene, 1975
Silkscreen, 34 x 27 1/2 in. (86.4 x 69.9 cm)
Collection of Art in Embassies, Washington, D.C.
Courtesy of the Foundation for Art and Preservation in Embassies, Washington, D.C.

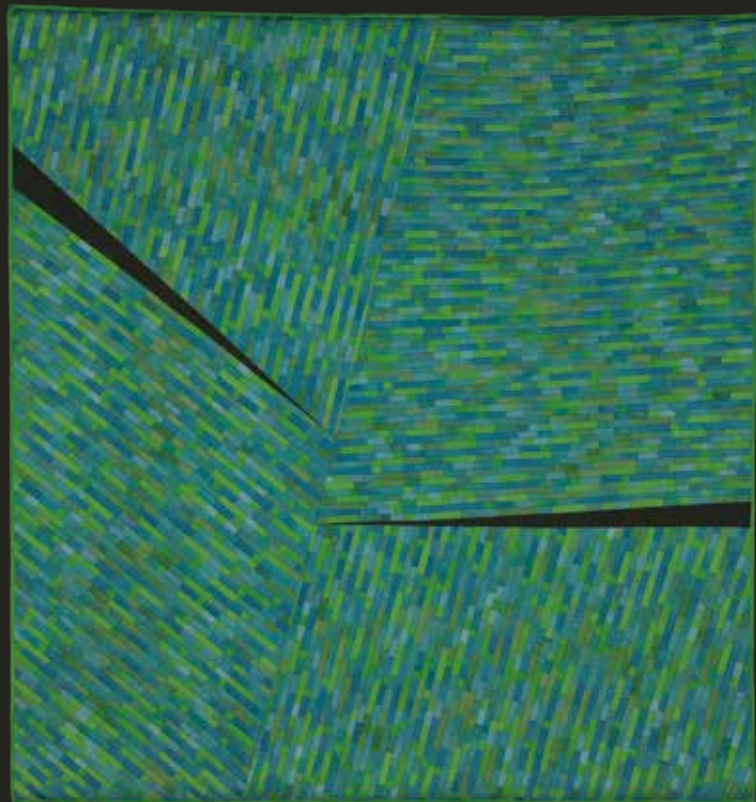


Builders—The Family, 1974
Silkscreen, 39 3/8 x 31 3/8 in. (100 x 79.7 cm)
Collection of Art in Embassies, Washington, D.C.
Courtesy of the Foundation for Art and Preservation in Embassies, Washington, D.C.

Jacob Lawrence
(1917–2000)

Judith Larzelere

From the artist's minimalist series, this quilt contrasts the dancing, random vibration of the blue and green colors with the bold, emphatic splinters of the black.



Cutting Into Spring, 2010
Strip pieced quilting, 62 x 59 in. (157.5 x 149.9 cm)
Courtesy of the artist, Westerly, Rhode Island

Jacob Lawrence
(1917–2000)

Supermarket Flora, 1997
Silkscreen on paper, 38 x 30 in. (96.5 x 76.2 cm)
Collection of Art in Embassies, Washington, D.C.
Courtesy of the Foundation for Art and Preservation in Embassies, Washington, D.C.



Play (Harriet Tubman Series), 1939–1940
Silkscreen print, 27 1/2 x 36 in. (69.2 x 91.4 cm)
Collection of Art in Embassies, Washington, D.C.; Gift of Clifford Ames



Jacob Lawrence was a modern American painter best known for his narrative series of tempera paintings expressive of his own life and the lives of his peers who migrated from the South to the North.

Jacob Lawrence
(1917–2000)

Toni Kersey

Toni Kersey is a mixed-media fiber artist developing a creative language that fuses African American quilt making with visual rhythm, abstract painting, dyeing, drawing, beading, and embroidery.



Souls Collide, undated
Art quilt
39 x 40 in. (99.1 x 101.6 cm)
Courtesy of the artist
Springfield, Pennsylvania



The Cornerstone Between Heaven and Earth, undated
Art quilt
43 x 41 in. (109.2 x 104.1 cm)
Courtesy of the artist
Springfield, Pennsylvania



Nature's Music 2, 1997
Appliqué, hand-dyed fabric, molas, ethnic fabric, grandmother's scraps from 1934 unfinished quilt, silk, machine quilted, 70 x 53 in. (177.8 x 134.6 cm). Courtesy of the artist, Hartford, Connecticut

Ed Johnetta Miller (born 1945)

Ed Johnetta Miller is a fiber artist, quilter, teacher, and curator who makes creative and colorful improvisational quilts from a wide array of fabrics and other materials.



Innerspace 2, undated
Pieced silks, cotton, and metallics hand tied, 41 x 48 in. (104.1 x 121.9 cm)
Courtesy of the artist, New York

Marilyn Henrion
(born 1932)

Marilyn Henrion combines folk art and hand-needlework techniques with modern technologies such as digital photography and inkjet printing to layer the past and present in her mixed-media work.



Doornats, undated. Art quilt, 49 x 67 in. (124.5 x 170.2 cm). Courtesy of the artist, Palmyra, New York

Marcia DeCamp
(born 1945)
The abstract designs, geometric patterns, and hand-dyed color of this quilt were inspired by doornats for sale at the gift shop at the Palmyra Historical Museum, New York.