

Friday Footprints

"Every man must leave a track and it might as well be a good one."

-Thomas Gilcrease

May 15, 2020

- Exciting news to share: Laura Fry and her husband Jason have just announced that they are pregnant! Baby is due on Labor Day. This new little one will have a built-in grandparent pool amongst the Gillies ☺.
- **John Hope Franklin Symposium:** The symposium will run May 27-June 2 with the cost lowered from \$249 to \$50 because it has been moved to an online event due to COVID-19. Several free events are scheduled, including keynote speaker Samuel Sinyangwe at 6 p.m. on May 27th. Some sessions are being filmed in advance at Gilcrease, including an introduction by Susan Neal. On **Friday, May 29th** Alison Rossi will be leading a live evening event with a virtual tour in the *Memories and Inspiration* exhibit. It will feature guest curator Quraysh Ali Lansana. For more information and to register go to <https://www.jhfnationalsymposium.org/>
- Next **Friday, May 22**, the museum will have a **Facebook Live** with Dr. Christina Gonzalez, an OSU Art History professor, who will shed some light on our Juan Correa painting. She is wonderful! It is tentatively scheduled to be at noon, but we will push out the exact time as soon as it is finalized.
- The webinar **Revealing Revere** on Tuesday evening was well attended. 25 of the 71 attendees were Gillies. In case you missed it, here is the link:
https://gilcrease.org/members-only-virtual-events/?utm_source=enews&utm_campaign=may14_2020_non&utm_medium=email
- **Save the Date:** Reserve **May 26th** on your calendar for a potential webinar featuring Susan Neal with updates about the museum.
- **Gillies dues are due June 1st.** Please send your checks to the museum in an envelope labeled: "The Gillies."
- **Distance Learning:** Don't forget to log your Distance Learning hours on Volgistics!
 - Here is the YouTube link to the Gilcrease Museum videos. Once there, simply click on the video you would like to view. You can also subscribe to this site at no cost.
 - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCi4Hym-mx53CMFY-fS66gOg/videos>
 - Here is the link to the Gilcrease Museum Curatorial Talks: <https://gilcrease.org/curator-talks/>



Please continue to the next page for a special message from Mark Dolph!

Americans All! Collection Spotlight

To The Gillies: Here are a couple of collection-related suggestions for all of you life-long learners:

I just finished reading ***Ghosts of Gold Mountain: The Epic Story of the Chinese Who Built the Transcontinental Railroad***, which I highly recommend. You can learn more about this book at: <https://bookshop.org/books/ghosts-of-gold-mountain-the-epic-story-of-the-chinese-who-built-the-transcontinental-railroad/9781328618573>

On page 134 of *Ghosts of Gold Mountain* is an image by Joseph Becker, an illustrator for *Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*. In 1869, Becker traveled on assignment for the paper from Omaha to San Francisco on the recently completed Transcontinental Railroad to provide illustrations documenting his experiences.

You can see Becker's oil painting based on that image, ***Snow Sheds on the Central Pacific Railroad in the Sierra Nevada Mountains***, at Gilcrease Museum's Collection on Line site: <https://collections.gilcrease.org/object/011212>. This painting, in the museum's exhibition *Americans All!*, serves as a wonderful portal into the essential role the "Railroad Chinese" played in the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad.

As well, PBS has a new program, ***Asian Americans***, a five-hour film series now available for streaming. Per the PBS site for this film, <https://www.pbs.org/show/asian-americans/>, it "delivers a bold, fresh perspective on a history that matters today, more than ever. As America becomes more diverse, and more divided while facing unimaginable challenges, how do we move forward together? Told through intimate personal stories, the series will cast a new lens on U.S. history and the ongoing role that Asian Americans have played." Like *Ghosts of Gold Mountain*, *Asian Americans* is worth checking out.

Take care and be safe,

Mark Dolph

