

Friday Footprints

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

-Thomas Gilcrease

We should have a date for the museum's opening by mid – late next week. Stay Tuned.



This comes from our own **Karen Morris** – there is no end to this lady's interests and talents!

"This quilt top was begun a few years ago with a charm pack (5-inch squares). Now I have it layered (backing, batting, quilt top) on my dining room table. I'm trying "big-stitch" hand quilting using a hoop. It's very relaxing to work on, unless the thread tangles. Then I vent a little and have a bowl of ice cream. (My favorite at the moment is Cherry Bordeaux.)

I call this my Awesome quilt because that's the name of the fabric line used. Did you know fabric goes out of print, just like books do? So that's one reason we quilters create a stash or collection of favorite fabrics. I'm looking forward to seeing the Gilcrease collection of quilts some day!"

I've been thinking about all of the possibilities the new museum will offer – more space for our own beloved collection and more space for traveling exhibitions. Thinking about these possibilities reminds me that Thomas Gilcrease enjoyed the works of artists who had become masters before his lifetime but that he also appreciated the works of his contemporaries. It is exciting to know there will be ample space to highlight our masterworks as well as art of our contemporaries. Also, it is exciting to note that the interpretive plan is widening the net of inclusion for patrons and the art it will exhibit. To this point, there are many Native American contemporary artists who continue to contribute to their nation's culture through their art. As our own Enduring Spirit galleries show, indigenous peoples were here, are here, and will always be here and contemporary Native American artists continue to document their cultures through their work.

Below is a link for a lecture by Juane Quick-to-See Smith, an artist, educator, political activist and member of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. She has lots of "ers" and "ahs," but try to get past them. She has some interesting thoughts on the beginnings of indigenous peoples in the Americas and toward the end she does a quick survey of contemporary Native American artists whom, hopefully, we may see in future exhibitions.

YouTube: Jaune Quick-to-See Smith – A Survey of Contemporary Native American Art. Barbara A. and Edward G. Hail Lecture, Brown University. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pUhhYOA-kKI> 40:08