

Mitchell Gallery 2017-18

Past Exhibitions and Programs

The Lure of Nature: Landscape Drawings from the Thaw Collection
August 26 - October 15, 2016

The Lure of Nature: Landscape Drawings from the Thaw Collection
August 25 - October 15, 2017



*J.M.W. Turner (1775-1851), Lurleiberg, 19th c.
Watercolor, over black chalk, with scraping, on paper.
Thaw Collection, The Morgan Library & Museum, New York, 1997.14.
Photography by Steven H. Crossot, 2014.*

This exhibition of English and German 19th-century Romantic landscape drawings conveys the shift from classical subjects and the rational, scientific world of the Enlightenment and the Industrial Revolution to themes of nature as a source for inspiration and emotional expression. Artists include Alexander Cozens, Thomas Gainsborough, John Constable, Joseph Koch, J.M.W. Turner, Caspar Wolf, and other noted artists of the period.

Collector, dealer and scholar Eugene V. Thaw is a graduate of St. John's College. He and his wife, Clare Eddy Thaw, have an extensive collection of drawings, paintings, and artifacts they have shared with a number of distinctive institutions, including over 400 drawings to the Morgan Library & Museum. Like an exhibition also mounted at the Morgan this autumn, this exhibition celebrates Gene Thaw on the occasion of his ninetieth birthday.

This exhibition is made possible by The Morgan Library & Museum, New York, with additional support generously provided by the Eugene V. and Clare E. Thaw Charitable Trust.

This exhibition is generously supported by the Arthur E. and Hilda C. Landers Charitable Trust.

August 25 Members Preview Reception. Be the first to preview the “Lure of Nature” exhibition at this elegant wine and hors d’oeuvres reception from 5 to 7 p.m. By invitation only. Call 410-295-5551 or [become a member](#) here.

August 27 Opening Reception. Art Educator Lucinda Edinberg will lead a tour of the “Lure of Nature” exhibition from 3:30 to 5 p.m.

September 6 Art Express Lunchtime Tour. Art Educator Lucinda Edinberg will give a lunchtime gallery talk on the “Lure of Nature” exhibition from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m.

September 12 *Curator’s Lecture*. Jennifer Tonkovich, Eugene and Clare Thaw Curator in the Department of Drawings and Prints at the Morgan Library & Museum will lecture on “The Lure of Nature: How British and German Romantics Explored Landscapes at Home and Abroad” at 5:30 p.m. in the Conversation Room, across from the Gallery.



Jennifer Tonkovich

During the late eighteenth century and well into the nineteenth, British and German artists routinely journeyed into nature to explore and record their surroundings in drawings. Working outdoors had a long tradition, but until the romantic period it had not been so widespread and such a standard part of artistic practice. Jennifer Tonkovich will explore the reasons for this burgeoning interest in the landscape and the practice of working from nature. A close examination of drawings in the exhibition *The Lure of Nature* will serve as a point of departure for better understanding how and why this practice was particularly suited to the Romantic sensibility and worldview.

September 26 *Tuesday Try-It*. Artist Rob Wood (robwoodfineart.com) will give a workshop on drawing associated with “Lure of Nature” from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Members are free; \$15 for non-members. No experience necessary. Basic materials will be provided. **Registration is required.** Call 410-626-2556.

October 12 *Book Club*. Join members of the Mitchell Gallery Book Club for a docent tour of the “Lure of Nature” exhibition followed by a discussion of a section of “Rambles in Germany and Italy, in 1841, 1842 and 1843” by Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. St. John’s College tutor Karin Ekholm will lead the discussion. **Registration is required.** Call 410-626-2556.

October 15 *Sunday Afternoon Lecture*. Art Educator Lucinda Edinberg will lead a tour of the “Lure of Nature” exhibition at 3 p.m.