

EVERGREEN

BURNHAM EXAMINES THE MIND OF MATISSE



Helen Burnham '96 (far left) is the Pamela and Peter Voss Curator of Prints and Drawings at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Mass.

Matisse in the Studio, which debuted at the Museum of Fine Art (MFA) in Boston on April 9, 2017, is the first major international exhibition to examine how objects from Henri Matisse's personal collection played important roles in his art. Matisse (1869-1954) believed these objects were instrumental, serving both as inspiration and as a material extension of his working process. The exhibition, co-curated by classmate, **Helen Burnham**, presented a selection of major works by Matisse from different periods of his career – including approximately 34 paintings, 26 drawings, 11 bronzes, seven cut-outs, three prints and an illustrated book.

Burnham co-curated the *Matisse in the Studio* exhibition with colleagues Ann Dumas of the Royal Academy of Arts, and Ellen McBreen of Wheaton College. She shared some of what it was like to co-curate the exhibition, which a London-based art critic described as a “beautifully cluttered journey into the artist’s mind.”

How did you decide to curate the Matisse exhibition?

Right around the time I returned from my second maternity leave, I talked to a colleague from graduate school about her research on Matisse and his studio. We proposed the idea to the MFA, and she came on board as my co-curator. Then

we partnered with the Royal Academy and joined up with a third co-curator, with whom we became very close.

What thoughts were running through your head before the exhibition opened?

The period before the exhibition opened was incredibly exciting. First, the designer and carpenters completely reconstructed our biggest exhibition gallery. Then works of art arrived from all over the world. We unpacked them, made sure they were in great shape, and installed them in the gallery. We had a team of more than 40 specialists working together in the month leading up to the show.

The actual opening was a little bit

like an elaborate wedding with more than a thousand guests. There were a number of small events around the big opening party, including a press conference, special viewings for benefactors and lenders, a candlelit (LED, of course) dinner in a beautiful Old Master paintings gallery. There were a lot of outfit changes and names to remember!

How did it go?

It went really well. The lenders of art to the exhibition were really pleased, which is especially important. The critical reception among art historians, writers, and the press was excellent.

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CLASS OF 1996 EVERGREEN

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LETTER FROM THE CLASS PRESIDENT

Happy Fall!

One of my favorite times of year, the crisp hint of fall and football in the air. Indeed, Dartmouth football lost only its first game as of this writing, having started the season 5-0!!! It reminds me of the strong showing our Ivy League Champions gave us in the fall of 1992.

The change in seasons always bring about fond memories of our first term on campus. For most of us, it was the first time we were away from home for an extended time. Balancing new freedoms with a bit of increased responsibility could be quite a challenge. I think that first term was a trial run for me, as it took some time for me to work the kinks out of that balancing act.

We also found ourselves getting to know our new Dartmouth family. We made friendships that would last a lifetime. Although we have all gone our separate ways since graduation, this shared experience will always bind us in untold ways. We learned about breakfast at The Hop, late night delivery from EBAs (R.I.P), the importance of lab, and how life was with a roommate. Lessons were learned – often the hard way.

Looking back on those early days at Dartmouth, one is left to wonder if we had any inkling what our college years had in store. It all seems to have gone by so fast, but oh what an impression it made. I loved walking around campus that fall, especially when the leaves began to turn. One of my favorite pastimes when I make it back to Hanover.

I made some great friends that fall. The best icebreaker ever was when my father sent along some of his homemade salsa. It came in medium, hot and skull and crossbones; and for those of you who had the pleasure, you know skull and crossbones could burn chrome off a bumper. Great times were had watching movies and mouth-breathing off the heat from that salsa.

Our first fall on campus was a time of new beginnings. Recently, several of us were on campus for Class Officers Weekend (COW), where we learned about happening on campus and were able to socialize with friends old and new. Each trip to campus brings back memories and inspiration for the year ahead. I hope we all are able to channel those feelings and challenge ourselves with new beginnings of our own.



Forever Green,

Justin

CLASS PROJECT UPDATE

Greetings all from foggy Portland, Maine! We are off and running this year with several class projects. Here is the latest on how the mighty Class of '96 is directly supporting programs and initiatives at the College.

We recently received a thank you letter from the Dickey Center for our support of the Winter Break Mini Grant program. Our \$1000 contribution will help support a student's global education pursuits this December, fulfilling President Dickey's mandate to "make the world's problems our problems." We hope to hear more from our student after they return from their Winter Break adventure!

In the wake of the passing of Maribel Sanchez Souther, the class officers investigated opportunities to support funds established at the College to honor fallen '96s. The class donated \$250 to each fund as a second class gift. The funds are listed below for those '96s who would like to support them directly.

The **Sarah M. Devens '96 Memorial Fund** was established in memory of Sarah, a tri-varsity athlete in ice hockey, field hockey and lacrosse. Named a captain of all 3 teams, Sarah died in July before our senior year. This endowment is designed to help decrease barriers to seeking treatment for Dartmouth students with mental health issues.

The **Jeremiah D. Thompson '96 Fund** provides current use support to the Dartmouth Ski Team. Jeremiah, who had put off college for a year for a spot on the U.S. Ski Team, later served as captain of the Dartmouth ski team. He died in September 2005.

The **Maribel Sanchez Souther 1996 Memorial Scholarship Fund** was established to remember Maribel, a standout member of the Big Green women's cross country and track & field teams who later returned to Dartmouth as a cross country coach. Maribel died on 12/31/16 after a long battle with cancer. This endowment will forever support financial aid at Dartmouth, in Maribel's name.

The **John Higgins '96 Dartmouth Athletic Endowment** was established

to remember John, who played Rugby at Dartmouth and died in August 1998. The fund supports the College's comprehensive athletics and recreational programs with a preference for Intramural Sports.

If '96s would like to donate to the College in memory of a classmate not memorialized with an established fund, they can do so with a gift to the DCF. There is a place for any donor to record an "in memory of" or even an "in honor of" designation.

In May, the executive committee chose one final class project for this year. The Class of '96 will make a \$1000 donation to the Center for Service to support the hiring of a student director to provide leadership and support for service and education programs. Student directors and civic interns work closely with DCS staff and other students to plan and implement programs. Immersion in all aspects of the work of the Center for Service helps students to develop leadership abilities and skills in such areas as advising, communication, marketing, program assessment, and research. We look forward to hearing more about how our support has impacted yet another Dartmouth student's experience.

CONNECTIONS CORNER



New to a geographical area and looking for fellow '96's? Send us a note and we will put the word out!

Northern VA/DC Area '96's

Kim Koontz Haring and family moved from Florida to northern Virginia over the summer (it was a planned move, before the hurricane!). Any D'96's in the area can reach her at kimberly.haring.96@alum.dartmouth.org.



9D6

Time to pay your
2017-2018
Class Dues

For more information
about class dues, visit the
Class of 1996 website.

www.Dartmouth.org/classes/96

Call for Submissions

'ROUND THE GIRDLED EARTH

Does your career involve a lot of relocating or business travel? Maybe you are a consummate tourist or just a nomad-at-heart? Traveling certainly has evolved since our LSA and FSP days. Smart phones, AirBnB, and TSA have added new twists and turns to each journey. Write in and share with fellow classmates some of your favorite travel stories and tips. Send your travel tales to neesha.d96@gmail.com.

COLLEGE NEWS



Dartmouth and Hanover Oppose Changing Student Housing Regulations

A couple of derecognized fraternities are trying to change the town's zoning laws to get their houses back. Opponents worry about liability and jurisdictional issues.



Big Green Puts its Money on Going Green

President Hanlon rolls out plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from campus operations by 50 percent by 2025, and by 80 percent by 2050. Asks Dartmouth community, "to read the report, consider how you can contribute, and join me and the full Dartmouth community as we strive to build a sustainable future for all."



Cell Biologist Named Dean of the Faculty of Arts & Sciences

Elizabeth Smith, the Paul M. Dauten Jr. Professor of Biological Sciences, has been appointed Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. Hanlon credits her with an "inspiring vision for arts and sciences" and a "commitment to support faculty as they achieve new heights." Dan Rockmore, the Director of the Neukom Institute for Computational Science, replaces Smith as Associate Dean of the Sciences.



The Incoming Class is Awesome (Again)

McNutt Hall claims the Class of 2021, which currently numbers 1,279 students, "promises to be the most academically distinguished, globally diverse, and in all likelihood the largest in the College's history." Alumni everywhere acquiesce.



Dartmouth Powwow Celebrates 45 Years

Emceed by Chris Newell '96, Dartmouth's Native American Program celebrated its 45th year indoors in Leede Arena. To support gender inclusivity, a Head Person joined the Head Man and Woman in leading important dances for the first time at Dartmouth.



Dartmouth Inventors are Patented Success

Dartmouth is on the National Academy of Inventors' top 100 list of universities worldwide granted U.S. patents in 2016, marking the fifth consecutive time the College has made the top 100 since the list was launched in 2012. "For such a small school to have a place on this list shows that our faculty engage with pressing problems, they are coming up with attractive solutions, and they are committed to moving those solutions into the real world," says Dean Madden.

JOSHUA MARKS '96 REFLECTS ON 22 YEARS AS COMMENCEMENT BAGPIPER

by Charlotte Albright

[June 2017] Bagpiping was first incorporated into Dartmouth's Commencement Exercises in 1953, when President Dwight D. Eisenhower became the first sitting U.S. president to deliver the College's commencement address. To add a ceremonial flourish, Andrew Logan, of Springfield, Mass., was hired to play the bagpipes. When Logan retired in 1996, Joshua Marks '96 took over.

He's been leading the procession since his own graduation, and hopes to play on for many years to come. Marks, who is hoping for a sunny day on June 11, recently spoke with Dartmouth News about his life as a piper.

How did you get into piping?

I was a cub scout in a Bronxville Memorial Day Parade. There was a pipe band and I enjoyed the sounds, and wanted to learn to play, but being a typical kid, I didn't practice. I went nowhere with it until freshman summer at Dartmouth. I was at home, and that's when I had my only epiphany in life: that I would never have that much free time paid for by someone else again. I figured I had to do something productive with it, so I got a teacher and took lessons, and came back sophomore fall playing the bagpipes, probably to the dismay of everyone else living with me in River Cluster.

When you first picked it up, how easy was it for you?

You start on a practice chanter, which is kind of like a recorder. You can learn the notes and memorize the tunes on the chanter alone, but you need to ac-



Joshua Marks '96 has been leading the commencement day procession since his own graduation. "It's such a privilege," he says about leading the 2017 procession. Photo by Eli Burakian '00

tually play the full set of pipes to make sure you have the tune right and also to keep the instrument itself in shape.

How did your Dartmouth peers react to your practicing?

They were fine with it, mostly, over the years. When the weather allowed, I practiced in the Hanover Town Cemetery, or down by the boathouse, on the river, or sometimes in the BEMA. In the winter, I was allowed to use Rollins Chapel when it was available.

You work now as a CFO for the Little Red School House and Elizabeth Irwin High School in New York City. Does that leave you much time for bagpipe gigs?

A little. I play with pipe bands—a lot of firemen's parades, and a few weddings and funerals.

Do bagpipers ever get requests at weddings?

Believe it or not, I get a lot of requests for "Free Bird." There's always someone, somewhere in a crowd, that will ask for "Free Bird." I haven't mastered it yet, though. [I'm] Not sure if the pipes can pull that off. The stan-

dard fare—the "Stairway to Heaven" of the bagpipes—is either Scotland the Brave or Amazing Grace.

Any commencements stand out?

To be honest, I remember the bad weather years more than the sunny days; 1998 was the worst rain event so far. I play no matter what, but there was a lot of wet wool involved that year. There's nothing quite like wet wool in June.

How long do you hope to be doing this?

I hope to play for my own 50th reunion. I'll be 73, so that would be great. I mean, if it's true that 70 is the new 50, I'll keep going as long as I can.

Some people hold their ears when they see bagpipes coming their way. Does that hurt your feelings?

Hey, some people don't like kittens and puppies, either.

On the other hand, some people can't hear bagpipes without crying.

That is a common reaction.... It means one of two things: Either you are playing immensely expressively, or you are horribly out of tune.

Congratulations on never missing a commencement since your own.

I have been honored to play at all of them.... But Dartmouth seems to be admitting younger and younger students as I get older. How is it possible that [they] are receiving a bachelor's degree from the college I went to? Shouldn't [they] be accompanied by an adult?

CLASS SOCIALS GO NATIONWIDE

by Justin Heather

In early April, the Class of '96 co-hosted numerous mini-reunions with the Classes of 1994 and 1995. These events were held coast-to-coast and several spots in between. Coordinated by Jen Wulff with our colleagues from other classes, mini-reunions were held in Austin, Boston, Chicago, Hartford, Los Angeles, New Haven, New York, Philadelphia, and San Francisco. The pictures cannot begin to capture the fun that was had by all.

Working together once again with our cluster classes was a pleasant experience and demonstrates how closely we have grown over the years. The crowds ranged in size, but were well received by all accounts. And it is only beginning. There are already discussions for future min-reunions. For example, those of us in Chicago discussed getting together again this summer at a Barcade and there are rumors about possible pong tournament in the area in the near future.

Hosting a mini-reunion is a breeze, just pick a location and send a few emails. The class can get you the contact information. If interested, please let us know by contacting [Shervyn](#), our Class Treasurer.



So, it turns out we don't know who most of these people are. If you do, [let us know](#) and we'll correctly identify everybody on our class website.



WHAT WE'VE HEARD, SEEN, OR OTHERWISE DISCOVERED

It was so nice receiving all of your green cards after our last *Evergreen!* We'd love to make this an ongoing relationship, so send us more green cards, please!!

Jacqueline Chappel wrote: "I have not been a very good member the class of '96 but the latest *Evergreen* was so good, I feel compelled to write in." Thank you, Jacqueline! "So inspired by everyone's hard & good work. I am off in Hawaii finishing up a PhD in Education (while working full time). I am looking at the challenges to internationallizing American high school curriculum. I will spare you my findings. No kids but I run with an amazing group of women who are running their fastest in their 40's and 50's. No joke. Another inspirational cohort in my life. Will try to make it to the 25th reunion." Hats off to you, Jacqueline, what you are doing is not easy (especially being a PhD student while working full time!), but hopefully it is all fulfilling and/or rewarding!

Drew Brady wrote: "My wife Evelyn (Waters) Brady '95 and I are pleased to announce that our daughter Ashleigh has been accepted into the Dartmouth Class of 2021. She will be attending in the fall. Hopefully the legacy will continue when Nicholas joins the Dartmouth class of 2028. Family is doing well. I have just been appointed Chief of Orthopedic Trauma at Christiana Care Medical Center in Newark, DE. We look forward to many more trips up to Hanover in the next few years." Congratulations, Drew & Evelyn! You have the first Dartmouth legacy child we have heard about. Woohoo Ashleigh, and Go Big Green!!

Helene Sisti wrote: "I am teaching in the Department of Psychology at Rowan University. I've been spending a lot of time in southern Vermont lately and just completed my second season as a ski instructor at Bromley Mountain." Congratulations on all you are doing, Helene!

We'd love to hear from a few more of you, so keep sending those Green Cards and/or e-mails (to neesha.d96@gmail.com) this way!

Out & About in These United States

And now, updates from our Facebook stalking...

Sharon Karlsberg enjoyed some summer days at the DOCNC cabin in Donner Pass: "Enjoying the perfect weather, the wildflowers, the lake and the serendipitous horseback ride today at the DOCNC cabin! Finally a day that really feels like summer vacation. I was so happily occupied that I forgot to photograph any of the fabulous friends who joined our family in Donner Pass this weekend..."



Megan Luce traveled to Alaska in August as the +1 of the naturalist aboard the boat.



Laura Bright ran her first half marathon in a while in July and wrote, "...it was nice to be out there. I also had a random celebrity sighting when I saw Nat Borchers after he finished his first marathon. Glad he is staying in shape after retiring from the Timbers!"

Tim Cross shared, "Okay friends, I've taken the biggest risk of my life and have left the labor in education profession to do what I love and what will truly make me happy. I'm going into business with my brother (the smartest business person I know) to open a home repair and remodeling business, Cross Brothers Construction. After leaving the toxic job I had in Aurora, I've lost 20 pounds, slept better, got the best blood labs I've had since high school, and have a healthier marriage than ever, it's clear that life's too short to do

the kind of work I was doing.

I'm turning my skill from a personal pastime to work that I love and will be paid to do. We're headed to Texas/Florida to help with all the work there to be done. We'd love to have people keep us in mind for work here in CO as well as for you personally or family/friends in those states. I'm really good at this work and my brother is very good at taking directions. Hope everyone is doing well and hope if you have home repair, refurbishing or remodeling needs, you'll give us a call! More to come!"

Kelcey Grimm had a bit of an adventure in June when she went to San Francisco! "This is too good not to share. Luke and I arrived in San Francisco late tonight. We organized to stay with my girlfriend in Marin. She was going to bed early. She messaged, 'I'll leave the door open, help yourself to food, stay in Sky's room.'

So we did. We spent an hour eating and chilling and getting into bed. Literally five minutes after, I get a frantic text from my friend. 'OMG, I forgot to tell you that I moved. OMG. OMG.' Luke and I just snuck out of some random's house. OMG!" LOL! Glad you weren't caught!

Earlier in June, **Sara Paisner** and her



husband **Howard Mendlovitz** went to visit **Eliza Barry** and her husband **Andrew Riker '97** in Bermuda for the America's Cup (sailing) race. Besides having an overall great time, they got to stand next to THE Auld Mug. What an experience!

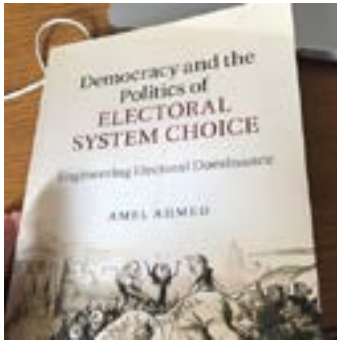
Other Notable Recognitions

We discovered that **Amel Ahmed** had written a very intriguing-sounding book when one of her FB friends wrote:

(Continued on next page.)

What We've Heard... (cont. from p. 7)

"Nothing cooler than citing your friends' books." Amel published the book a few years ago and said that her friend just probably got around to reading it now.



I thought it was very cool to see her name in print, regardless of when the book came out! And I became even more curious about it after reading the blurb from our friend amazon.com: "Amel Ahmed brings new historical evidence and a novel

theoretical framework to bear on the study of democratization. Looking at the politics of electoral system choice at the time of suffrage expansion among early democratizers, she shows that the electoral systems used in advanced democracies today were initially devised as exclusionary safeguards to protect pre-democratic elites from the impact of democratization and, particularly, the existential threat posed by working class mobilization.... This book has important implications for our understanding of the dynamics of democratic development both in early democracies and in emerging democracies today." Wow!

Shannon Smith-Bernadin was surprised at work one day in May: "Received a wonderful surprise at work today after



Barbara, the Director of Public Health, invited me to a random meeting I'd never attended. All a guise in order to present me an award! "Public Health Hero." Congratulations, Shannon, the award is well-deserved!

And that's what we've heard, seen, or otherwise discovered for now! Please send us updates via e-mail to neesha.d96@gmail.com or via Green Card to include in our next, soon to appear issue of the Evergreen, thanks!

Burnham... (cont. from p.1)

Our benefactors were happy. And the public loved it. We had more than 200,000 visitors in 3 months.

What was your favorite work of Matisse's in the exhibition?

I was thrilled to be able to include *Interior with Egyptian Curtain* from the Phillips Collection as well as the actual textile, a khayamiya tent curtain, it depicts.

Tell us about something unexpected you learned during this experience.

The biggest lesson for me was how important clear and consistent communication is to any project. It seems so basic, but it's a lesson that has to be applied differently to every project I work on. With this show, all three curators were working in different institutions and often in different countries. We rarely actually saw each other in person, but we were working together on a daily basis for three years. So we developed ways to share information, ideas, files, and to check-in regularly.

What would you share with someone else who was getting ready to curate an international exhibition such as this?

If you cannot get the loan you want: try, try again.

Did being a Dartmouth grad help you in any way to prepare for or during the exhibition?

One Dartmouth alumnus has been an incredible mentor: George Shackelford, 1977. We connected when he worked as the head of European Art at the MFA. This also helped a great deal: learning how to prepare a number of challenging projects quickly and well, and learning how to discuss them in a lively way with practically anyone, is great preparation for any career (or, at least, for mine!).

Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your experience curating this exhibition?

We produced a beautiful catalogue along with the show. It's available on Amazon [click [here](#) for link].



Co-curators Ann Dumas, Royal Academy of Arts; Ellen McBreen, Wheaton College; and Helen Burnham, Museum of Fine Art, Boston.

