

calendar

Museums across the South pay tribute to American art



Celebration and Vision: The Hewitt Collection of African-American Art

The Baltimore Museum of Art, through Aug. 8 (410/396-7100, www.artbma.org) What began with an inexpensive painting purchased by John and Vivian Hewitt on a trip to Haiti has evolved into one of the most important and comprehensive collections of African-American art. The exhibition includes nearly 60 paintings, drawings, and collages by artists such as Romare Bearden, Elizabeth Catlett, and Jonathan Green.



American Eden: Landscape Paintings of the Hudson River School North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, through Aug. 29 (919/839-6262, www.ncartmuseum.org) As the nation celebrates its founding, the North Carolina Museum of Art recognizes the country's first native art movement, known as the Hudson River School. Led by Thomas Cole and Asher Durand, this group of 19th-century artists painted breathtaking landscapes of America. On view are 55 works from the collection of the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art in Hartford, Connecticut.



American Furniture: Virginia to Vermont

DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum, Williamsburg, Virginia, through Dec. 2005 (757/220-7724, www.history.org) A museum renowned for its collection of Southern furniture exhibits the craftsmanship and regional forms perfected by furnituremakers from New England and the Mid-Atlantic States. Approximately 100 seldom-seen American antiques will be on display.

White Linen Night New Orleans Arts District, Aug. 7 (504/528-3805) At the annual art walk each August, locals and visitors in New Orleans don their coolest white fashions for a stroll along Julia Street, stopping to view an opening at one of the nearly 20 participating galleries while listening to live music and sampling gourmet fare.

the inside scoop ... aspen, colorado

With an antiques shop in Dallas and a design office in Fort Worth, Joseph Minton certainly stays busy. But when he finds time for play, he heads north. "I've been going to Aspen—in winter and summer—for more than 40 years," he says. Here are some of his favorite spots around town, should Colorado's climate tempt you this summer.

Specialty Foods of Aspen 601 East Hopkins Ave. (970/544-6656). "This little market just opened last winter. They have wonderful grilled panini, soups, cheeses, and desserts."

"Hike from Crested Butte to Aspen over **East Maroon Pass**. It's a day trip, and there are beautiful wildflowers. Some people hike the other way, but the steep part is on the Crested Butte side. It's best to get that over with and hike downhill for the longer trek." The trail begins in Gothic, a few miles north of Crested Butte; contact the U.S. Forest Service (970/925-3445) for more information.

The Little Nell 675 East Durant Ave. (970/920-4600, www.thelittlenell.com). "This is my favorite hotel. It's also a great place for lunch or dinner and is right next to the ski lift for Ajax Mountain. I'd describe the hotel as casually elegant. Its stone floors are very appropriate for the mountains."

Aspen Music Festival through Aug. 22 (970/925-9042, www.aspenmusicfestival.com). "Each summer, some of the world's most talented musicians come to Aspen. The festival has daily concerts, many of which are held in the Benedict Music Tent—an incredible structure. I recommend hearing the Aspen Festival Orchestra on the Fourth of July."

Explore Booksellers 221 East Main St. (970/925-5336). "A Victorian house turned into a bookstore, each room has different categories of books. A little staircase leads to an upstairs bistro where they serve lunch. I usually get a cappuccino and a slice of carrot cake."



BY MARY BETH HARRISON