Norman Rockwell, American Imagist

Nassau County Museum of Art
Through January 3, 2010; the exhibition will then travel to other venues into 2012
Organized by American Illustrators Gallery, NYC, with The National Museum of American Illustration, Newport, R.I.

Norman Rockwell was the greatest American illustrator-storyteller. He created images that defined America and Americans, in this country and abroad. His greatest impact was achieved through the paintings he created over nearly six decades for the Saturday Evening Post, and of course from his seminal Four Freedoms, a series of WWII patriotic works. "I paint life as I would like it to be," he once said.

One of Rockwell's earliest commissions was to illustrate a series of children's books. Soon thereafter, he became the art director for Boy's Life, the official publication of the Boy Scouts of America. His association with the Boy Scouts continued for a half century. Thereafter, Rockwell freelanced his professional services to magazines, among them Life, Literary Digest, Leslie, and Country Gentleman. At 22, he began his legendary association with the Saturday Evening Post, the most prestigious magazine in the nation. Rockwell's first work for the Post was Mother's Day Off, which ran on the May 20, 1916 cover. From that issue onwards until 1963, he produced 323 Post covers, thought by many to be his greatest legacy. Norman Rockwell, American Imagist includes forty original Rockwell paintings and studies, and all 323 of his vintage Saturday Evening Post covers.

Autumn/Winter