



The National Museum of American Illustration
Vernon Court ★ 492 Bellevue Avenue ★ Newport RI 02840

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Contact: Eric Brocklehurst
Tel: (401) 851-8949 ext. 18
Email: art@americanillustration.org
Website: www.americanillustration.org

NMAI'S MAXFIELD PARRISH: THE RETROSPECTIVE EXTENDED TO SEPTEMBER 2013

NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND- The National Museum of American Illustration (NMAI) announces the extension of its milestone exhibition *Maxfield Parrish: The Retrospective*, which debuted May, 25, 2012. Originally scheduled to have concluded September 2, 2012, it will be continued through to next year, ending on September 1st, 2013.

Maxfield Parrish (1870-1966) was best known for romantic images with an unmatched richness, captured by his uncanny use of color incorporating ultra-saturated hues. His paintings were created using alternating layers of color and transparent varnish over a monochromatic underpainting. The resulting luminosity of the originals must be seen in person to be fully appreciated. Among the works on display will be Parrish's largest works, the 14 ft. tall *Florentine Fete* murals, as well as his smallest work, *Tallwood Pearl*, painted on a 2" diameter mother of pearl button.

Parrish's work as a professional illustrator encompassed the years between the mid 1890s and mid 1960s. The exhibition features works from all periods of his career – from his early periodical illustrations, commercial advertisement paintings and depictions of fairy tales like the Brothers Grimm's *Frog Prince*, to his later landscapes for Brown & Bigelow calendars. His 'girls on rocks' images were ubiquitous in the 1920s, with an estimated one out of every four American households having a Parrish print on display in 1922. His art was used to sell a seemingly endless number of products, including Jell-O, light bulbs, chocolate, tires, soap, cameras, bicycles, silverware, cosmetics, and root beer.

The exhibition is presently viewable during the NMAI's Fall-Winter seasonal hours: Fridays, 11am to 5pm, with a guided tour at 3pm. NMAI is also open year round for guided group tours of 6 or more by advance reservation, and individuals interested in visiting on days other than Fridays are encouraged to call in case there are scheduled group tours to which they can be appended. Weekend general admission hours resume Memorial Day weekend, 2013.

While *Maxfield Parrish: The Retrospective* is on display, the NMAI is showcasing an additional exhibition, *Howard Pyle & His Brandywine students*, featuring works by Pyle, N.C. Wyeth, Frank Schoonover, and others. NMAI will also continue to highlight works from the first museum exhibition of illustrations by author Tom Wolfe, *In Our Time*, comprised of works from his book of the same title lampooning 1970s American culture.

For more information and images, contact the NMAI at 401.851.8949 ext. 18, email art@americanillustration.org, or visit our website at www.americanillustration.org.

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The National Museum of American Illustration (NMAI) was founded in 1998 by Judy Goffman Cutler and Laurence S. Cutler to house their art collection from the 'Golden Age of American Illustration.' The NMAI, a private, nonprofit organization, is an independent, educational, and aesthetic organization with the goal to present the best venue for the public to appreciate the greatest collection of illustration art.