

# MONA / 2023

MUSEUM OF NEBRASKA ART



Now that summer is in full swing, July is going to be a busy month on the construction front.

Inside the historic building, plans are to demo the south wall of the former Brick Gallery. By removing this exterior wall, and replacing it with glass allows light to fill the new space, and gives visitors a view south to downtown as well as one to the north stretching from the historic building to the expansion.

Upstairs, staff is looking forward to a bit of much needed space as offices will be expanded across the hall into the former Skylight Gallery.

Outside, the first floor of the expansion will be poured which will give the mass timbers a firm footing to rest on, and utility rough ins are going in the new basement. While work on the buildings move forward, the final grading to the perimeter will be done in preparation for landscaping.

While we have been focusing on the project, the curatorial and engagement staff is busily preparing for the reopening. Exhibitions are being planned, artwork selected and engagement activities for all are in the works.



In anticipation of the reinstatement, the Museum recently applied for and was awarded a \$75,000 grant from The Terra Foundation for American Art, to support the exhibition *In Search of Ourselves: A Re-installation of MONA's Permanent Collection* and its associated educational programming.

*In Search of Ourselves* will dive deeply into various areas of the permanent collection to present the many ways "Nebraska art" has been defined through the museum's collecting practices, highlighting Native American art, artworks that challenge traditional understandings of "fine art," and artists with varying degrees of connection to Nebraska.

As the buildings old and new continue to take shape, we look forward to the day when we are "back home" and can once again turn our attention to our mission of celebrating the history of Nebraska's visual art.



*The Terra Foundation for American Art, established in 1978 and having offices in Chicago and Paris, supports organizations and individuals locally and globally with the aim of fostering intercultural dialogues and encouraging transformative practices that expand narratives of American art, through the foundation's grant program, collection, and initiatives.*

**NEBRASKA  
MARVELS**  
THE CAMPAIGN FOR MONA AND  
THE FUTURE OF NEBRASKA ART

Images: Nancy Friedemann-Sanchez, *Cornucopia (triptych)*, 2016, collage, ink on Tyvek, Museum Purchase made possible by Cliff and Mary Hillegass Trusts; Thomas Hart Benton, *Buffalo Hunter*, 1945, gouache, ink, Museum Purchase made possible by Cliff Hillegass, CliffsNotes, Thomas Creigh, Lorraine Rohman, Ellen Qualsett, Joe & Pauline Dye, Betty Becker-Theye & Larry Theye, Larry Peterson, Tom Pollard, Gary Zaruba, Brendan McDonald, John Clabaugh (detail), both Museum of Nebraska Art Collection