The Audrey Jones Beck Building

1. **William Bouguereau, *The Elder Sister*** European Art Galleries (220)
   One of the most beloved works at the museum, this painting exemplifies Bouguereau’s idealized compositions, which earned him popularity and financial success.

2. **Rembrandt van Rijn, *Portrait of a Young Woman***
   European Art Galleries (211)
   Known for his ability to paint flesh, hair, clothing, and the personality of the sitter, Rembrandt is considered one of the greatest painters in history.

3. **Willem van Aelst, *A Still Life of Game and a Blue Velvet Game Bag on a Marble Ledge***
   European Art Galleries (214)
   Still-life paintings often include objects that convey subtle moral messages to the viewer.

4. **Mummy of a Child***
   Antiquities Galleries (200)
   Ancient Egyptians believed in life after death, and they created an elaborate process to preserve the body.

5. **Portrait of a Roman Ruler***
   Antiquities Galleries (104)
   Powerful rulers commissioned portraits of themselves as physically perfect, regardless of actual age and appearance.

6. **Charles Deas, *Walking the Chalk***
   American Art Galleries (107)
   Depicting a popular drinking game of the same name, this painting is filled with social and symbolic importance.

7. **Frederic Remington, *Aiding a Comrade***
   American Art Galleries (108)
   Remington’s images of the American West created the image of the cowboy as national folk hero.

8. **Claes Oldenburg, *Giant Soft Fan (Ghost Version)****
   American Art Galleries (109)
   One of a series of sculptures in which the hard, metallic, functional properties of a commonplace fan are humorously contradicted.

   American Art Galleries (109)
   Like many of Tiffany’s glass windows, this one was made for a private home and was inspired by nature.

    Between Beck and Law Buildings (LL2)
    In this site-specific installation, the artist wants the visitor to physically feel light and “the presence of light inhabiting a space.”
The Caroline Wiess Law Building

11. Sculpture of a Male Ancestor Figure
   Indonesian Art Galleries (102M)
   The people of Nias Island believed that ancestral spirits created the world and affected the fertility and fortune of the living. Each noble household had one of these sculptures to protect their homes.

12. Vase with a Dragon
   Korean Art Galleries (105M)
   Unlike fierce dragons found on Chinese and earlier Korean art, this dragon is characterized by humor and exuberance.

13. Sculpture of a Ballplayer
   Pre-Columbian Art Galleries (210M)
   A ball game similar to soccer was important to the cultures of ancient Mexico. This rare ballplayer figure wears a uniform and was originally painted.

14. Maria and Julian Martinez, Jar
   Native American Art Galleries (LL2)
   A husband and wife team, Maria sculpted the pots and Julian developed the painting techniques. Working with archaeologists, the Martinezes were inspired to revive traditional motifs like the avanyu, a mythical water serpent.

15. Vessel
   Chinese Art Galleries (205M)
   Used at special banquets and made of expensive bronze, these vessels were given as elaborate gifts.

16. Mask in the Shape of an Elephant
   African Art Galleries (203)
   Elephant masks of Cameroon are made of beaded cloth and worn by the highest ranking men in the society. The elephant, a royal symbol, represents force and strength, and the imported beads indicate wealth.

17. Ornament for a Sword
   African Gold Galleries (201M)
   Sword ornaments frequently have symbolic meanings. This sword ornament in the form of a seashell or pineapple symbolizes the constancy of the chief.

18. Stanislav Libenský and Jaroslava Brychtová, Imprint of an Angel
   Law Building (Gallery 200)
   Light changes the transparency, translucency, and opacity in this work of art and highlights the angel embossed in the glass.

How to Read a Label

William Bouguereau
French, 1825–1905
The Elder Sister
1869
Oil on canvas
Gift of an Anonymous Lady in memory of her father. 192.183

Additional Details about the Art


2. Rembrandt van Rijn, Portrait of a Young Woman, 1633, oil on wood, gift of Isabel B. and Wallace S. Wilson, Caroline Weiss Law, Fayez Sarofim, the Blanton and Wareing families in honor of Laura Lee Blanton, the Fondren Foundation, Houston Endowment Inc., Mr. and Mrs. George P. Mitchell, Ethel G. Carruth, Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Duncan, Jr., Marjorie G. Horning, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Hudson, Jr., Mrs. William S. Kilroy, Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Tate, and Nina and Michael Zikka, with additional gifts from the Linds and Ronny Finger Foundation, Ann Trammell, and Mr. and Mrs. Temple Webster in memory of Caroline Weiss Law, and additional funding from the Alice Pratt Brown Museum Fund and the Agnes Cullen Arnold Endowment Fund.

3. William van Aelst, Portrait of a Young Woman, c. 1665, oil on canvas, Sarah Campbell Blanchard.


6. Charles Daas, Walking the Chalk, 1938, oil on canvas, museum purchase with funds provided by the Agnes Cullen Arnold Endowment Fund.

7. FredERIC Remington, Aiding a Comrade (Past All Surgery), 1889–90, oil on canvas, the Hogg Brothers Collection, gift of Miss Imá Hogg.


11. Indonesian, Male Ancestor Figure, 19th–20th century, wood, gift of Alfred C. Glassell, Jr.


13. Veracruz, Ballplayer, 600–900, terracotta, museum purchase with funds provided by the Alice Pratt Brown Museum Fund.

14. Maria Martinez and Julian Martinez, Jar (Olla) with Feathers and an Avanyu, 1934–43, matte black-on-black earthenware, gift of Miss Imá Hogg.

15. Chinese, Ritual Vessel, early 5th century B.C., bronze, museum purchase with funds provided by the Alice Pratt Brown Museum Fund.

16. Bamileke, Elephant Mask (Kossi society), first half of the 20th century, cotton cloth, flannel, glass beads, raffia cloth, indigo dye, and cane (?), gift of The Brown Foundation, Inc., with additional funds provided by the Brown Foundation Accessions Endowment Fund.

17. Akan, Sword Ornament in the form of a Sashet, early 5th century, gold, gift of Alfred C. Glassell, Jr.

18. Stanislav Libenský and Jaroslava Brychtová, Imprint of an Angel, 1999–89, cast glass, museum purchase with funds provided by the estate of Roger Ager, Liberty, Texas; Heller Gallery, New York, NY; Dr. Frances M. Davis Ryan and Neil F. Ryan; Neal and Judi Grossman of Ruminata Gallery; Steve Laedtke; Richard H. Misel and Katherine S. Pospel; Barbara and Mark Paul; the Susan Vaughan Foundation; and various other donors.