

# friends OF SAINT-GAUDENS

CORNISH | NEW HAMPSHIRE | SPRING / SUMMER 2017

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## DEAR FRIENDS,

Last year, the National Park Service celebrated its 100th year caring for America's special places.

At Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site, that involved partnering with the Saint-Gaudens Memorial on unveiling a new cast of Saint-Gaudens' "Standing Lincoln," a national park-themed concert series, and other programs. Though we aren't unveiling any new Saint-Gaudens casts this year, we will unveil an old favorite, back at the park again on loan after a long absence. We will also be building upon some of the new programs piloted last year with new programs on themes we haven't previously explored in depth. You will hear about some of these new sculptures and programs in this newsletter.

The National Park Service Centennial celebration took a look back in time at what has made our national parks, and our National Historic Site here in Cornish, such special places. This year, as the Park Service starts its second century of stewardship, we hope to build upon these successes while bringing you something new. The Saint-Gaudens Memorial and the National Park Service have been working together for more than 50 years now, ensuring that this place is a "living memorial." This year's new programs will join our traditional

("Dear Friends" cont. on back cover)

## LOUISE MILLER HOWLAND RELIEF (1888): AN ICONIC IMAGE RETURNS TO THE PARK ON LOAN

The park is delighted that one of Saint-Gaudens' most remarkable portrait reliefs will be back on loan to the park this season.

Louise Miller Howland (1838-1884) is portrayed almost in the round, leaning against a piano. As a sculpture, this is virtuosic work, very difficult to make and not simple to cast in bronze. To create a sculpture in relief entails building up the shape from a flat surface. In this case it is as if the artist took a sculpture in the round and placed it against a flat surface. The complexity of this is to support the added weight of the heavier sculpture on a vertical surface. Here there is a base

**The frame is a tabernacle form designed by the architect Stanford White, probably using elements from a much earlier Renaissance style frame.**

beneath to help hold the figure in place. The piano also gives support, as the figure leans against it. The frame is a tabernacle form designed by the architect Stanford White, probably using elements from a much earlier Renaissance style frame. The elaborate presentation is



Augustus Saint-Gaudens, *Louise Miller Howland*, 1888

needed visually for the boldness of the art to be properly framed, but it also speaks to the story of the person shown. Such frames would have been used in the Renaissance around a painting of a Madonna and Child. The arched form between columns is a tabernacle shape, indicating the structure of a temple — in other words, a sacred place. It is a subtle compliment to Louise Howland, reflecting her character as well as the fact that this is a posthumous depiction.

Louise Miller Howland was married to Judge Henry E. Howland (1835-1913) in 1865, and had died four years before the creation of this portrait. She was a talented musician, playing the harp and piano. She seems to have been a good

("Louise Miller Howland Relief..." cont. on back cover)

## NEW ACQUISITIONS TO THE PARK COLLECTION

Through the generosity of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial, the park has acquired several new plaster studies by James Earle Fraser for the **1901 Special Commemorative Medal of Honor**, presented to Augustus Saint-Gaudens at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, NY.

These plaster studies add preliminary works to the collection, which already contains metal proofs and the final gold medal issued in 1901. James Fraser was a sculptor in his own right, who met Saint-Gaudens in Paris in 1900, and became an assistant to Saint-Gaudens. The gold medal was commissioned by the Pan-American Exposition trustees as a means of thanking Saint-Gaudens for

a lifetime of work. The presentation coincided with the public awareness of Saint-Gaudens' diagnosis of cancer, which occurred in Paris the year before.

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**The gold medal was commissioned by the Pan-American Exposition trustees as a means of thanking Saint-Gaudens for a lifetime of work.**

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Consisting of a profile bust of Saint-Gaudens on the obverse and an allegorical male figure on the reverse, the medal was prepared by Fraser after his return to the United States. The newly acquired works include a large plaster study for the gilded bronze galvano in the park collection, as well as smaller studies for the obverse and reverse of the medal. Just as Saint-Gaudens had earlier run afoul



James Earle Fraser (1876-1953), (Top) Obverse, *Special Commemorative Medal of Honor, Pan-American Exposition, 1901*, plaster study. (Bottom) Reverse, plaster study. Gift of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial.



(Above left) James Earle Fraser (1876-1953), plaster studies of the gilded bronze galvano in the park collection, as well as smaller studies for the obverse and the reverse of the *Pan-American Games Gold Medal*. (Above right) Fraser's reducing/enlarging machine. Gifts of the Saint-Gaudens Memorial.



Stephen Parrish, *A Gale at Fecamp – Normandie*, etching, 1886



Stephen Parrish, *Twilight – Low Tide*, etching, 1887-90

of public taste by presenting a nude male figure on a preliminary version of the World's Columbian Exposition Medal in 1893, Fraser also was obliged to cloth his allegorical figure on this medal. One of the newly acquired studies shows his pencil outline of added drapery which appears in the final medal.

Included in the new acquisition are two portrait studies of Saint-Gaudens for Fraser's late portrait bust of Saint-Gaudens, dedicated at the Hall of Fame for Great Americans in the Bronx in 1926. The aging Saint-Gaudens, described by Fraser as a "weary lion," posed for this portrait soon before his death. These quick plaster studies, seemingly taken from clay originals, show Fraser capturing the power weighed down by age that embodied the characterization of his mentor.

The park acquired from the same source a reducing and enlarging machine used

in Fraser's studio. It is of a vintage that could have been seen by Saint-Gaudens, and will allow the park to demonstrate an important aspect of sculpture technique. What would now be done digitally using a computer and a 3-D printer, was mechanically manipulated with a pointing machine such as this.

**A second gift to the collection increases the park collection of prints by the artist Stephen Parrish.**

**These engravings, etchings and drawings further add to our understanding of the breadth of this important American artist.**

Father of Maxfield Parrish, Stephen was a retired industrialist when he began printmaking. Eventually he became an artist of international renown in this art form that was in resurgence in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Prints provided a way for collectors of more limited means to purchase original

**Both of these additions to the collection will greatly enhance the park's ability to display the work of the Cornish Colony and the assistants of Saint-Gaudens.**

works of art. In the eighteenth century, prints were produced by a duplicative commercial process; by the turn of the twentieth century, the public had clearly embraced their potential as fine art. In America, Parrish was in the forefront of this movement. Consisting mainly of seascapes and landscapes, the prints just acquired also include images of New England.

Both of these additions to the collection will greatly enhance the park's ability to display the work of the Cornish Colony and the assistants of Saint-Gaudens.

## NEW PROGRAMS, TOURS AND EVENTS INITIATED AT SITE FOR THE 2017 SEASON

This year the SGNHS has initiated a number of new and exciting educational and wellness programs and events at the site, in addition to our classic tours, exhibitions and concerts, which will further enhance our visitors' experience and enjoyment of the park.

### SEASONAL DAILY TOURS

Experience and learn about Saint-Gaudens' life and family, his monumental works, and the many influences, social and creative, that defined and inspired him and his fellow artists of the era in the Cornish Colony.

Art tours take place around the park grounds each day at 11am, 1pm and 3pm.

### WOMEN AND SAINT-GAUDENS

Get to know the Gilded Age women who lived and worked alongside America's greatest sculptor, inspiring his work and creating their own.

### SAINT-GAUDENS' CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS

Commemorating the heroes of America's bloody internal conflict was a focus of Saint-Gaudens' public work. Experience the impact of these sculptures, and hear the stories that went into their making.

*Shaw Memorial*, 1884-1897



### THE SCULPTURAL PROCESS

Saint-Gaudens was both a master of his craft and an innovator in his time. Learn about his process and the techniques he used to produce his sculptural masterworks.



Dining Room, Aspet

### SAINT-GAUDENS THE FAMILY MAN

A person's home is an intimate portrait of their life. Explore the day-to-day side of Gus as a father and husband as expressed through the objects in his home.



Augusta Saint-Gaudens, 1874

### GUSSIE'S WORLD

Artist, businesswoman, mother, legacy-builder. Augusta Saint-Gaudens held many roles in her life with skill and aplomb. Learn about her far-reaching contributions in this focused tour.



Poster and cast of players from the Cornish Colony's "A Masque of 'Ours'," 1905

### LIFE IN THE CORNISH COLONY

Saint-Gaudens was a central force of energy among the Cornish Colony artists, inspiring group activities and throwing parties. Experience the spaces that hosted these merry affairs.

### SEE ASPET

Visit Saint-Gaudens' home, during an open house or attend one of these daily 20 minute tours.

Daily @ 10:30am, 2pm or 4pm.



Aspet

### ASPET OPEN HOUSES

Explore the home of Augustus, Augusta and Homer Saint-Gaudens at your own pace, with staff present to answer questions. Peak into the house or linger awhile.

Aspet will be open 9:30-10:30am, 11:30am-12:30pm and 2:30-3:30pm.

YEAR-ROUND PROGRAMS



**BOOTS TO BOATS**

This outdoor wellness initiative encourages exploration of the public lands and waters of the Upper Valley — particularly Saint-Gaudens NHS, Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP, the Appalachian Trail and the Connecticut River.

**Guided events are held year-round. Below are opportunities at Saint-Gaudens.**



Hiking along the forest boundary of the park.

**ART, NATURE AND COMMUNITY: RECREATION IN THE CORNISH COLONY**

Enjoy an easy stroll around the grounds at Blow-Me-Down Farm and learn how the Cornish Colony artists had fun outdoors.

**Meet at Blow-Me-Down Farm @ 10am on Saturdays June 24, July 8, August 5, September 2, and October 21**



Moving meditation, yoga and hiking on the Ravine Trail.

**ART, MOVEMENT, AND MEDITATION:**

A Yoga Hike at Saint-Gaudens NHS. With serene Mount Ascutney in the background, practice moving meditation that includes gentle yoga poses and flowing movements, as well as maintaining focus on the breath while witnessing the natural beauty of this park. Includes a quarter-mile hike along the Ravine Trail which has a short steep descent down to a quiet brookside path, and an ascent back up to the grounds to view Saint-Gaudens' striking temple.

**Meet in the site parking lot Saturday, July 22 from 10:30 am - 12 pm**

**STAR PARTY**

This year the park will host its ninth annual Star Party in partnership with the Springfield Telescope Makers (STM) of the Stellafane Observatory in Springfield, Vermont. The event is free and open to the public. The evening includes a talk about the history of astronomy in the Upper Connecticut River Valley; and a variety of telescopes set up on the grounds and aimed at a variety of deep-sky objects for use by visitors.

**Star Party is on Saturday, September 16. Meet in the Shaw Memorial hedge room, 8:00 pm (Rain date: Sunday, September 17)**

**SCULPTURAL VISIONS**

The annual Sculptural Visions event celebrates, teaches about, and provides hands-on experience in the many forms of sculpture.

**Saturday, September 30, 11am – 4:30pm  
Rain or Shine**



Sculpture workshop class members showing off their work.

**SEASONAL SUMMER SCULPTURE WORKSHOPS**

Learn to sculpt at the home and studios of Augustus Saint-Gaudens, one of America's greatest artists. Workshops are taught throughout the season by the park's Sculptor-in-Residence and include work in clay to create portrait reliefs, medallions and sculptures in the round. There are introductory-level classes for those with little experience who want to get their feet wet; regular workshops for students of all skill levels; and special classes in mold-making and casting for all levels (these may require some preparation prior to class).

**Classes are generally 3 hours long, from 1:00 to 4:00pm and the fee is \$40. (A \$5 discount is offered to Friends of Saint-Gaudens) Check the web site for 2017 offerings [www.nps.gov/saga](http://www.nps.gov/saga)**

SUNDAY SUMMER CONCERTS IN THE LITTLE STUDIO

<p><b>JULY 2 @ 2:00pm</b></p> <p><b>JOHN DAVIS, piano</b> <i>Halley's Comet: Around the Piano with Mark Twain &amp; John Davis</i></p>	<p><b>JULY 9 @ 2pm</b></p> <p><b>KINAN AZMEH, clarinet, DINUK WIJERATNE, piano</b> <i>The Art of the Duo: A musical fusion of Arabic and south-east Asian elements with classical and jazz idioms</i></p>	<p><b>JULY 16 @ 2pm</b></p> <p><b>NEW HAMPSHIRE MUSIC FESTIVAL OF PLYMOUTH</b> <i>Chamber music by visiting international orchestra players</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">AzmeH/Wijeratne &gt;</p>	
<p><b>JULY 23 @ 2pm</b></p> <p><b>BASSEL AND THE SUPERNATURALS</b> <i>Blues and Funk from Chicago</i></p> 	<p><b>JULY 30 @ 2pm</b></p> <p><b>AARDVARK JAZZTET</b> <i>Swing along to music from the jazz greats</i></p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Aardvark Jazztet ^</p>	<p><b>AUGUST 6 @ 2pm</b></p> <p><b>ACACIA MUSIC</b> <i>Chamber music performed for clarinet, flute, and piano from France and America</i></p>
<p><b>AUGUST 13 @ 2pm</b></p> <p><b>EL GATO CON BOTAS (PUSS IN BOOTS)</b> <i>Family Picnic Day featuring OperaHub's production with opera singers, puppets, and live orchestra</i></p>	<p><b>AUGUST 20 @ 2pm</b></p> <p><b>THE FISCHERS AND THE JENNINGS</b> <i>From Eastern Europe, with Love!</i></p>	<p><b>AUGUST 27 @ 2pm</b></p> <p><b>12TH ANNUAL ROSAMOND EDMONDSON MEMORIAL CONCERT</b> <i>Featuring Jose Lezcano, guitar. Works by Fauré, Piazzolla, Lezcano, and more for guitar, flute, and viola</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;">Jose Lezcano &gt;</p>	
	<p><b>SEPTEMBER 3 @ 2pm</b></p> <p><b>NEWMONT BAND</b> <i>Great music of the town bands</i></p> <p style="text-align: left;">&lt; Newmont Band</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Events are on Sundays unless otherwise noted.</p>	

EVENTS AT THE SITE AND EXHIBITIONS IN THE PICTURE GALLERY



*Light Weight, Katie Bell*



*Passage of the Ghost Ship: Trees and Vines, Nancy Azara*



*In Habitat, Cal Lane*

MAY 27 - JULY 16

*Showroom*

**Katie Bell**

2016 Saint-Gaudens Fellow

Reception Saturday, June 24

4:30 – 6:00 pm

Artist's Talk at 5 pm

JULY 22 - SEPTEMBER 10

*Passage of the Ghost Ship:  
Trees and Vines*

**Nancy Azara**

Reception Saturday, July 22

4:30 – 6:00 pm

Artist's Talk at 5 pm

SEPTEMBER 16 - OCTOBER 31

*It Was Never Like This*

**Cal Lane**

Reception Saturday, September 16

4:30 – 6:00 pm

Artist's Talk at 5 pm

SCULPTURAL VISIONS | SATURDAY - SEPTEMBER 30



**Sculptural Visions**

**Artist, Sculpture, and Bronze Casting Demonstrations**

The annual Sculptural Visions event celebrates, teaches about, and provides hands-on experience in the many forms of sculpture.

Artists are on hand to demonstrate different sculptural techniques including modeling with clay, carving wood and stone, working with metal and wire, fabric and paper to form sculptures. There will also be a bronze casting demonstration.

SEPTEMBER 30 @ 11am - 4:30pm / Rain or Shine

**FREE ADMISSION ALL DAY**

For more information call 603-675-2175

or visit: [www.nps.gov/saga](http://www.nps.gov/saga)

Saint-Gaudens NHS, Cornish, NH

Co-sponsored by the Friends of Saint-Gaudens

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OF  
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All members receive a twice-yearly newsletter and announcements of exhibits, lectures, concerts & other programs.

- Individual \$ 50
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I would like a FREE annual park pass to the Saint-Gaudens Site. (\$25 value. This part of your membership fee is not tax deductible.)

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I do not wish to join at this time but would like to make a contribution.

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**Gifts are tax-deductible**

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**SAINT-GAUDENS MEMORIAL**

Mail membership forms and checks to:

**Saint-Gaudens Memorial**  
**34 South Highland Avenue,**  
**Ossining, NY 10562**

914-944-1608 [www.sgnhs.org](http://www.sgnhs.org)

*("Louise Miller Howland ..." cont. from front cover)*

partner to her husband, who was active in Yale University committees, had served as judge of the Marine Court in New York City (1873-74), as an Alderman in New York (1875-77), and president of the Department of Taxes (1880). Judge Howland was also generous as a donor and trustee to hospitals, libraries and the Society for the Preservation of the Adirondacks. They had three children, two of whom died before their mother.

The Howland family arrived in the United States in the person of John Howland, passenger on the "Mayflower," and had established themselves in Walpole, New Hampshire. John Howland has the distinction of almost drowning as the ship reached the American coast — in his excitement he ran to the side of the deck and fell over. Fortunately someone reacted in time to throw him a rope.

The family's local roots gave the artist a closer knowledge of them and their story as he developed his idea for her portrayal. Judge Howland was an alumnus and Trustee of Kimball Union Academy in Meriden, New Hampshire, just a few miles from Cornish. The Howlands maintained a summer home in Walpole, and were friends of the Beamans. The Saint-Gaudens could well have met them socially at the Beamans.

After her death in 1884 Louise was memorialized by John LaFarge in a stained glass window at St. Andrew's Dune Church in Southampton, New York. The design of the window, placing Louise Howland playing the harp within a framed space, may well have suggested the composition to Saint-Gaudens. Louise and her husband are buried in the Village Cemetery in Walpole.

The park is especially pleased to be able to share this important work with the public this year.

*("Dear Friends..." cont. from front cover)*

favorites like the exhibitions and concert series to appeal to even more potential visitors. The Memorial is also studying ways to expand its public outreach, including an Instagram account and transition to a digital newsletter. Stay tuned for more information as these conversations develop.

Once again we thank you for your interest and your support and hope that you will plan a visit to experience all that is new at the park!

**Byron Bell**  
President  
Board of Trustees  
Saint-Gaudens Memorial

**Rick Kendall**  
Superintendent  
Saint-Gaudens NHS  
Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP



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**@ Saint-Gaudens  
National Historic Site**

The Saint-Gaudens Memorial is a private, non-profit corporation chartered to advise and support the National Historic Site and sponsor programs and activities that promote public awareness of Augustus Saint-Gaudens, his work and sculpture in general.

**Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site**

The site is administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service  
139 Saint-Gaudens Road, Cornish, NH 03745  
603-675-2175 phone | 603-675-2701 fax | [www.nps.gov/saga](http://www.nps.gov/saga)