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Giovan Domenico Ferretti, (1692-1768), *Harlequin and His Lady*, not dated. Oil on canvas, 23 5/16 x 19 1/2 inches. Haukohl Family Collection.

ITALIAN BAROQUE: PAINTINGS FROM THE HAUKOHL FAMILY COLLECTION OPENS MARCH 29 AT NEVADA MUSEUM OF ART AND ARTE ITALIA

17th- century Florence comes alive through an historic exhibition housed at two locations

Reno, Nev. – The Nevada Museum of Art and *arte italia* bring 17th-century Florence, Italy, to life with a new exhibition. *Italian Baroque: Paintings from the Haukohl Family Collection* opens March 29 at the Nevada Museum of Art, Donald W. Reynolds Center for the Visual Arts, E. L. Wiegand Gallery located at 160 West Liberty Street in downtown Reno. An additional exhibition at *arte italia*, 442 Flint Street, Reno, completes the Baroque experience with educational and sculptural artworks. Exclusively sponsored by the E. L. Wiegand Foundation and made possible by Sir Mark Fehrs Haukohl of Houston, Texas, the show is drawn from the largest private collection of Florentine Baroque art in the United States as well as other countries outside of Italy.

Between the late 16th- and early 18th-century, Florence, Italy teemed with color, science, and artistic innovations. A new clarity in color, style and subject began to replace the elegant virtuosity of earlier painting. This exhibition explores the movement from its beginnings to the eighteenth century. From celebratory works such as Giovan Domenico Ferretti's *Harlequin and His Lady*, to moving religious pieces like Pietro Dandini's *Esther before Ahasuerus*, this show reveals the emotional exploration that defines the Baroque era. Lavish, ornate gold frames envelope each painting, completing the Florentine experience.

At *arte italia*, a story of the powerful Medici family unfolds through sculptural works. For nearly 400 years, the Medici were among Italy's most significant patrons of the arts and sciences, influencing the birth of the Renaissance and subsequent rise of the Baroque era. Not only did the Medici influence the ascent of four Catholic popes, they also commissioned scientists, writers, and artists whose significant contributions to their disciplines are still widely felt. In this exhibition, celebrated sculptor Antonio Montauti (1685-1740) honors four of those Italian icons: Michelangelo Buonarroti, Galileo Galilei, Niccolo Machiavelli, and Marsilio Ficino.

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“The E. L. Wiegand foundation is thrilled to ‘go for baroque,’” said Kristen A. Avansino, president and executive director of the E. L. Wiegand Foundation, which founded **arte italia** in 2008. “We welcome this stellar exhibition and its visionary collector, Sir Mark Haukohl, to our state.”

David Walker, executive director | CEO for the Nevada Museum of Art, echoes Avansino’s gratitude. “We are proud to feature *Italian Baroque* at the Nevada Museum of Art and to further extend the Haukohl Family Collection into the community with the companion exhibition at *arte italia*. As Nevada’s premier Italian Cultural Arts Center, **arte italia** is the perfect partner to bring these exquisite Florentine artworks to northern Nevada.”

The Haukohl Family Collection exhibition was made possible by Sir Mark Fehrs Haukohl, a collector and patron of the arts who lives in Houston. A co-founder of the Medici Archive Project, a non-profit foundation with the purpose of cataloguing over three hundred years of documents relating to the princely Medici family, he collects not only Florentine Baroque art but also contemporary European photography by women.

[Several programs and events celebrate the beauty and significance of Italian Baroque:](#)

BOOK

A fully-illustrated catalogue accompanies the exhibition, providing a scholarly context for the paintings in the Haukohl Family Florentine collection. Preface from Kristen A. Avansino, President and Executive Director, E. L. Wiegand Foundation. Director’s Foreword by David B. Walker, Executive Director | CEO, Nevada Museum of Art.

PREMIERE TALKS

\$5 per ticket

Talks for Italian Baroque are underwritten by the E. L. Wiegand Foundation.

- **ART HISTORIAN DR. JOHN SPIKE ON THE ART OF FLORENCE**
Saturday, March 29 / 11 am
Celebrate the art of Florence with an art history lesson from one of America’s foremost authorities on the Baroque era. A past director of the Florence Biennale, art historian, curator, and author Dr. John Spike is currently a Distinguished Scholar in Residence at the College of William & Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia.
- **DR. MORTEN STEEN HANSEN ON ITALIAN BAROQUE**
Saturday, May 24 / 5 pm
Delve into Baroque art history through the expert guidance of Stanford University School of Humanities and Sciences Assistant Professor Dr. Morten Steen Hansen, who specializes in 15th through 18th century European art.
- **ARTE ITALIA PRESENTS DR. EIKE SCHMIDT ON FLORENTINE SCULPTURE**
Friday, June 6 / 6 pm
Dr. Eike Schmidt leads the Minneapolis Institute of Art’s department of Decorative Arts, Textiles, and Sculpture, specializing in bronze and ivory sculpture from the Renaissance, Baroque, and Neoclassical periods. A native of Freiburg, Germany, Schmidt formerly led the department of European Sculpture and Works of Art at Sotheby’s in London and served in curatorial roles in the sculpture departments of the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles and the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.

DOCENT GUIDED TOURS

Thursdays / 6 pm, excluding First Thursdays

Saturdays and Sundays / 1 pm

Stroll through the streets of 17th century Florence through one of the Museum’s docent guided tours. Space is limited. Reservations are not needed. Guided Tours are free for members and paid general admission.

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GO FOR BAROQUE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

The public is invited to share Italian Baroque photos with your social networks and win sweet prizes from the Museum. Whether strolling the show's galleries or attending one of the premiere talks, visitors can bring Florence alive by posting comments or photos using #NevadaArt. Facebook: NevadaMuseumofArt. Twitter/Instagram @NevadaArt.

Italian Baroque: Paintings from the Haukohl Family Collection will be exhibited March 29 through July 6 at the Nevada Museum of Art, Donald W. Reynolds Center for the Visual Arts, E. L. Wiegand Gallery located at 160 West Liberty Street in downtown Reno. The companion exhibition at **arte italia** will be on view through December 2014.

This exhibition is organized in collaboration with **arte italia**, 442 Flint Street, Reno. Founded in Reno and operated by the E. L. Wiegand Foundation, **arte italia** promotes the exploration and conservation of Italian culture, including innovative exhibitions of classic Italian art and culinary programs featuring renowned Italian chefs.

Exclusively sponsored by the E. L. Wiegand Foundation.

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The Nevada Museum of Art is a museum of ideas. The only accredited art museum in the state, it is a private, non-profit organization supported by the generosity of its membership as well as by sponsorships and grants. Through creative programming and scholarship, the Museum provides the opportunity for people to encounter, engage and enjoy a diversity of art experiences. The Museum is open Wednesday through Sunday, 10 am to 6 pm, late on Thursdays until 8 pm, and closed on Mondays, Tuesdays and national holidays. Admission is FREE for members, \$10 General Admission, \$8 Student / Senior, \$1 children 6 to 12 years and free for children 5 and under. Annual Museum Membership starts at just \$30.