Bowers Announces Disney Exhibit Extended to April 25 and New Painting Exhibition for Spring!

February 18, 2021 (Santa Ana, California) – As vaccines circulate and Orange County’s positive cases drop, the Bowers Museum is hopeful it will be able to reopen soon and welcome visitors to experience the wonder of its featured and permanent exhibitions from around the globe. Now, thanks to the generosity of Bowers’ friends at The Walt Disney Archives, the exhibition Inside the Walt Disney Archives: 50 Years of Preserving the Magic will be on view through April 25, 2021! Bowers is also proud to announce the upcoming exhibition Artistic Legacy: The Ann and Bill Cullen Collection opening May 29.

The April extension of Inside the Walt Disney Archives marks the third and final extension for this magical exhibition, which has been closed for much of its time at the Bowers due to statewide museum closures during the COVID-19 pandemic. With robust health and safety precautions in place, guests will be invited to step into the Walt Disney Archives as they walk through a dazzling display of 465 objects, including 50 pieces original artwork, 15 original screen-worn costumes, 3 cars and other props that tell the story of The Walt Disney Company. Click here for more information. #disneyatbowers

Inside the Walt Disney Archives: 50 Years of Preserving the Magic at Bowers Museum, installation shot 2020.
Artistic Legacy: The Ann and Bill Cullen Collection is an exhibition of 53 paintings and drawings from the estate of Ann Macomber Cullen, a famous actress and runway model and the wife of radio- and gameshow host Bill Cullen (“The Price is Right” and “The $25,000 Pyramid”). Herself an avid artist, Ann attended the University of Southern California as an art major and later furthered her studies at the prestigious Chouinard Art Institute in Los Angeles (now the California Institute of the Arts).

While she and her husband lived in New York City in the 1960s, she befriended Dong Kingman, a master of the California Watercolor Style which first originated at Chouinard. Until she passed in 2018, she continued to collect and get to know many of the most prominent artists of the movement, including Rex Brandt, Emil Kosa Jr., and Millard Sheets. This is the first exhibition that showcases a small selection of her paintings and drawings along with the major body of works that she spent her life collecting. Click here for more information. #artisticatbowers

Also on view this spring, Bowers Museum looks forward to welcoming visitors to the exhibitions Treasures in Gold & Jade: Masterworks from Taiwan, Miao: Masters of Silver, and Test of Medal: Charles J. Shaw and the Montford Point Marines, all of which opened during the pandemic with little or no time for audiences to enjoy them. Click here for a full list of current exhibitions.

About the Bowers

The Bowers Museum is temporarily closed due to recent safety guidelines for Orange County from state and local officials. Meanwhile, the Museum continues to offer a robust calendar of virtual offerings, such as an online presentation by Alton Fitzgerald White of Broadway’s The Lion King this weekend on February 20. Visit bowers.org/programs for tickets and the full schedule of upcoming premiere programs.

In accordance with the guidelines, the Bowers continues to host outdoor micro events, including outdoor public programs and rentals. Click here for a full list of Bowers’ newly enhanced safety precautions which are currently in effect for outdoor facility rentals, including micro weddings, and will be implemented for visitors as soon as indoor museums are permitted to reopen. Don’t forget to visit the online Gallery Store at shop.bowers.org for unique treasures from around the world, now available for pick-up or delivery.