

Dual Vision: The Simona and Jerome Chazen Collection

The art collection assembled by Simona and Jerome Chazen is an eloquent record of the life passion of two individuals, each with a unique vision and a personal definition of art. Brought together over the past four decades, their collection is a testament to a partnership in which two visions have united in a coherent and significant way. To appreciate the Chazen collection fully, it is essential to regard it in the way that they themselves do—as a seamless and continuous spectrum of creativity and craftsmanship that embraces painting, drawings, sculpture, and the decorative arts.

The Chazens have maintained rigorous standards for artistic excellence and craftsmanship in their collection. They were among the pioneers in acquiring studio glass, and indeed the strong friendships they forged with many of the artists whose work they admire can be seen to lie at the heart of a glass collection that now ranks as one of the most significant in the United States.

Dual Vision is an invitation to join the Chazens on their personal journey of looking, discussing, and learning. It is an opportunity to discover interesting visual relationships among the objects on view and to ponder engaging juxtapositions of materials and motifs.

The Chazen Museum of Art is deeply grateful to Simona and Jerome Chazen for sharing this selection of objects from their personal collection.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Simona and Jerome Chazen once again for their extraordinary gift to the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Their generosity will make possible the expansion of the museum, more than doubling its present size. In addition to more gallery space for the museum's growing collection of American and European fine art, there will be new galleries devoted to African art, Asian art, and the decorative arts. Temporary exhibitions will no longer displace the permanent collection, as they often do currently. There will also be a new auditorium and rooms devoted to object-study, orientation for visiting school groups, and reference and research for docents. We are truly grateful to the Chazens for turning this dream into a reality.

The present exhibition was organized by the Museum of Arts & Design in New York City.