FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens Invites Visitors to be a Part of Their Newest Exhibitions

Tiffany or Ti-Phony? A Story of Desire *Exhibition Asks, Can You Spot a Fake?*

Seward Johnson: Beyond the Frame *Allows You to Step Inside Larger-Than-Life Impressionist Works*

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – The two newest exhibitions at the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens invite guests to be a part of the exhibitions like never before. Guests have the opportunity to see if they can spot a fake with *Tiffany or Ti-phony? A Story of Desire*, and then step inside the artwork with *Seward Johnson: Beyond the Frame*.

Is it Real? Test Your Close-Looking Skills.
Genuine Tiffany lamps and convincing forgeries take center stage in *Tiffany or Ti-phony? A Story of Desire*, a new exhibition on view through Sunday, January 10, 2027. When American artist Louis C. Tiffany (1848–1933) and his famous New York studios introduced these vibrant stained-glass lamps in 1898, their exquisite artistry and novel aesthetic quickly made them icons of style, status, and beauty – and prime for imitations. The exhibition begins with a seemingly simple question—is a lamp genuine Tiffany or a deliciously deceptive Ti-*phony*? This story of innovation, desire, and imitation spans 125 years and is told through 45 lamps—30 authentic Tiffanys and 15 Ti-phonys—along with an array of Tiffany revival ephemera, all from the Neustadt Collection of Tiffany Glass in Queens, New York. New research, side-by-side lamp comparisons, and engaging interactive elements invite visitors to look closely, uncover clues to the lamps' true identities, and discover why it's important (and fun!) to spot a fake.

"The public's desire for Tiffany lamps has shaped their history for more than a century," said Lindsy Parrott, Executive Director and Curator of The Neustadt. "This richly layered exhibition weaves together art history, popular culture, and expert-guided looking, inviting visitors to consider these beloved lamps in a new light."

Holly Keris, the Cummer Museum's J. Wayne & Delores Barr Weaver Chief Curator, commented, "This exhibition is not only a celebration of beauty, color, and light, it also echoes perfectly something we say here at the Cummer Museum all the time – look closely! When you slow down and look closely, a whole world opens up that you might never have otherwise seen. In this case, if you look closely you can also learn to spot a fake."

Get Up Close and Personal with Famous Impressionist Works

With *Seward Johnson: Beyond the Frame*, on view Friday, November 13, 2026, through Sunday, June 20, 2027, the Cummer Gardens and front lawn become the canvas for this exhibition of bronze sculptures that recreate famous Impressionist works. Museum guests can step into *On Poppied Hill*, Johnson's interpretation of the iconic painting by Claude Monet, *Lady with Parasol*, or Johnson's *La Promenade*, which recreates Gustave Caillebotte's *Paris Street, Rainy Day*.

About these works, Seward Johnson once said, "The whole spirit of the Impressionist movement was what I was trying to do [with my sculpture] - bringing people back into nature. It was such a wonderful, crazy thing, taking a two-dimensional painting and making it three-dimensional; being able to walk into it."

"This exhibition is a perfect combination of art, gardens, and fun. As you wander the Cummer Gardens you can, through the imaginative sculptures of Seward Johnson, find yourself suddenly at a café table with life-sized figures straight out of a painting by Edouard Manet," commented Keris. Guests are encouraged to become a part of the artwork in their own photos.

A grandson of one of the founders of Johnson & Johnson, Seward Johnson is recognized for his life-size bronze sculptures, found in museums, private collections, and public art globally.

Exhibitions

Tiffany or Ti-Phony? A Story of Desire
Thursday, October 22, 2026, through Sunday, January 10, 2027

Seward Johnson: Beyond the Frame
Friday, November 13, 2026, through Sunday, June 20, 2027

Exhibition-Related Events

Tiffany Yesterday and Today: The Art of Stained Glass with Marisa Whittemore
Wednesday, November 18, 2026 | 1 to 2:15 p.m.
Members $25, Future Members $40 | Ticket Includes Museum Admission
Join artist Marisa Whittemore to learn about the art of stained glass. Through an informal talk and live artmaking demonstration, Marisa will share the history and techniques of stained glass from the women of Tiffany to modern practice. Her fascinating live demonstration will let you see the magic of stained-glass construction up close.

Tiffany or Ti-Phony? Authenticity, Craft, and Desire with Lindsy Parrott
Thursday, December 17, 2026 | 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Members $25, Future Members $40 | Ticket Includes Museum Admission
Lindsy Parrott, Executive Director and Curator of The Neustadt Collection of Tiffany Glass, will present an illuminating lecture in conjunction with the exhibition *Tiffany or Ti-phony? A Story of Desire.* Exploring themes of authenticity, craftsmanship, collecting, and the enduring fascination with Tiffany design, this program invites you to look more closely at the artistry and materials that shaped one of the most recognizable names in decorative arts history.

Artful Storytime Ordinary Days, Extraordinary Stories– inspired by *Beyond the Frame*
Wednesday, February 17, 2027 | 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Members $10 per child, Future Members $15 per child
Ages 2 to 6 with an Adult | Registration Required
Join us for a storytime that celebrates the beauty of everyday life – simple moments like walking in the park, sharing time with family, visiting a neighborhood, and noticing the world around us, just as Seward Johnson captured in his artwork. Through stories, children will discover how ordinary activities can become meaningful, joyful, and full of wonder when we take time to truly see them. After storytime, little ones will explore their own creativity through a hands-on art activity.

829 Riverside Avenue, Jacksonville, FL 32204
main 904.356.6857 | *fax* 904.353.4101 | cummermuseum.org

CUMMER MUSEUM
ART | GARDENS | EDUCATION

Make & Take: Everyday Stories in Clay
Inspired by *Beyond the Frame*
Thursday, March 25, 2027 | 5 to 7 p.m.
Members $35, Future Members $45 | Ages 14+ | Materials Included
Ticket Includes Museum Admission
Inspired by the work of Seward Johnson and the stories found in everyday life, create a ceramic mug that reflects a meaningful memory, place, or moment. Using hand-building techniques, you'll shape and decorate a functional mug while exploring how ordinary experiences can become extraordinary through art. No experience is necessary, and all materials are included. Finished mugs will be kiln-fired and available for pickup at a later date.

About the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens
The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens, founded in 1958 by Ninah Cummer, is one of Northeast Florida's most enduring and significant cultural institutions. For more than six decades, it has provided community access to four millennia of art celebrating the creativity of the human spirit, alongside 2.5 acres of historically significant riverfront gardens. Visitors to the museum enjoy access to world-class exhibitions, learning opportunities, and outdoor experiences designed to inspire discovery and well-being. Recently voted the Best in Jacksonville in 14 categories including best museum, best attraction, best summer camp, best gift shop, and best place to take visitors, the Cummer Museum is a trusted, vibrant cornerstone of Jacksonville's cultural and civic life.

Contact: ruckus
904.874.2700
media@createaruckus.com