



CHARLES ALLIS
ART MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
2011

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Erica Passey, 414/278-8295
www.charlesallis.org

100th Anniversary of the Charles Allis Mansion!

2011 Marks the Centennial Celebration of one of Milwaukee's Treasured Historic Landmarks

Milwaukee, WI – The Charles Allis Art Museum, 1801 N. Prospect Ave., Milwaukee Celebrates its 100th Anniversary in 2011. The Museum, a historic and cultural landmark on the city's East Side will celebrate with *Allis in Wonderland*, a year-long celebration of exhibitions featuring unseen works from the Charles Allis Art Collection, presentations, special events and more!

The feature exhibition for the year entitled *The Charles Allis: 100 Years* will be on display **February 4 – November 13, 2011**. Six Wisconsin artists were invited to create an installation in a historic room of the Charles Allis which interprets the collection, the building or the history of the Museum. The installations raise provocative questions about changes in meaning, place and reception of the space and collection over the last century. Artists Reggie Baylor, Alexander Boyes, Carol Emmons, Gary Gresl, Martha Glowacki and Ashley Morgan will participate in a panel discussion at the opening reception on Friday, February 4, 2011.

Rotating exhibits throughout the year will highlight special aspects of the Charles Allis Art Museum permanent collection including rare and unseen works. *EXOTICA from the Charles Allis Art Collection* on view **July 13 – September 11, 2010** will feature Nippon, Noritake and Fukagawa porcelain. *Michelangelo of the Menagerie: Barye Bronzes from the Charles Allis Art Collection* is slated for **September 28, 2011 – January 16, 2012** and will delve into the work of Antoine Louis Barye (1796-1875), acclaimed as the finest sculptor of the French Animaliers school.

The Charles Allis Centennial celebration will also include talks by two noted Milwaukee authors and historians, focusing on the Allis Mansion, the Allis family and the history of the vibrant Brady Street neighborhood. On March 1 **Frank Alioto** presents *A Historic Tale of Two Neighborhoods: Brady Street and the Eastside*. On April 27 **John Gurda** will examine the Allis family in his presentation entitled:

Made in Milwaukee: The Allis Family and the Rise of Manufacturing. Both presentations are from 7-8:30 p.m. The cost is \$15 per lecture (members) and \$20 per lecture (non-members). A special meet and greet cocktail hour is planned for an additional \$10/person. (Space is limited)

To find out more about special events at the Charles Allis Art Museum including *Movie Time, Allis After Hours* and special concerts including a Schubertiade in January and a Spanish Flamenco night this February, visit www.charlesallis.org or call (414) 278-8295.

About the Charles Allis Mansion

On the National Registry of Historic Places, the lavish 1911 Tudor-style mansion was originally the home of Charles Allis, first president of Allis-Chalmers Corporation and his wife Sarah. The Charles Allis Mansion was designed by prominent Milwaukee architect Alexander Eschweiler. Construction on the home began in 1909 and was completed in 1911. Special attention was paid to the exterior walls which are constructed of thick concrete to keep the Allis' substantial art collection safe from the ever-present threat of fire. It was one of the first private residences in Milwaukee to have electricity. Interior materials included fine Italian marble, used for the hand-carved fireplaces found in almost every room as well as the grand staircase and the Marble Hall, *Lincrusta Walton*, an embossed wallpaper, and Cirassian walnut paneling found in the French Parlor and Library. The Charles Allis Art Museum is a treasure, preserved intact in its original form with some items in the collection being the only known examples of their kind in existence.

About Charles and Sarah Allis

Charles Allis and Sarah Ball were married in 1877. They were active in the Milwaukee community throughout their lives, Charles was one of the founding members of the Milwaukee Arts Society, a trustee at the Layton Art Gallery, and served on the boards of many other arts organizations. The couple amassed an extensive art collection including Japanese porcelain, ancient glass, Renaissance bronzes, and 19th century French and American paintings. Their intention was to bequeath their mansion, built for the purpose of preserving and showcasing their collection, and art to the public in order to delight, inspire and educate.

General Information

Museum Hours: Wednesday - Sunday, 1-5 p.m. General Admission: \$5/adult, \$3/student & senior (62+), Free for museum members, children 12 & under, and active military. Group tours available. More information at (414) 278-8295 or www.charlesallis.org