

Palmer ART

Museum of

Newsletter & Calendar of Events

Summer 2001

WIT & WINE

A New Look at Ancient Iranian Ceramics from the Arthur M. Sackler Foundation

Spouted vessel in the form of a bull, 10th–8th century B.C.E., northern Iran, ceramic with red paint, 11 1/8 x 14 1/4 x 6 inches, by an unknown potter. Collection of the Arthur M. Sackler Foundation.



Wit and Wine: A New Look at Ancient Iranian Ceramics from the Arthur M. Sackler Foundation is the first major exhibition of ancient Iranian ceramics in over a decade. Curated by Trudy S. Kawami, director of research for the Arthur M. Sackler Foundation, the exhibition presents forty-five spectacular pieces that illustrate the 5,000-year ceramic tradition that flourished in ancient Iran until 100 B.C.E.



Globular jug, first millennium B.C.E., northern and northwestern Iran, 6 1/8 x 6 3/8 inches, by an unknown potter. Collection of the Arthur M. Sackler Foundation.

Special Exhibitions Gallery II June 12–August 12, 2001

THE BEAUTIFUL, TECHNICALLY SOPHISTICATED, AND OFTEN-AMUSING CERAMICS of ancient Iran mark a rich yet little known tradition that equals the pre-Columbian, Chinese, and Greek achievements, establishing ancient Iranian pottery as the fourth great ceramic tradition of the ancient world.

The jugs, jars, beakers, and spouted and shaped vessels in the

exhibition were used for holding, pouring, and drinking liquids, especially wine. *Wit and Wine* explores how ancient Iranian potters made and decorated these vessels with a high level of craftsmanship and design and often with a unique sense of humor. Many pieces are shaped like animals or painted with animal motifs, including elegant deer, powerful rams, and cranky goats. Other pieces had specific functions as cos-

metic containers, some vessels were made to look like metal, and others are purely sculptural forms.

Wit and Wine was organized by the Arthur M. Sackler Foundation, New York. Arthur M. Sackler, M.D. (1913–1987), a research psychiatrist, medical publisher, and connoisseur and collector of art, established the Arthur M. Sackler Foundation in 1965 to make his

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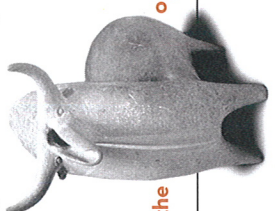
PENNSYLVANIA



Palmer Museum of Art

College of Arts and Architecture

The Friends will also celebrate the opening of the exhibition *Wit and Wine*



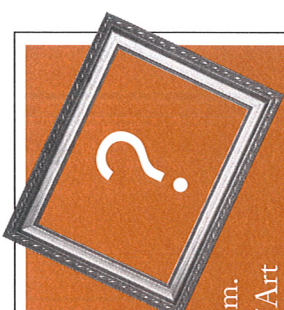
A Friends-only Purchase Party and annual meeting

WIT & WINE

Which & Why

Tuesday, June 12, 2001, at 5:30 p.m.

Friends of the Palmer Museum of Art



A children's guide to this exhibition is available at the security desk in the museum lobby.

Institute of Arts. ❖

Since 1973 the Arthur M. Sackler Foundation has organized numerous exhibitions of the Foundation's collection and the Arthur M. Sackler Collections that have traveled extensively throughout the United States and abroad. After closing at the Palmer Museum of Art on August 12, 2001, *Wit and Wine* will travel to the Brooklyn Museum of Art and The Detroit Institute of Arts.

To form the core of the collection of the Arthur M. Sackler Foundation, which today consists of more than 700 works of art.

Thank You! Generous local support helped launch a new Palmer Museum of Art film series (see special donors section)



Basquiat, Miramax 1996

One of the films in the Palmer Museum's new film series "Come as You Are," which also featured *American Movie* and *Radiohead: Meeting People Is Easy*.

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Vessel with two feet, early first millennium B.C.E., northern Iran, ceramic, 19 x 7 3/4 inches, by an unknown potter. Collection of the Arthur M. Sackler Foundation.

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Museum Hours:
10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday
Noon to 4:00 p.m. Sunday
Closed Mondays

Special Holiday Hours:
Closed Wednesday, July 4, 2001.

www.psu.edu/dept/palmermuseum

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