



Cerises au Bouquets
(Cherries with a Bouquet)

Marc Chagall

Oil on canvas, 1964

Gift of Mary Musser Gilmore in memory of her mother and father,
Sarah Walker Musser and Richard Drew Musser

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Marc Chagall (1887-1985)

Best known for his Fauvism and Cubism paintings, Marc Chagall was a Belarusian-born Jewish artist who first studied art in Saint Petersburg, Russia. In 1910, he traveled to Paris to continue his studies and later became a French citizen. During World War II, Chagall fled to the United States where he lived until 1948.

In his later years, Chagall created a series of large projects for civic building and churches. For St. Stephan's church in Germany, he created a set of nine glowing blue stained glass windows depicting stories from the New Testament. These windows were intended to be part of an effort to rebuild relationships between the Jewish and German people. Chagall's unique artistic career included paintings, book illustrations, stained glass windows, stage sets, ceramics and tapestries. Each work is full of life with haunting and poetic beauty.

Collection Connection

Mary Musser Gilmore, niece of Laura Musser and one of Laura's two primary heirs, donated 6 works by Marc Chagall. In 1992, one painting and five works on paper by Chagall were among 27 European works donated from the Mary Musser Gilmore Estate. In 2010, an additional 12 works were added to the Muscatine Art Center's permanent collection after the estate closing of Gilmore's daughter, Sarah King Wilmer. All 39 pieces were part of Mary Musser Gilmore's original collection, gifted in honor of her parents. Gilmore felt that Laura Musser had "taught her how to appreciate art." Other artists represented in the collection include Renoir, Toulouse-Lautrec, Van Gogh, Picasso, Matisse, Valtat, Modigliani, Braque and others.

Marc Chagall, *L'Horloge de Parquet (The Clock)*

Oil on canvas, circa 1950

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Sarah Walker Musser and Richard Drew Musser