

here takes that view a step beyond: It's an allegory about artifice, a still life that blends forms from nature with others drawn from art history.

NY / Corning Corning Museum of Glass

Fragile Legacy: The Marine Invertebrate Models of Leopold and Rudolf Blaschka

May 14 - Jan. 8, 2017 cmog.org

Glass artist Leopold Blaschka of Bohemia became fascinated with marine life during a voyage to America in 1853. By the turn

of the last century, the hyperrealistic models of sea creatures he and his son produced were used all over the world as museum specimens and objects of study. Beyond their delicate. translucent beauty and superb craftsmanship, the models continue to serve science: Cornell University researchers are using them to compare the teeming life of 19th-century oceans with the endangered waters of today. Also on super-keen view: "Revealing the Invisible: The History of Glass and the Microscope" (Apr. 23 - Mar. 19, 2017).

PA/Doylestown James A. Michener Art Museum Katharine Steele Renninger: Craft, Commitment, Community

to Jun. 12 michenermuseum.org Objects made by hand for use in a vanishing way of life were Katharine Steele Renninger's subject matter of choice. These 70 paintings, drawings, and pastels lovingly chronicle the craft tools and products of her Bucks County, Pennsylvania, neighbors in the mid-20th century.

PA / Pittsburgh Pittsburgh Center for the Arts; Society for Contemporary Craft Fiberart International 2016 May 6 - Aug. 21 fiberartinternational.org The 22nd iteration of this triennial show, juried this time by Chunghie Lee, Arturo Alonzo Sandoval, and Tali Weinberg, puts stellar work on view at two locations.

TN / Memphis Metal Museum Inches from the Earth to Jul. 10 metalmuseum.org In intimate works of sculpture and jewelry, 17 metal artists explore the endless complexities, colors, and shapes of plants and insects.

WI / Racine Racine Art Museum Cut, Fold, and Form: Featuring Kiff Slemmons and Julie VonDerVellen to May 1

ramart.org Paper gets its propers in Kiff Slemmons' jewelry and Julie VonDerVellen's sculptural clocks and watches, and in books, adornments, and sculptures from RAM's own collection by artists such as Kay Sekimachi and Walter Hamady.