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BOWERS MUSEUM

A Peek inside the Vault at Bowers Museum: First Rotation Debuts New Acquisitions

Bowl with Mice Motif, 100-600 CE, Nazca culture, South Coast region, Peru. Gift of the Savery Family, 2025.16.1 © Bowers Museum.

Santa Ana, CA – August 6, 2026 – A crocodile-shaped boat cast by Dogon blacksmiths in Mali. A hand-carved bull mask once worn in a Veracruz Carnaval parade. A 2,000-year-old Nazca bowl swarming with mice. A glazed roof tile from Qing dynasty China, showing a Daoist immortal riding a carp back from the deep. These are just a few of the objects making their public debut this month, as Bowers Museum unveils the first rotation of *First Look: New Acquisitions at Bowers Museum*.

Launched in 2025, *First Look* is a jewel-box exhibition designed to give visitors direct access to the Museum's ever-growing permanent collection—works making their gallery debut. The exhibition rotates annually, and this new installment, opening August 22, 2026, marks its first refresh since debuting last year. Spanning Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Oceania, the newly featured objects reflect the geographic and cultural breadth of Bowers' collecting over the past decade.

Visitors curious about what lies beyond the gallery walls can also browse the Bowers Digital Collection at an interactive kiosk on-site and online at collections.bowers.org/collections, offering a window into thousands of additional objects in the Museum's holdings. Through this

exhibition, Bowers Museum reaffirms its commitment to enrich lives through the celebration of global culture and the arts.

Press is invited to visit the exhibition free of charge at any time during open hours and are also encouraged to explore Bowers Museum's current featured exhibition *The American Quilt: Cloth and Commence*, which closes August 30.

If you're interested in covering either exhibition, we'd love to hear from you.

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First Look: New Acquisitions at Bowers Museum
On view beginning August 22, 2026, and rotated annually
Bowers Museum | Santa Ana, California
Admission included with General Admission
#firstlookatbowers

Learn more: www.bowers.org/firstlook

About Bowers Museum
Located in the heart of Orange County, Bowers Museum has been enriching lives through the world's finest arts and cultures for nearly 90 years. Voted Best Museum in Orange County for 32 consecutive years, Bowers is a cultural destination and educational hub committed to bringing global treasures to Southern California.

Roof Tile of Qin Gao Riding a Carp, late Qing dynasty (19th to 20th century), China. Gift of PiLarr and Frank Marmolejo from the William M. Harcum Estate in Memory of William Harcum, 2025.14.30. © Bowers Museum.