Harvard Art Museums
harvardartmuseums.org

“Artist Dorothea Rockburne in Conversation.” The abstract painter and Black Mountain College alumna discusses her abiding fascination with mathematics and astronomy, and its effect on her work, as well as the notion of “drawing as a form of intellectual inquiry.” She is joined by Abrams curator of drawings Joachim Homann and Bowdoin College mathematics professor Jennifer Taback. (March 11)

**CURIOSITIES:**
Danish Realism, and the Reality of the Flesh

**Two new exhibits** at the Bruce Museum, in Greenwich, Connecticut, explore Danish paintings and scientific imaging that help unveil the truth of what we can see.

At the core of “On the Edge of the World: Masterworks by Laurits Andersen Ring from SMK—the National Gallery of Denmark” (through May 24), is a heartfelt grappling with modernity. In *Has It Stopped Raining?* (1922), at right, an able-bodied but aged man warily surveys the grayness of the scene outside his door. *At the French Windows. The Artist’s Wife,* painted in 1897, not long after Ring married its subject, Sigrid Kähler, the young woman in white is surrounded by a blissful, verdant scene. And yet, as chief curator and senior researcher Peter Nørgaard Larsen points out on SMK’s website, the central tree is gnarled, out of place: “I think of [Ring’s] art,” he adds, “as liminal images, pictures that are poised on a threshold.” The artist worked at a time of major cultural change, during a transition from rural to industrial life, and his symbolic yet realist paintings also feature Danish landscapes of crisp coastlines and enchanting Nordic light, along with stirring images of men and women at work in fields and villages.

Just as penetrating, although in service to science, is “Under the Skin” (through July 19). The dozen anatomical images, like the thermal imaging of pelicans and their pouches and the cleaned, stained roosterfish specimen, at left, reveal that “nature is full of beauty, at scales great and small,” notes museum curator of science Daniel Ksepka. “While each represents a research breakthrough, these striking, and, in many cases, prize-winning images, can be considered art in their own right.”

Take the patterned microscopic structures of a 10-ton dinosaur’s bones, or the stunningly intricate CT scan of a hog-nosed snake in the midst of digesting its prey. These designs of pure nature—and those of Ring’s sensitive, evocative depictions—reveal the true fragility of universal life forms. ～N.P.B.

Johnson-Kulukundis Family Gallery, Byerly Hall
radcliffe.harvard.edu

Brown II offers works by Tomashi Jackson, a 2019 Whitney Biennial participating artist, painter, and printmaker who incorporates “archival research in the histories of law, urbanism, and social justice.” (April 14-June 27)

Harvard Ceramics Program
ofa.fas.harvard.edu/ceramics

**What Was I Thinking? New Works by Shawn Panepinto** offers expressive watercolors by the artist, a former longtime director of operations at the ceramics program. (April 18-June 5)

M A S S M o C A
massmoca.org

The North Adams museum’s contemporary galleries offer a packed spring lineup, including *Kissing Through a Curtain,* which examines cross-cultural communication through works by Nasser Alzayani, Osman Khan, and Clarissa Tossin, among others. (Opens March 21) Also on tap is the second annual *High Mud Comedy Festival.* This year expect performances by actor-comedian John Early and other established and emerging talents, along with workshops and ad hoc opportunities for laugh-athons. (April 17-18)

Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art
thewadsworth.org

**Savor: A Revolution in Food Culture** looks at radical changes in French and European culinary culture and society between 1650 and 1789 using early cookbooks, gardening techniques, and even tableware. Includes lively programs, like the panel discussion on dining etiquette and cross-cultural customs on March 25. (Through May 25)

Museum of Fine Arts
mfa.org

Curated by teenagers (through a new museum partnership with local organizations), *Black Histories, Black Futures* explores works by twentieth-century artists of color, including Archibald Motley, James Van Der Zee, and Dawoud Bey. (Through June 20)

Events listings are also found at www.harvardmagazine.com/harvard2-events.