



Exhibitions at
PAAM

From the Pier

Selections from the Collection

CURATED BY CHRISTINE MCCARTHY
ON VIEW SEPTEMBER 4–NOVEMBER 1, 2026
IN THE HOFMANN GALLERY

The view changes. The place endures.

For generations, Provincetown's piers and wharves have been points of departure and return, places of labor and exchange, and thresholds between land and sea. The working waterfront once defined the rhythms of daily life, as fishing boats came and went with the tides and the harbor connected Provincetown to the wider world.

From the water, the town assumes a different character. The familiar shoreline becomes a composition of boats, buildings, docks, and sky; the contours of the town shift with distance, light, and tide. This perspective has long attracted artists, who have looked toward Provincetown from the harbor and, in doing so, recorded not only a landscape but a particular moment in its history.

The works gathered here span different periods and offer views of piers, wharves, the harbor, and the town beyond. Some depict places that have disappeared; others show a waterfront that has been transformed. Together, they evoke Provincetown as both a physical place and an accumulation of memories—of work, arrival, departure, community, and change.

Art has the capacity to preserve what time cannot. A painting or photograph can hold the architecture of a vanished wharf, the silhouette of a fishing boat, or the particular relationship between town and water at a moment that no longer exists. Seen together, these works become a record of a changing Provincetown and of the many ways artists have understood and experienced this place.

From the Pier invites us to look across the harbor and through time—to consider the landscape before us, the landscapes that came before it, and what continues to endure.

ARTWORK LIST

Gerrit Beneker (1882-1934)

Under a Wharf, 1914
Oil on board
Gift of the artist, 1915

A Gray Day, Provincetown (Higgins Lumber Wharf), 1928
Oil on canvas
Gift of the Helen and Napi Van Dereck Estate, 2025

Cannery Wharf, 1918
Oil on canvas
Gift of the Helen and Napi Van Dereck Estate, 2025

Provincetown Wharf, 1925
Oil on panel
Gift of the Helen and Napi Van Dereck Estate, 2025

The Beachcomber's Wharf, 1917
Oil on canvas
Gift of the Helen and Napi Van Dereck Estate, 2025

Higgin's Lumber Wharf, 1929
Oil on panel
Gift of the Helen and Napi Van Dereck Estate, 2025

Harry Brown

Untitled (Provincetown Scene), 1929
Watercolor on paper
Gift of Shelby Shackelford, 1984

Harold Haven Brown (1869-1932)

Untitled (View from Fisherman's Wharf), n.d.
Oil on canvas
Gift of the Helen and Napi Van Dereck Estate, 2025

F.B. Brown

Untitled (Provincetown Shore and Library), n.d.
Paint on panel
Gift of the Helen and Napi Van Dereck Estate, 2025

Arthur Morris Cohen (1928-2012)

Cape Cod Wharf, c. 1968
Oil on canvas
Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Henry Fogelman, 1991

Edwin Walter Dickinson (1891-1978)

Provincetown Harbor, Railroad Wharf in the Rain, 1928
Oil on canvas
Gift of the Daniel W. Dietrich II Trust in honor of Helen Dickinson Baldwin

Arthur Diehl (1870-1929)

Shore View of Provincetown, n.d.
Oil on board
Gift of the Helen and Napi Van Dereck Estate, 2025

Rob Dutoit

Untitled (Provincetown Harbor), c. 2008
Oil on canvas
Gift of Paul and Blair Resika, 2024

Sam Feinstein (1915-2003)

Untitled (Abstract Harbor View) (Cat. 168), n.d.
Watercolor and ink on paper
Gift from the estate of Ruth Hiebert, 2004

Maurice Freedman (1904-1985)

Provincetown Pier Gear, 1948
Oil on canvas
Gift of Philip F. May and Anne L. May, 2015

Lena Gurr (1897-1992)

Provincetown Wharf, n.d.
Oil on board
Gift of the artist, 1975

Untitled (Harbor Scene), n.d.

Oil on board
Gift of Helen and Napi Van Dereck, 2007

Charles Hawthorne (1872-1930)

Figures on Pier, 1915
Watercolor on paper
Gift of Marguerite Wilson

Lester Johnson (1919-2010)

Black and White Pier, c. 1961
Watercolor on paper
Gift of Josephine Johnson, 2016

Pier, c. 1952
Watercolor on paper
Gift of Josephine Johnson, 2016

Red Pier, c. 1955
Watercolor on paper
Gift of Josephine Johnson, 2016

Provincetown Harbor, c. 1960
Watercolor on paper
Gift of Josephine Johnson, 2016

Stella Christine Johnson (Edel) (1893-1970)

Lumber Wharf, c. 1917
Color woodblock print
Gift of the Helen and Napi Van Dereck Estate, 2025

Charles Keller (1914-2006)

Provincetown Wharf, 1938
Gouache on paper
Gift of the Murphy-Godinez Collection, in memory of Glenn Stuart Berman, 2021

Blanche Lazzell (1878-1956)

Untitled Wharf Scene, 1942
Gouache on paper
Gift of the Helen and Napi Van Dereck Estate, 2025

Philip Malicoat (1908-1981)

Provincetown Bay, 1933
Oil on canvas
Gift of Robert C. Duffy, 2013

Harbor View, 1938
Oil on canvas
Gift of the Barbara C. Murchison Living Trust, 2016. Restoration funded by Seanad Dunigan Chang, 2017, Granddaughter of the artist

Bruce McKain (1900-1990)

Untitled (Macara's Wharf), n.d.
Oil on canvas
Gift from the June L. McFarlin Bequest, 1990

Provincetown, n.d.
Oil on canvas
Gift of Dr. & Mrs. Henry Fogelman, 1991

Henrietta Dunn Mears (1877-1970)

Untitled (Sailboat at Provincetown Shore), n.d.
Oil on panel
Gift of the Helen and Napi Van Dereck Estate, 2025

Frank Milby (1933-2023)

Untitled (Provincetown Seen from Harbor), n.d.
Oil on canvas
Gift of the Helen and Napi Van Dereck Estate, 2025

Ross Moffett (1888-1971)

Sketch for a Paiting - Sklaroff Wharf, n.d.
Oil on paper
Gift of the Helen and Napi Van Dereck Estate, 2025

Provincetown Wharfs, n.d.
Oil on paper
Gift of the Helen and Napi Van Dereck Estate, 2025

Paul Resika (b. 1928)

The Long Pier, 1984
Oil on canvas
Gift of the artist, 1985

Red Sun, 1992
Oil on canvas
Gift of Paul and Blair Resika, 2013

Brian Bowen Smith

Andrew on Crane, Provincetown Harbor, n.d.
Photograph
Gift of Robert Duffy, 2022

Agnes Weinrich (1873-1946)

Untitled (Wharf), c. 1925
Pastel on paper
Gift of the Helen and Napi Van Dereck Estate, 2025

George Yater (1910-1993)

Drifting Ice and Sklaroff's Wharf, n.d.
Watercolor on paper
Gift of the Helen and Napi Van Dereck Estate, 2025