

Artist Resources – Andrew Wyeth (American, 1917-2009)

[Andrew Wyeth Official Website](#)

[The Wyeth Center at Farnsworth Art Museum](#)

[Wyeth at Brandywine Museum of Art](#)

[Wyeth at MoMA](#)

Watch an Emmy Award-winning [interview](#) with Wyeth conducted by Charles Osgood in 1997, on the occasion of the artist’s 80th birthday.

Watch a [video](#) of Wyeth’s last interview filmed in his studio in Port Clyde, Maine, in 2008.

Read Wyeth’s [obituary](#) in the New York Times upon his death in 2009 and [listen](#) to a story on Wyeth’s life that aired shortly thereafter on NPR.

[Andrew Wyeth: Looking Out, Looking In](#) was on display at the National Gallery of Art in 2014.



Portrait of Andrew Wyeth by Henriette Wyeth, 1963

The [Brandywine River Museum of Art](#) and [Seattle Art Museum](#) organized *Andrew Wyeth: In Retrospect* in 2017 for the 100th anniversary of the artist’s birth.

The Wyeths: Three Generations | Works from the Bank of America Collection included works by N.C. Wyeth, Andrew Wyeth, Henriette Wyeth, and Jamie Wyeth. The exhibition was on display in 2022 at the [Asheville Art Museum](#) and the [Portland Art Museum](#).

The Colby Museum of Art installed [Andrew Wyeth: Life and Death](#) in 2022. The exhibition featured recently rediscovered drawings in which the artist imagines his own funeral.

In 2022, the Wyeth Foundation for American Art turned over its collection of 7,000 pieces to the Brandywine River Museum of Art in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania and the Farnsworth Art Museum in Rockland, Maine – both places that Wyeth lived and worked. Read articles about this transition in [Smithsonian Magazine](#) (“Thousands of Andrew Wyeth Paintings Have Never Been Seen by the Public – Until Now”) and the [New York Times](#) (“All the Andrew Wyeth No One Has Seen.”)



Wyeth, 1983
Photograph: Getty Images



Andrew Wyeth (American, 1917-2009)

The Wake, 1964

Tempera on panel

Private Collection; L2022:139.14

Andrew Wyeth's Realist paintings are inspired by everyday life in rural, 20th century America. The artist maintained studios in both Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania and Cushing, Maine, where he painted his friends, neighbors, and the surrounding landscape. In 1964, Wyeth and his son Jamie spotted an empty boat churning in the Maine waters. They began frantically searching for its occupant, who was not found. Wyeth painted **The Wake** in the aftermath of this event. With the artist's interest in disappearance and memory, the empty vessel both commemorates the loss of the boatman and documents Wyeth's experience with this tragedy. The artist later reflected that after he returned home, he listened to the "heavy engines as they dragged the river for the body. Pulled up high on the shore was the now quiet boat with a few lobsters lying dead on the plank floor."

On view April 5 – July 9, 2023

Andrew Wyeth (American, 1917-2009)

Day Dream, 1980

Tempera on panel

Private Collection; L2022:123.1

American Realist painter Andrew Wyeth was raised and educated in Pennsylvania by his father, illustrator N.C. Wyeth. The artist is known for his tempera paintings that engage Regionalist themes of rural and small-town life in 20th century America. Throughout his career, Wyeth built strong relationships with his neighbors; their farms, lives, and families became the subjects of his work. In the 1970s, Wyeth became fascinated with Helga Testorf, a German nurse who was the primary caregiver to the artist's neighbor Karl Kuerner. **Day Dream** is one of 247 studies of Testorf completed between 1971 and 1985 in secret. This intimate painting features Wyeth's characteristic attention to detail and texture while also revealing the emotional connection between the artist and his muse. Wyeth later said: "I was entranced the instant I saw her... Amazingly blond, fit, compassionate. I was totally fascinated by her."

On view January 18 – April 23, 2023

