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PRESS RELEASE

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## Lloyd Library and Museum Exhibits Works of J. Augustus Knapp, 1853-1938, Local Painter and Illustrator



The Lloyd Library and Museum announces its Spring Exhibition, *Plates of Fungi: Paintings by J. Augustus Knapp Commissioned by Curtis Gates Lloyd*, showing March 1 through June 30, 2005. *Plates of Fungi* demonstrates an interesting combination of art in service to both science and literature. It also presents for the first time select works of J. Augustus Knapp, a contemporary of Frank Duvenek and Henry Farney who studied at the McMicken School of Design in Cincinnati.

Knapp and the Lloyd brothers, John Uri, Nelson Ashley, and Curtis Gates (founders of the Lloyd Library and Museum), were friends who collaborated on many projects. Knapp illustrated several of John Uri Lloyd's novels and produced 40 exquisite and scientifically accurate watercolors of mushrooms for Curtis Gates Lloyd, 12 of which will be on display. The exhibit also includes an original illustration for John Uri Lloyd's novel *Etidorpha*, as well as selected mycological writings by Curtis Gates Lloyd and biographical information on the Lloyds and Knapp.

The opening reception, including lectures from three local experts, will be Saturday, March 5 from 4-7 pm at the Library. Nicholas P. Money, Ph.D., Department of Botany, Miami University will speak on *Curtis Gates Lloyd: Cincinnati's Eccentric Mycologist*. Ken Henson, MFA, Professor of Drawing and Painting, Art Academy of Cincinnati will present *Knapp and the Significance of Mushrooms in John Uri Lloyd's Etidorpha*. And, Matt Madison of Madisons Produce will talk about *Mushrooms from Forest to Feast*.

Since its successful collaboration with local artists Susan Brumm and Diane Stemper to display the artists book exhibit *Mining the Lloyd* in 2003-04, the Lloyd Library has been working to position itself as a new venue for exhibits of interest to the arts community as well as the general public. For more information about the **Lloyd Library and Museum**, see below.

The [Lloyd Library and Museum](http://www.lloydlibrary.com), located at 917 Plum Street, downtown Cincinnati, is a local and regional treasure. The library was developed in the nineteenth century by the Lloyd Brothers—John Uri, Curtis Gates, and Nelson Ashley. Incorporated in 1898, its original purpose was to provide a reference and research facility for Lloyd Brothers Pharmacists, Inc., one of the leading pharmaceutical companies of the period. A trust was established in 1919 to guarantee that the library would continue to fulfill its mission "to collect and maintain a library on botanical, medical, pharmaceutical, and scientific books and

periodicals and works of allied sciences" into the future. The library's operations are still supported by that trust and today, the Lloyd Library and Museum is recognized worldwide by the scientific community as a vital research center. Housing hundreds of thousands of volumes on the subjects of pharmacy, botany, horticulture, herbal and alternative medicines, natural products, homeopathy, and eclectic medicine, the Lloyd maintains a vast collection of scientific texts—from the most current works to those that date back hundreds of years. Included in this rare book collection is an original copy of the ten-volume *Flora Greca* (1840) by John Sibthorp, an original copy of Elizabeth Blackwell's *A Curious Herbal* (1739), *Mesue Vulgare* (a 1493 "common book" of remedies), and an array of rare European texts from the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The Lloyd also houses archival collections, including the papers of John Uri Lloyd, Curtis Gates Lloyd, Lloyd Brothers Pharmacists, Inc., and the Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati. Free parking is available behind the library building. For more information about the Lloyd Library and Museum, please visit our website at [www.lloydlibrary.org](http://www.lloydlibrary.org).