

PRESS RELEASE**Contact:**

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Lloyd's New Online Exhibit

The Lloyd Library and Museum is pleased to announce its new online exhibit, a digital version of select items displayed in Lloyd's spring 2005 Exhibition, *Plates of Fungi: Paintings by J. Augustus Knapp Commissioned by Curtis Gates Lloyd*. The exhibit is an interesting example of art in service to science. It also presents for the first time works of J. Augustus Knapp (1853-1938), a contemporary of artists Frank Duvenek and Henry Farney who studied at the McMicken School of Design in Cincinnati.

In the archives of the Lloyd Library and Museum are the papers of Curtis Gates Lloyd, youngest of the Lloyd Brothers (founders of the Lloyd Library and Museum). There among the correspondence, financial records, writings, and photographs is a large portfolio containing watercolors of mushrooms. A typewritten sheet of paper inside reads: "Fungi: 40 Plates Hand-Painted by John Augustus Knapp Commissioned by Curtis Gates Lloyd." With that exception, the archives remain silent about these exquisite, and scientifically accurate, works of art.

The exhibit includes 12 of the 40 Knapp paintings and brief biographical information on the Curtis Gates Lloyd and Knapp. The 12 paintings were selected by Nicholas Money, Professor of Botany at Miami University, who also wrote the accompanying labels. Maggie Heran, Director of the Lloyd, contributed the biographies of Knapp and Lloyd. The online exhibit was a collaboration between Professor Money and Heather Newkirk, Lloyd staff member. It can be found on Lloyd's website (www.lloydlibrary.org) under Exhibits and Events.

Since its successful collaboration with local artists Susan Brumm and Diane Stemper to display the artists book exhibit *Mining the Lloyd* (now also online at Lloyd's website) 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.

The Lloyd Library and Museum, 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.

Lloyd Library and Museum

917 Plum Street

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www.lloydlibrary.org

Open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.;

third Saturday of the month, September through May, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.