

AMON  
CARTER  
MUSEUM OF  
AMERICAN  
ART

# Beautiful Birds

## Art Discovery Guide

family





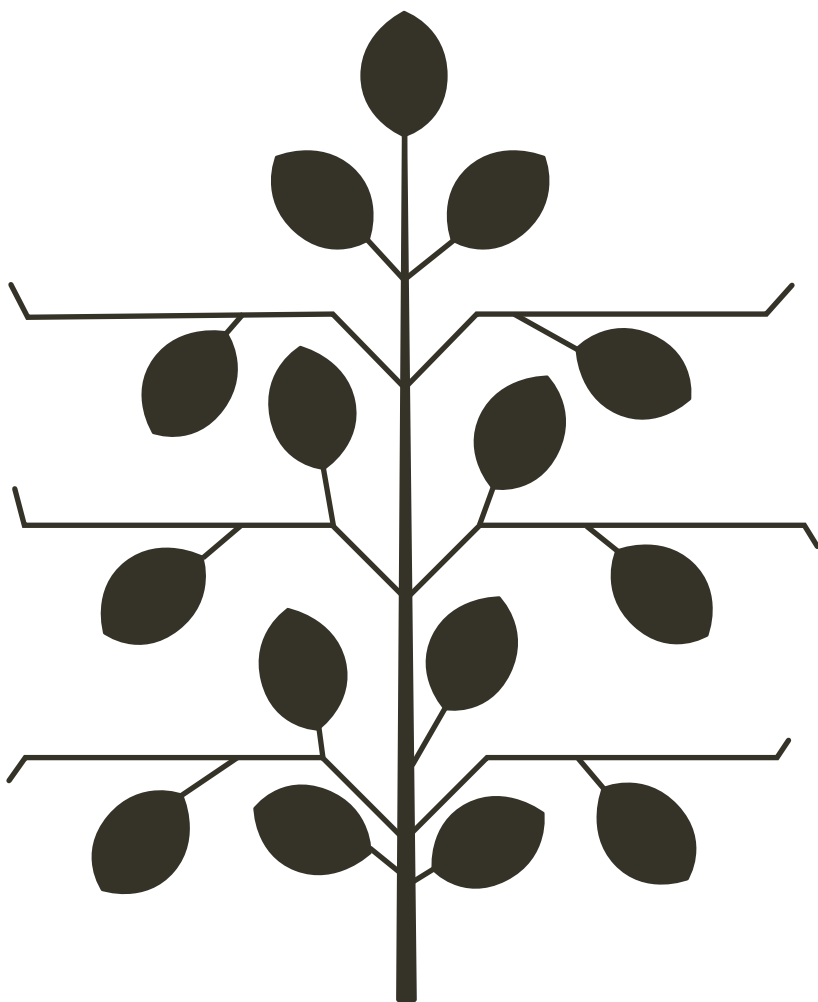
It's bird-watching season here at the Carter, and we want to be sure you spot all of the different feathered friends we have on view. From photographs of birds in their natural habitats to creative and scientific renderings of them, you can see how birds have inspired artists over the centuries. Take this guide with you as you soar through the galleries.



There are other birds perched throughout the museum.  
Swoop into the America as Landscape gallery on the second floor,  
and use your hawk eye to track down fowl.

**List the different birds you see below on the branches:**

*(Hint: Not sure what kind of bird it is? Sometimes the title can help you figure it out!)*



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FAVORITE? TAKE A PIC AND  
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**Fly on up to the second floor to peep at the exhibition *Eliot Porter's Birds*.**

This photographer was known to go to great lengths (like waiting and watching for hours while hiding in nature) to make the most perfect, detailed images of birds in their natural habitat. He was able to capture many different species in the wild.

**Eliot Porter**  
(1901–1990)  
*Winter Wren,*  
*Great Spruce*  
*Head Island, Maine,*  
*July 18, 1969*  
Dye imbibition print  
Bequest of the artist

## let's pretend . . .

you're bird watching with a big camera—think a camera like the one in this exhibition (not your smart phone).

What birds would you take pictures of?

Where would you set up your equipment?

How would you do it without scaring off the bird?

**Dion traveled all over Texas documenting and collecting things he saw along the way.**

Inspired by artists and artworks from the past—like Martin Johnson Heade’s *Two Hummingbirds Above a White Orchid* (ca. 1875–90) and the Texas environment around him, like the seagull he painted on the front of a postcard—you better believe birds found their way into Dion’s work.

In the box, draw a bird you’ve seen at your house or at a favorite vacation spot. Is it big or small? What colors are its feathers? Do you know the type of bird it is?



More on  
the back!



**Mark Dion**  
(b.1961)  
*Sketch of Seagull*  
2018  
Watercolor on paper

## migrating artwork!

**Stuart Gentling**  
(1942-2006)  
**Scott Gentling**  
(1942-2011)  
*Barn Swallow (detail)*  
Feb. 1984  
Graphite, opaque  
and transparent  
watercolor



Spot more winged  
beauties in the exhibition  
*Tracing the Past: Scott and  
Stuart Gentling's Birds of  
Texas* on the Mezzanine  
before they fly away.  
On view through  
March 8, 2020.

