



ACCESSION

The enchanting beauty
of the art museum.

The secret stories only
a personal guide knows.

All in the palm of your hand.

Welcome to Accession.



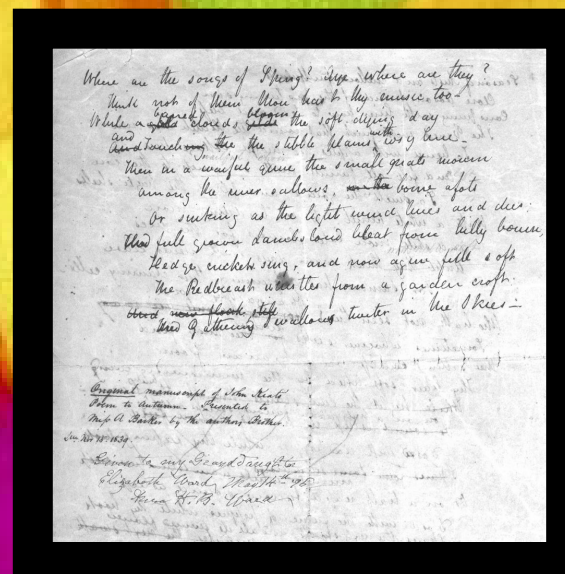
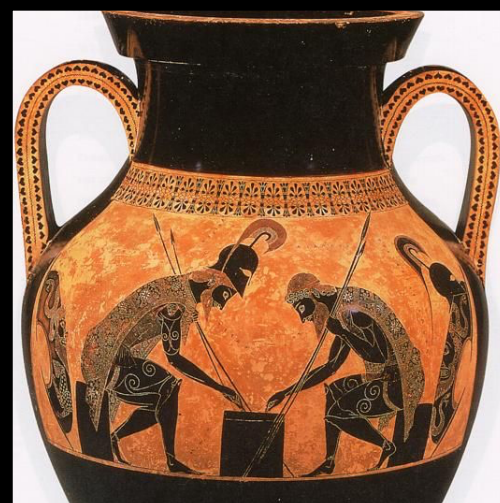
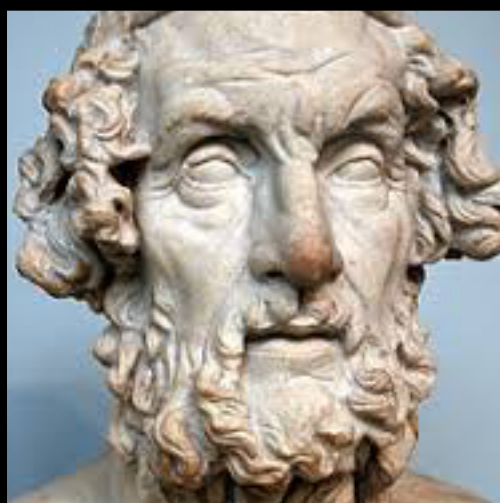
What is Accession?

Accession is a podcast that aims to recontextualize the art in museums, providing museum goers with new ways of engaging with the art. To do this, I use a variety of approaches, including history and biography, aesthetics and technique, story telling and poetry, as well as many others that you'll just have to tune in for. Whether you're an art historian or you've never been to an art museum; whether you're listening from the comfort of home, on your commute, or you're joining me in the gallery; Accession brings all of the beauty of art museums and the little known stories of a personal guide right to the palm of your hand.

A podcast about art? Isn't it a visual medium?

Accession is working in the ancient tradition of ekphrasis, from the Greek roots meaning to speak out of something, or the process of using one artistic medium to comment on another. Homer wrote poems about the Trojan war, the Greeks made vases about the poems, Keats wrote poems about Greek vases, people painted pictures of Keats, and I make a podcast about art. In fact, most analysis uses a medium other than the medium of the original piece.

But audio and art, that's something special. They compliment each other perfectly. Audio is used to tell stories, steeped in words and sounds, but requiring the listener to bring their imagination. Art is used to tell stories, steeped in form and figure, but requiring the viewer to bring their words and sounds. So I guess a podcast about art doesn't just make sense- it is meant to be.



Who is Accession?

Accession is researched, written, narrated, edited and produced by me, T.H. Ponders. My background in art history is that I love it very, very much. The stories of art history are some of my absolute favorite to tell. Beyond that I'm just an average museum goer with an above average audio recording set-up.



Of course, no podcast is an island, and I've had help from many people along the way. To find out more about them and their projects, head over to accession.fm/people

The Details

While I still do Accession as a side hobby, on the side of many other jobs and projects, the schedule remains fairly loose, with the rough goal of putting out a show a week, and four shows a month.

Accession is supported entirely by listeners on Patreon. Supporters, called Medici's, get access to behind the scenes content, bonus episodes every month, and even postcards in the mail! That happens over at patreon.com/accessionfm

Currently, the show has episodes at:

- Worcester Art Museum
- Denver Art Museum
- Wadsworth Atheneum (Hartford)
- The Moon

With plans to expand to:

- Yale University Art Gallery
- Albany Institute of Art and History
- Boston Museum of Fine Arts
- The Norman Rockwell Museum
- And Many More!

You can listen to Accession on our website, www.accession.fm. Or you can subscribe on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Play Store, Radio Public, YouTube, or your favorite RSS Podcatcher.



What is Accession doing about...

Accessibility

At present, we provide transcripts of every episode on our website. We are plan on to offering versions of the episodes recut with no music for children and people who need any sort of sensory diet or attention accommodations.

Education

I am working to include regular episodes that are specifically geared towards children, with additional supplemental materials, like gallery worksheets and notes sheets. I am also beginning to collaborate with art teachers in my area to figure out what sort of resources would help them bring a podcast like Accession into the classroom.



Diversity

Most academic discussions in art related fields have a little bit of a problem with getting away from the “masters”, and the “masters” tend to be mostly white, mostly male, mostly cisnormative, mostly American or European. (See Beethoven, Dickens, Kubrick, and the like.)

Visual arts and art history are no exception. And don't get me wrong, there is a reason we think of them as great and good reasons to tell their stories. (See Ep. 8: The Master's Hands on da Vinci) But I also believe that greatness in art is not limited to this small band of people. As such, my process in choosing stories will always involve thinking about ways to include new locations and cultures and stories about art made by people with identities other than those listed above.

But don't take my word for it!

"From the outset, Accession has been an essential addition to the Art History canon of podcasts, but T.H. isn't content to just be that it appears. Episode 5 has made clear that an adventurous, twinkling, deeply romantic soul is steering the ship, to where I (and maybe he) knows not. But I'm going wherever the ship takes me."

-Charles Gustine, host of podcast Iconography

"Do you like art? Do you like deep thought and good editing? Do you like people with good podcasting voices? Congrats, this is the show for you! It's kinda like if 99% Invisible fell in love with an art museum, but better. Legit if you haven't listened to this podcast you should. It's engaging, well produced, and just experimental enough to keep you wondering what the next episode will be like."

-V Silverman, host of podcast Fuzzy Logic

"I'm so glad to have found this podcast. T.H. Ponders can paint a picture simply with words. I believe if I had no visual reference, his intuitive, immersive explanations would be enough."

-Weirdo-Beardo on iTunes

Reach out via...

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