



The Love of Ohio 1.0  
Photographs by Daniel Allen Frost



The Love of Ohio 2.0

## Press Release

Source: The Butler Institute of American Art

### Artist Wenlan Hu Frost Donates Ohio-Themed Paintings to The Butler Institute of American Art

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YOUNGSTOWN, February 14, 2008 – Artist Wenlan Hu Frost donated two paintings from her series entitled *Chinese Calligraphy 2.0 – The Love Character Abstract Symbolism Series* to The Butler Institute of American Art. This gift coincides with the opening day of her solo exhibition at the Butler Institute, which runs through March 2, 2008. The two paintings will be exhibited there along with forty other paintings in the same series.

Wenlan Hu Frost created these two paintings, entitled *The Love of Ohio 1.0* and *The Love of Ohio 2.0*, to express her love for the state of Ohio. Ohio is very special to the artist, as her husband is from here, she was married here, and she is now having her first solo museum exhibition here. The artist said “The gift is a token to show my love of Ohio, as well as my deep appreciation of Dr. Louis Zona and the entire staff at the Butler Institute, who made this exhibition possible.”

Based on the triangular shape and the red, white, and blue colors of the Ohio flag, the paintings are designed according to her Abstract Symbolism painting style. The background of each painting is red with a blue triangle; one is horizontal and the other vertical. A white Chinese Love Character replaces the white circle, stars, and stripes of the Ohio flag and represents the love of Ohio.

## About Wenlan Hu Frost and Her Exhibited Series

Chinese-born American artist Wenlan Hu Frost is the first artist to present the Chinese character as a symbolic abstract art form on a Western medium. She has developed an Abstract Symbolism painting style to execute her first major body of art works, which emphasizes a high visual impact to viewers while delivering a simple message with symbolic abstract images. The artist mainly focuses on the Chinese character “Love” as her motif for her *Chinese Calligraphy 2.0 – The Love Character Abstract Symbolism Series*. Because the series premiered at the Butler Institute is a product of the artist's 32 years of life and cultural experiences in China and 17 years in the United States, it blends Chinese and Western artistic characteristics, creating a unique and distinctive artistic representation of a hybrid of traditional Chinese and modern Western cultures.

## About The Butler Institute of American Art

The Butler is known worldwide as "America's Museum" because it is the first museum in the United States dedicated exclusively to American art. The Butler Institute of American Art was established by a visionary American industrialist, philanthropist, and historian Joseph Green Butler, Jr. in Youngstown, Ohio. The original structure, dedicated in 1919, is a McKim, Mead and White architectural masterpiece listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The museum's mission is to preserve and collect works of art in all media created by citizens of the United States. The collection of The Butler Institute has now exceeded 20,000 individual works of art.

For more information about the Butler Institute and Wenlan Hu Frost and her exhibition, please visit [www.butlerart.com](http://www.butlerart.com), and [www.wenlanhufrost.com](http://www.wenlanhufrost.com).