



Howard Norton Cook, *Steel Industry* (detail), 1936, United States Post Office and Courthouse, Pittsburgh, PA. Courtesy of the General Services Administration, Fine Arts Program

In 1933, the administration of President Franklin Roosevelt launched an ambitious program to place murals and sculptures in post offices across the country, including Pennsylvania. To coincide with the national 75th anniversary of the New Deal, The State Museum of Pennsylvania announces a special exhibition that will offer visitors a glimpse of some of these extraordinary artworks, brought together for the first time.

# A COMMON CANVAS

## PENNSYLVANIA'S **NEW DEAL** POST OFFICE **MURALS**

AT THE STATE MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA

NOVEMBER 22, 2008 – MAY 17, 2009

Public Reception

**Sunday, November 23, 2008**

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Gallery Tours beginning at 2:30 pm and 3:15 pm

Meet the Curators • Refreshments • Sponsored by the Friends of the State Museum

### Specialty Tours

**Palace of Art: Murals by Edwin Austin Abbey & Violet Oakley**

**Saturday, April 4, 2009**

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Nancy Mendes, M.F.A., Graphic Arts Director, State Museum of PA

Location: The State Capitol Rotunda

Free to the public

### Guided Exhibit Tours

December 2008 through May 2009

Second Saturdays of each month

Beginning at 1:00 pm and 2:00 pm

*A Common Canvas* is supported in part by  
Auchincloss Family Fund  
on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. S. Sloan Auchincloss  
and the

Shearer Family Fund

on behalf of R. Scott and Kathy T. Shearer

Foundation for Enhancing Communities

### Gallery Talk Schedule

**Saturday, January 24, 2009**

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

David Lembeck, co-curator of "A Common Canvas"

Title: "New Deal Post Office Murals"

**Saturday, February 21, 2009**

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Arthur Jarvis, Ph.D., Asst. Professor of History,  
Montgomery Co. Community College, Pottstown Campus

Title: "The Federal Art Project in Philadelphia"

**Sunday, March 8, 2009**

2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Douglas Cooper, Contemporary Mural Artist  
Professor of Architecture, Carnegie-Mellon University

Title: "Story Murals"

Gallery Talks and Guided Exhibit Tours are free to the public. For additional information please visit our website, [www.statemuseumpa.org](http://www.statemuseumpa.org).



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Administered by the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission.