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The Cool Traditions of the Past: Baltimore's Painted Screens Exhibit at the B&O

Baltimore, MD - October 2, 2020 - Two of Baltimore's oldest and proudest traditions - railroading and screen painting - come together at the B&O Railroad Museum next week, October 5-11, 2020.

The iconic painted rowhouse screens of Baltimore date back to 1913, when Czech grocer William Oktavec introduced his "red bungalow" scene. Since then, the practice of painting rowhouse screen doors has become a symbol of Baltimore's rich cultural and historical heritage. See firsthand the extraordinary painted screen folk artworks by local artists from the Painted Screen Society of Baltimore inside the Museum's famous Roundhouse.



The exhibit features a special screen painting demonstration by Baltimore screen artist Michael Seipp on Saturday, October 10 at 1 PM and Sunday, October 11 at 2:30 PM.

"The B&O is honored to partner with the Painted Screen Society of Baltimore in sharing this proud tradition of Baltimore's rich history and culture," said Kris Hoellen, Executive Director of the B&O Railroad Museum. "Displaying these beautiful screens in the historic roundhouse is a real treat and celebration of Baltimore not to be missed!"



"Painted screens adorned Baltimore streets for over a hundred years. Railroading was born in Baltimore. Now the two have come together to celebrate the wonders of our great City. Come visit the B&O Railroad Museum to help us celebrate Baltimore," said exhibit curator and screen painter, Michael Seipp

The Painted Screen Exhibit and Demonstration is included with Museum admission and free for members. The B&O Railroad Museum hours are Monday-Saturday 10 AM-4 PM and Sunday 11 AM-4 PM.

About the B&O Railroad Museum

The B&O Railroad Museum, a full affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of American railroading and its impact on American society, culture and economy. The Museum is home to the oldest, most comprehensive collection of railroad artifacts in the Western Hemisphere including an unparalleled roster of 19th and 20th century railroad equipment. The 40-acre historic site is regarded as the birthplace of American Railroading and includes the 1851 Mt. Clare Station, the 1884 Baldwin Roundhouse and first mile of commercial railroad track in America. In 2019, the Museum welcomed guests from all 50 states and 40 countries. For further information on the B&O Railroad Museum, please call 410-752-2490 or visit www.BORail.org.

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