

CURATOR'S CHOICE



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: John Weide (1844–unknown), *St. Paul Winter Carnival Ice Palace*, 1886, oil on canvas, 23" x 27" • Stanford Fennelle (1909–95), *Ice Palace, Early Morning, St. Paul*, 1986, tempera on canvas, 34" x 46" • Stella Ebner (b. 1975), *Ice Palace*, 2004, woodcut, 33" x 25" • Carolyn Swiszc (b. 1972), *2004 Winter Carnival Ice Palace*, mixed media, 42" x 69"

FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY, the St. Paul Winter Carnival's fantasies in ice, ranging from the fanciful to the monumental, have intrigued and delighted spectators from many walks of life. In 2004 the Minnesota Historical Society welcomed two new works of art to its collection of paintings that depict memorable ice palaces. Joining such important work as the moody night view of the 1886 castle by John A. Weide and Stanford Fennelle's 1986 palace at dawn are a woodcut by Minneapolis-based artist Stella Ebner and a mixed-media work by St. Paul-based Carolyn Swiszc. These two young artists chose decidedly different interpretations of the 2004 palace that temporarily adorned St. Paul's cityscape just below the Minnesota History Center. Ebner created a crowded, close-up view of the palace in the evening, while Swiszc stood at a distance to depict a daytime scene of the structure still under construction.

—Brian Szott, curator of art



Copyright of **Minnesota History** is the property of the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, or email articles, however, for individual use.

To request permission for educational or commercial use, [contact us](#).