

# A Modern Take on an Age-Old Craft

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If you'd rather pass up old, crumbling statues and skip the ancient paintings in many art museums, contemporary art may be right up your ally. And there is plenty of it on display at the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art in Madison, Wis.

"Much contemporary art is about personal experience or analysis of the world," said Katie Kazan, director of public information at the museum.

Some 30 artists have mixed their analyses and experiences together to create the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, culminating in what Kazan calls "very rich territory."

Spanning the territory are such works as Deborah Butterfield's *Dapple Gray*. The large, wire and steel mare with metal squares to represent "dapples," stands as a tribute to nature.

Jin Soo Kim's towering *Strata* sculpture is a metaphor for loss and healing. It is constructed of everyday objects, including a keyboard, bedspread and medical bandages.

German artist Käthe Kollwitz's *Death and the Woman* is an aggressive and frightening image of a skeletal figure pulling a woman away from her child. This lithograph was based on Kollwitz's personal experience, but is a timeless metaphor: the death of a mother.

The many works of art now reside in a new home designed by Cesar Pelli.

"The space is exhilarating," said Kazan, "wonderfully designed for the display of art."

Admission to the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art is free. To learn more, visit [www.mmoca.org](http://www.mmoca.org) or call (608)-257-0158.