

EXPLORE WITH THE COLUMBUS MUSEUM

Collector's Corner



Mark Dion, *A Gentleman Collector in the Lower Chattahoochee River Valley*, 2018, Collection of The Columbus Museum



Drawer L10 from *A Gentleman Collector in the Lower Chattahoochee River Valley*

Artist Mark Dion worked with a group of Columbus State University students to locate, identify, and organize the locally-sourced specimens displayed in the assemblage shown here. Dion found inspiration for *A Gentleman Collector in the Lower Chattahoochee River Valley* in 16th-century European *Wunderkammern*, also known as cabinets of curiosity or wonder.

What is a cabinet of curiosity? Cabinets of curiosity are collections that include items from natural history and geology, historical objects, and art works among other things and can offer a glimpse into a world that the viewer has never experienced before. You might say that cabinets of curiosity are precursors to modern-day museums! What do you notice about the objects displayed in this collection? (Want to peek inside? Click [here!](#)) What are some similarities and/or differences amongst the objects? How did the artist decide to categorize and display the objects? What story do the objects tell about the area in which they were found?

Now that you know more, it's your turn to create your very own cabinet of curiosities! What would you include in a cabinet of curiosity about modern life in Columbus, GA? How would you organize, categorize, or otherwise sort your objects? Whose story does your collection tell? Use the space on the next page to describe – in words, images, or a combination of both – a drawer in your collection.

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(Continued)

