



SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN

From portrait miniatures to patent models, Porter and his 19th century contemporaries demonstrated relentless creativity

Brunswick, Maine, October 3, 2019—On December 12, the Bowdoin College Museum of Art (BCMA) will open the exhibition *Rufus Porter's Curious World: Art and Invention in America, 1815-1860*. The founder of *Scientific American*, Rufus Porter distinguished himself as a creative visionary who pioneered initiatives in art, publishing, and science. This special exhibition includes more than 80 paintings, inventions, and publications by Porter and a number of his contemporaries, including Samuel F. B. Morse, Robert Fulton, Charles Bird King, and Winslow Homer, many of whom also successfully crossed disciplines between art making and scientific experimentation. Described posthumously as a "Yankee da Vinci" by *Time*