Organized by the Sheldon Art Galleries in St. Louis to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the founding of St. Louis, this exhibition catalogue features a group of paintings and drawings that depict the founding of St. Louis and the people involved. It pays tribute to the contributions of Missouri’s native people with a group of rare and beautiful historical Osage, Missouria and Illiniois artifacts and regalia. Included are essays on St. Louis as an Indian capital by Dr. J. Frederick Fausz; an analysis of the imagined representations of the founding by Sheldon Art Galleries director, Olivia Lahs-Gonzales; an introduction and section texts by exhibition co-curator Daven Anderson; and additional contributions by Caitlin Donald, Julie Dunn Morton, Kerrie Mohahan, Kathryn Red Corn, and Jill Ahlberg Yohe.

Oscar E. Berninghaus, (American, 1874–1952)
Laclede Landing at Present Site of St. Louis, c. 1914
oil on canvas, 22 1/2 x 44 1/2 inches
Saint Louis Art Museum, Gift of August A. Busch Jr. 272:1977
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Top: Oscar E. Berninghaus, (American, 1874–1952)
Pierre Laclede and Auguste Chouteau Discovering St. Louis Along the Banks of the Mississippi, c. 1915  watercolor, 10 x 14 inches
Private Collection, St. Louis, Courtesy Kodner Gallery, St. Louis.

Bottom: Female Effigy Water Bottle, Middle Mississippian, Southeastern Missouri, clay, 8 1/4 x 4 1/4 inches
Collection of the Saint Louis Science Center