Bright Fun: Maira Kalman at the High Museum of Art

The Maira Kalman exhibit is pure joy from the second you pass through the door. The front room showcases some of her best and brightest works, as well as information about the author/artist and her famous New Yorker covers. A large built-in bench welcomes all to have a seat and read one of Kalman's beautiful books. Before you depart through the large yellow curtain, grab an interactive Seek and See: Scavenger Hunt to enjoy as you move throughout the exhibit.

The second floor is much more "kid-friendly" with interactive items. There are paintings from her books and of her interesting characters, fictional and historical. One bright pink room is filled with petite cakes to sit on and enjoy while another has a long party table that provides guests with the opportunity to draw a hat on Max, the dog, or learn to write a poem. Toward the back of the exhibit, historical renderings of Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and a number of suffragettes are portrayed larger than life. My daughter, Peyton, 9, "loved all the bright art, especially The Short Order Cook." My younger daughter, Cricket, 6, liked "figuring out what Pete the Dog had eaten." This exhibit is delightful and imaginative and will bring a smile to people of all ages.

Maira Kalman Facts:
- Kalman was born in Tel Aviv and moved to New York with her family at the age of four.
- She has written and illustrated 18 children's books.
- She has contributed to The New Yorker magazine since 1995 and has illustrated covers and columns.
- Her work has been presented in 21 exhibitions since 2003.

The Details
The Pursuit of Everything: Maira Kalman's Books for Children
High Museum of Art
1280 Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta, 404-733-4400, high.org
- Hours: Tues.-Thurs. and Sat.: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Fri., 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sun., Noon-5 p.m.; Mon., closed.
- Through Sept. 16
- Admission: Ages 6 and older, $14.50; ages 5 and younger, free.

Georgia residents are encouraged to sign-up for a smartbox for free. It's a great plastic carrying case with art activities and a few supplies. Every month, a new supply and activity will be available.

On the second Sunday of each month, admission is free from noon-5 p.m. with family friendly programs scheduled.

- Lauren Townsend