

Weather

Mostly clear and cold through the period, with highs and the 40s and 50s and lows in the 20s.

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'Art Attack With Lee Sandstead' airs on Travel Channel Nov. 30

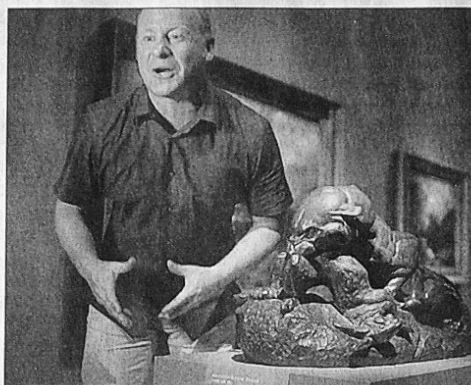
When South Boston resident Lee Sandstead stood in the lobby of Middle Tennessee State University's agriculture building, he never thought his life would change forever. But that was the very building where he took his first art-history class; a class that showed him a world he never new existed. Ever since, Lee has been on one grand art adventure after another, scouring the world for great art.

But on November 30, Lee starts what maybe his grandest art adventure of all — the first season of "Art Attack with Lee Sandstead" airs on the Travel Channel. And as Lee promises, this first season is one heck of a raucous ride through America's top museums. The premise of "Art Attack" is to visit museums and look at five must-see pieces in a high-impact, high-energy fashion. Upbeat music, quick cuts, great camera moves — the show has it all.

When asked what this means to a small-town Southern boy, Lee laughs: "When growing up, I never saw myself as TV show host — let alone one about art! I was raised in a house trailer, and we were certainly not sitting around talking about art and high culture. We were wondering if the water pipes were going to freeze during the winter or if an open oven door was a satisfactory work-around for a broken furnace!"

But, as Lee explains, with the support of a beautiful French girlfriend he met in college, he not only discovered art, he turned it into his career and highest passion. "Looking at art is not one of the 'coolest' things a young man in Middle Tennessee could be doing with his time. And when my friends would visit my house, I would catch quite a bit of flack — because I covered the walls from floor to ceiling with prints of famous art works. Yep, down came the NASCAR posters and up went the Rembrandts! And that's were the support of my French girlfriend helped — she told me it was okay I was such a complete dork!"

And ever since, Lee has been entertaining his university students with these ear-



Lee Sandstead discusses an art work at the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore, Maryland.

ly stories from his life to persuade them to give art a chance. Here's where "Art Attack" comes in. It is his own, blue-collar, country background that Sandstead hopes will draw the average American and get them out to the museums.

Will the viewer like every single artwork on the show? "Heck no!" exclaims Sandstead. "But tune in, give art a chance, and I guarantee that I can get you fired-up for art!"

And all this from a guy, who doesn't even own a TV.

Travel Channel PREMIER schedule. All times Eastern.

Sunday 11/30

9am — Smithsonian American Art Museum, DC
9:30am — National Gallery

of Art, DC

Sunday 12/7

9am — The Frick Collection, NY
9:30am — Brooklyn Museum of Art, NY

Sunday 12/14

9am — Walters Art Museum, Baltimore
9:30am — Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Sunday 12/21

9am — Norton Simon Museum of Art, Pasadena, CA
9:30am — Los Angeles County Museum of Art, CA