

american studies

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ON THE COVER: Lovely, anachronistic, difficult to label, Isaac Sheffield's "Portrait of a Woman in a Mulberry Dress" (oil on canvas, 1835) raises nice issues about definitions of "folk," and suggests methods of moving from artifact to social context. From the show *American Folk Art*; see review p. 81. Printing costs for producing a cover in color were underwritten by a grant from United Technologies, sponsors of the exhibition.

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LEFT: A watercolor on ivory mourning locket, with human hair and a rose gold frame, about 1800. See review of "American Folk Art," p. 81.