

Group Show: Masterworks of Line and Color

A selection of works by Corot, Delacroix, Matisse, Cézanne, Cassatt, Bonnard, Mondrian and others

The Art Show
Booth A12

Jill Newhouse Gallery will present a selection of works by major 19th and early 20th century artists.

The late 19th through the first half of the 20th centuries saw the rise of several art movements, including Romanticism, Realism, Impressionism, Pointillism, and Symbolism. These movements set the groundwork for the development of modern art in the latter 20th century, and opened the door for artists to work abstractly and conceptually in the 21st century.

By looking at 19th and early 20th century artwork, we can gain insight into the artistic and historical complexities of this transformative period. Globalization began to allow artists to see artwork made in other countries; to use paint and materials bettered by technical innovation; and to engage with the new societal focus on individualism, which in turn shed light on the gender, class, and racial dynamics of the time. Each of these forces appears in the works of **Delacroix, Matisse, Bonnard** and **Cézanne**, and hint at the major movements of modern and contemporary art on the horizon.



Left: Eugène Delacroix (French, 1798-1863), *Standing Female Nude Seen from Behind*, Pencil on paper, 9 1/4 x 6 3/8 inches, **Right:** *Study of Horses Rumps*, Pencil on paper, 7 1/2 x 9 3/4 inches, **Beneath:** *Moroccan Dancer*, 1832, Pencil on paper, 5 x 4 inches

Eugène Delacroix was born in 1798 in France and lived there until 1863. In three small scale drawings shown here, we see his enormous talent for composition, which enabled him to be an effective muralist as well as an easel painter. The smallest sheet was part of a “carnet” or sketchbook he drew from life while on a brief diplomatic trip to Morocco in January 1832. It depicts a lithe and sinewy dancer he had seen in Tangiers, and this figure was used to create his 1839 major painting *The Jewish Wedding*, as well as inspiring the figure in *Femmes d’Alger* of 1834 (both Paris, Musée du Louvre). Both of these important paintings subsequently inspired Matisse, who in 1912, also traveled to Morocco.





Pierre Bonnard (French, 1867-1947), *L'Escalier*, c. 1932, Oil and gouache on paper, laid down on canvas, 25 1/4 x 19 1/2 inches

A large and extraordinary oil on paper by **Pierre Bonnard** depicts an interior view of his home in Le Cannet, with his partner Marthe peering around the base of the staircase, and their dog looking up eagerly at the viewer. Bonnard shows us a postcard of his interior world, the influence of Van Gogh clearly seen in the bright yellow rays of light in the upper left corner of the composition.

Done while **Henri Matisse** was living in Vence, high in the hills over Nice, our charcoal is one in a series of large scale drawings of black models from the Caribbean and Africa. Matisse employed black models in creating the illustrated *Fleurs du Mal*, published in 1947, and produced a series of fourteen etchings dating from 1946 of *La Martiniquaise*, using models from Madagascar and the Congo.

Interestingly, our drawing was traditionally titled “Femme Assise” without the identification of the race or nationality of the model.



Henri Matisse (French, 1869-1954), *Femme assise*, 1945, Charcoal on paper, 20 1/2 x 15 9/10 inches

Each artist’s individual technique and chosen subject matter is indicative of the shifting artistic consciousness of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Though created at different times, under different circumstances, and within the framework of different artistic movements, the artworks in this show are in undeniable dialogue with one another while laying groundwork for what will come next.

Masterworks in line and color, each of these works are masterful in their ability to capture the moment in which they were made, and to resonate in the future.

Group Show: *Masterworks of Line and Color* is the latest in a series of exhibitions presented at the Art Show which include *The Watercolors of George Sand (she/her/hers)* (2023); *Eugène Delacroix: The Enduring Power of Image* (2019; essay by Jovana Stokic); *Pierre Bonnard: Affinities* (2018; essay by Karen Wilkin) and *Under the Influence: Edouard Vuillard and Contemporary Art* (2017; essay by Norman Kleeblatt).

Exhibition information

Group Show: *Masterworks of Line and Color*
at **The Art Show Both A12** (October 29-November 2)
Thereafter at the gallery Tuesday-Friday 10-5 (through December 13)

Gallery Description:

Jill Newhouse Gallery specializes in works on paper of all periods with a focus on 19th and 20th century European artists.

Gallery Contacts:

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