



Masterpiece Replayed:
MONET, MATISSE & MORE

1625 North Central Avenue, Corner of Central and McDowell • (602) 257-1222 • PhxArt.org

This exhibition is organized by the Walters Art Museum, Baltimore in association with Phoenix Art Museum.
Major support for this exhibition is provided by The Baskin Family Trust. Educational program support is provided by John C. Lincoln Health Network.
The exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities. Professional support is provided by The Arizona Republic.

For Immediate Release

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REVOLUTIONARY EXHIBITION FEATURES ELEVEN FRENCH ARTISTS INCLUDING MONET, MATISSE, CEZANNE AND DEGAS

Unprecedented International Loan Exhibition Explores “Artistic Repetition” Through the Art of Celebrated 19th- and early 20th-century French Painters

PHOENIX (November 12, 2007) — Phoenix Art Museum is one of only two museums in the world to host the momentous international loan exhibition exploring the significance of artistic repetition through the art of 11 renowned French masters. On display Jan. 20 – May 4, 2008, *Masterpiece Replayed: Monet, Matisse and More* features 34 paintings, 16 prints, 3 bronze sculptures and 1 pastel created by some of the biggest names in art, lent by 31 of the foremost collections from around the world, including Musée du Louvre in Paris, the National Gallery in London and the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia. The exhibition is organized in association with the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore, where it was on view Oct. 7, 2007 through Jan. 1, 2008.

“The show will explore how France’s greatest painters created singular masterpieces by using different scales, media and compositions, and how they challenged the very notion of the business of art, the nature of originality and the preconception of what constitutes art,” said Thomas J. Loughman, Ph.D., curator of European Art for Phoenix Art Museum. “The exhibition presents a rare opportunity to discover a new story about how artists like Monet, Matisse, Degas and Cézanne worked.”

Featuring influential masters of early modernism (1790s–1930s), the exhibition includes works by Jacques-Louis David, Eugène Delacroix, Jean-Dominique Ingres, Claude Monet, Paul Cézanne, Edgar Degas and Henri Matisse. The works

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Masterpiece Replayed - Add One

selected exemplify the many reasons for painterly repetition, whether as part of a creative process, in response to market demand or to the aesthetic shift that would eventually lead to the development of the now familiar Impressionist series.

“The exhibition will include some of the most recognizable imagery of the Western tradition,” said Loughman. “From a pair of works from Monet’s series of *Grainstacks*, to the multiple investigations of the theme of bathers by Cézanne, this is truly an unprecedented opportunity to enjoy French art at its finest, compare different versions of the artists’ masterpieces and explore the process of mastery.”

The exhibition is organized by the Walters Art Museum in Baltimore, Md., in association with Phoenix Art Museum, and is presented with major support provided by The Ruddock Family Trust, Carolyn Dunkin Schulte, and the Museum’s Men’s Arts Council. Educational program support is provided by John C. Lincoln Health Network, promotional support is provided by *The Arizona Republic* and Barnes & Noble Booksellers, and the exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.

“We hope our visitors come away having enjoyed artists like Monet with a better understanding of the why and the how behind his accomplishments than simply with the thrill of seeing great art,” said James K. Ballinger, the Museum’s Sybil Harrington director. “This project – with the power of the art and the stature of the artists – can and will enrich our appreciation of one of the magnificent moments in early Modernism.”

About the Exhibition

In this fascinating exhibition, the changing significance of copying and compositional repetition in both academic and avant-garde painting is investigated. *Masterpiece Replayed* explores the varied motivations for repetition, including learning through copying, cultivating market demand by making duplicate originals, exploring artistic and reproductive printmaking and

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Masterpiece Replayed - Add Two

photography, as well as showcasing the 19th-century tactic of painting in series – still an artistic staple of 21st-century modernism. Visitors will learn why artists repeated themselves, how they technically achieved self-repetition and what the possible meanings associated with repetition are in modern painting.

This exhibition is unprecedented in its mission: to present to the broad public the problematic and intriguing issue of painters working in multiple. Given common attitudes about art – that it is the inspired work of genius working in isolation in a succession of brilliant, original ideas – the exhibition provides a window into the work of art and the process of a well-known and popular set of painters, and also lays out a series of case studies.

Highlights include four versions of Jacques-Louis David's famed *Death of Marat* – all produced by the artist and his workshop in 11 months between July 1793 and the artist's imprisonment the following summer – created for the repetition and dissemination of a political icon in support of Robespierre's Reign of Terror. From a century later comes a choice set of drawings, oil sketches, paintings and color prints by Paul Cézanne on the theme of male bathers – produced over the course of two decades as part of the artist's slow process of editing and perfecting and revisiting particular subjects.

Exhibition Store:

Phoenix Art Museum will provide a special satellite store within the gallery, featuring books, unique jewelry and inspirational gifts relating to the exhibition. A fully illustrated catalogue, "The Repeating Image, Multiples In French Paintings from David to Matisse" (The Walters Art Museum & Yale University Press, 2007) is available as a companion publication.

Public Events:

The Museum also is organizing a full schedule of programs and events relating to the exhibition, such as workshops, lectures, music and more. Updated information regarding public programs can be found on the exhibition Web site at:

www.masterpiecereplayed.org.

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Masterpiece Replayed - Add Three

Exhibition Details:

Phoenix Art Museum is located in downtown Phoenix at the corner of Central Avenue and McDowell Road.

This exhibition is specially-ticketed, with dated and timed entry based on availability. Admission to the exhibition is \$20 for adults, \$8 for children ages 6–17 and free for children under 6 and for Museum members. Admission includes a bilingual multi-media audio guide and general admission to the Museum. Members also are invited to a Member Preview Day, Saturday, Jan. 19, 2008 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Advance Tickets:

Advance tickets are available online at www.masterpiecereplayed.org, by phone at (800) 452-0314 or at the Visitors Desk at the Museum during regular Museum hours. Information on group sales can be found by calling (800) 452-0314 or (602) 307-2090, and on school tours by calling (602) 257-4356.

Exhibition hours are as follows:

Tuesday: 11:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. (last entry 7:30 p.m.)
Wednesday: 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. (last entry 3:30 p.m.)
Thursday: 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. (last entry 3:30 p.m.)
Friday, Saturday and Sunday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (last entry 3:30 p.m.)

Museum hours are Tuesday, 10 a.m. – 9 p.m. and Wednesday – Sunday from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. The Museum is closed on Mondays and major holidays.

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Masterpiece Replayed - Add Four

About Phoenix Art Museum:

The classically progressive design of the 203,000 sq. ft. Phoenix Art Museum integrates art and architecture with the Southwestern landscape, accommodating large traveling exhibitions and a collection of over 17,000 works in American, Asian, modern & contemporary, European, Latin American and Western American art and fashion design. Visitors also can enjoy the Sculpture Garden, the Thorne Miniature Rooms of historic interiors, PhxArtKids interactive space for children, Arcadia Farms at Phoenix Art Museum and The Museum Store. Visitors can learn more about the Museum's collection through its bilingual, random access MP3 audio guide, available at the admissions desk. The Museum recently opened its \$50 million expansion project, which included the addition of a glass-enclosed lobby and entry plaza, four-level gallery wing, sculpture garden and expanded store.

For more information about this exhibition or Phoenix Art Museum, visit our dedicated exhibition Web site at: www.masterpiecereplayed.org or call the 24-hour recorded information line at (602) 257-1222.

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