**A Brief Timeline of Edvard Munch’s Life**

1863 Edvard Munch is born on December 12 in Løten, Norway. The family moves to

Kristiania (now Oslo) the following year.

1868 Munch’s mother, Laura, dies of tuberculosis.

1877 Munch’s sister Sophie dies of tuberculosis. The time by her sickbed inspires several profound works, notably his famous image *The Sick Child*.

1880 Munch enters the Royal School of Art and Design in Kristiania to study drawing.

1884 Munch joins the Kristiania Bohemians, a group that believes art should be inspired by one’s personal experiences.

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1885 Munch makes his first trip to Europe to study. There he begins a short but turbulent affair with a married woman, Milly Thaulow, a romance that colors the rest of his life.

1886 The first exhibition of Munch’s work in Kristiania is panned by critics.

1889 Munch goes to study in France.

His family rents a summer cottage in Åsgårdstrand on the Norwegian coast; Munch falls in love with the area and considers it home for over 20 years. The town and landscape serve as the backdrop for many of his works.

Munch’s father dies that fall.

1892 Munch exhibits the work he has been making in France. The exhibition opens in Kristiania then goes on to Berlin, Germany where it is deemed a public scandal and is closed after only a few days. The publicity makes Munch instantly famous.

1893 Munch moves to Berlin where he becomes friends with many members of

Germany’s avant garde. He begins his *Frieze of Life* project which he returns to

off and on throughout his career. The works are intended to be displayed together as a symbolic celebration of the “poetry of life, love and death.”

1894 Munch learns printmaking and creates his first etchings and lithographs in Berlin.

1898 Munch becomes romantically involved with Tulla Larsen, another tumultuous relationship that dramatically ends four years later in a struggle for a gun which permanently injures one of Munch’s fingers.

1902 Twenty-eight of Munch’s paintings are included in the spring exhibition of the Berlin Secession. The exhibition is an international breakthrough moment for his career.

1908 Munch admits himself to a clinic in Copenhagen suffering from a nervous breakdown brought on by emotional stress, overwork, and alcoholism.

1909 Munch returns to live in Norway, settling on the southeast coast at Kragerø. His

work is now an international sensation and he is celebrated in numerous exhibitions.

1916 Munch buys property at Ekely, just outside Oslo, where he lives until his death.

1944 Munch dies on January 23, aged eighty. He bequeaths all of the works of art in his estate to the city of Oslo. The collection is the basis of what is now the Munch Museum.