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**Tacoma Art Museum presents New Exhibition**  
***Monet, Renoir, Degas, and Their Circle:***  
***French Impressionism and the Northwest***

**IMAGES AVAILABLE**

August 2, 2019 (Tacoma, WA)— Opening on September 28, Tacoma Art Museum will present *Monet, Renoir, Degas, and Their Circle: French Impressionism and the Northwest*, a new exhibition that examines how the work of French Impressionists and their immediate precursors made their way into Northwest public and private collections. It also will include selected paintings by American and Northwest artists to illustrate the spread of Impressionism across the country.

“The purpose of this exhibition is deeply connected to the same passion that drove the French Impressionists, to transform the way we see,” said David F. Setford, TAM’s Executive Director and curator of this exhibition. “It does this in two ways. First, it puts rarely seen works from TAM’s European art collection into context and allows for an expanded visitor learning opportunity. In addition, it is also the first time that these Impressionist works from museums and private collections in the Northwest have been seen together. It will provide a lasting resource about French Impressionism and its historical impact for curators and collectors in our region and beyond.”

*Monet, Renoir, Degas, and Their Circle: French Impressionism and the Northwest* was organized and curated by the Tacoma Art Museum, and includes approximately fifty (50) works of art. The exhibition is accompanied by a small publication including essays by Setford and TAM curator Margaret Bullock, as well as an online listing of French Impressionist works currently in Northwest public collections.

The exhibition includes artwork from the following institutions: Frye Art Museum, Henry Art Gallery, Portland Art Museum, Tacoma Art Museum, and Seattle Art Museum. These works are complemented by selected loans from some of the major private collections in the Northwest.

The exhibition will provide visitors the unique opportunity to enjoy signature works by Gustave Caillebotte, Mary Cassatt, Edgar Degas, Claude Monet, Berthe Morisot, Camille Pissarro, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, and Alfred Sisley among others. Filling out the story, paintings from some of the most important precursors of Impressionism such as Eugène Boudin, Jean-Baptiste-Camille Corot, Gustave Courbet, and Johan Barthold Jongkind are included.

“To round off the exhibition, there will be a section of artworks which demonstrate the influence of French Impressionism on Northwestern and American painters – in other words, how East Coast and Northwest artists adapted and interpreted the brushwork and use of light and color in

their own work,” notes Margaret Bullock, co-curator of the exhibition. This section will feature artists from the Northwest such as Edward Espey, C.C. McKim, Clara Jane Stephens, and Fokko Tadama, and American artists from further afield such as Cecilia Beaux, Childe Hassam, and Theodore Robinson.

“We are extremely grateful for the immense generosity of our regional sister museums in collaborating to create this exhibition,” notes Setford. “The treasures of French Impressionism that will be brought together for this exhibition demonstrate the depth and strength of the collections located in the Pacific Northwest.”

### **Exhibition Dates**

September 28, 2019 – January 5, 2020

### **Events**

#### **Press Preview**

Thursday, September 26, 10-11:30 am

Please contact Hillary Ryan at [hryan@tacomaartmuseum.org](mailto:hryan@tacomaartmuseum.org) to reserve your spot.

#### **Opening Celebration**

Friday, September 27, 5-8 pm

5-6 pm Exclusive Director’s Circle Members Preview

6-8 pm TAM Supporting Members Free, \$10/non-members

### **Educational Programming**

#### **Group Tours**

Ongoing, during the run of the exhibition

Journey through 19<sup>th</sup> century France on this exploration of Impressionism. Marvel at how your favorite artists captured color and light, and learn how French Impressionism continues to influence Northwest artists today.

TAM’s interactive group tours provide expanded information about artworks on view in the galleries and the artists who made them, while encouraging groups to investigate art through lively discussions.

These experiences last about 45 minutes and include museum admission for visitors to explore the galleries further on their own. Must be reserved a minimum of two weeks in advance.

TAM offers a variety of options for groups of 10 or more which include public and VIP tours, as well as add-ons such as catering, exclusive early or late-night access, and Executive Director or Curator led tours. Pricing ranges from \$12- \$55/person. TAM Members and Military: Free

For more information contact: [GroupTours@TacomaArtMuseum.org](mailto:GroupTours@TacomaArtMuseum.org)/ 253.722.2460.

### **Curator Talk: Impressionism and Northwest Collections**

Sunday, September 29, 2019, 2pm

*Monet, Renoir, Degas, and Their Circle: French Impressionism and the Northwest* brings together major Impressionist works from public and private collections across the Northwest. Join TAM's Chief Curator Margaret Bullock for a deep dive into how these artworks made it to this region and their profound impact on Northwest artists.

Cost: \$10 (\$5 TAM members/ students with ID)

### **TAM Teach: Impressionism: Color and Light**

Thursday, November 14, 4:30 – 7:30 pm

The classics of the Impressionist era still have much to teach us. Explore works of art in *Monet, Renoir, Degas, and Their Circle: French Impressionism and the Northwest*. Investigate color and light with activities that can be adapted to any age or art ability, and create some art of your own!

Cost: \$15 per person for a 3-hour workshop; clock hours provided

### **Director Talk: French Impressionism**

Sunday, November 17, 2019, 2 pm

Join TAM Executive Director David Setford for a discussion of the role of French Impressionism in the Northwest. Hear firsthand how the exhibition *Monet, Renoir, Degas and Their Circle: French Impressionism and the Northwest* was assembled, learn about the escapades of the impressionist artists, and their revolutionary approach to color and light.

Cost: \$10 (\$5 TAM members/ students with ID)

### **Homeschool Day: Impressionism**

Wednesday, November 20, 10am – 2 pm

Join us for a special day just for homeschool students! Explore the Impressionists' world of light and color. Participate in a guided tour of works of art in the museum, including the exhibition *Monet, Renoir, Degas and Their Circle: French Impressionism and the Northwest*. Create your own impressionist-style artwork, learning from an expert teaching artist. Spend time exploring the galleries on your own, with self-guided activities and a scavenger hunt. Check out art-making activities in TAM Studio.

\$10 per student; one adult chaperone per family free (\$5 per additional adult); children under 4 free

**This exhibition is made possible by generous support from KCTS-TV, Propel Insurance, Nordstrom, South Sound Magazine, the many thoughtful individuals and businesses who participated in the exhibition adoption program, and in part by ArtsFund and the Tacoma Arts Commission.**

#### **About Tacoma Art Museum**

Celebrating over 80 years, Tacoma Art Museum is an anchor in Tacoma's downtown with a mission of connecting people through art. TAM's collection contains more than 5,000 works, with an emphasis on the art and artists of the Northwest and broader Western region, 25% of which consists of studio glass. The collection includes the largest retrospective museum collection of glass art by Tacoma native Dale Chihuly on permanent view; the most significant collection of studio art jewelry by Northwest artists; key holdings in 19th century European and 20th century American art; and one of the finest collections of Japanese woodblock prints on the West Coast. In 2012, TAM received a gift of more than 300 works of western American art from the Haub Family Collection, one of the premier such collections in the nation and the first major western American art museum collection in the Northwest. The Haub family also contributed \$20 million for an endowment and expansion completed in 2014. In January 2019, TAM inaugurated the Rebecca and Jack Benaroya Wing which will feature the extensive Benaroya collection of studio glass as well as TAM's own collection of studio glass, which was started in 1971. TAM is located in the heart of Tacoma's vibrant Museum District which consists of six museums including the Museum of Glass, a frequent collaborator.

**HOURS** – Tues–Sun 10 am–5 pm; FREE Neighborhood Nights every Thursday 5–8 pm

**ADMISSION** – \$18 Adult, \$15 Student/Senior (65+), \$40 Family (2 adults and up to four children age 6-18), Children 5 and under free every day. Children 18 and under free every Saturday. TAM Members; active duty military, reservists, veterans, and their families always free.

**CONTACT** – 253-272-4258/ [www.tacomaartmuseum.org](http://www.tacomaartmuseum.org)

#### **About Frye Art Museum**

The Frye Art Museum is a living legacy of visionary patronage and civic responsibility, committed to artistic inquiry and a rich visitor experience. A catalyst for our engagement with contemporary art and artists is the Founding Collection of Charles and Emma Frye, access to which shall always be free. Reflecting Seattle's evolving identity through exhibitions, programs, and outreach, the Museum showcases local and global artists who explore the issues of our time as well as contemporary scholarship on historical subject matter. By taking calculated risks, we uncover new voices, facilitate conversation, and engage our community in relevant social dialogues. Visit [fryemuseum.org](http://fryemuseum.org) for more information.

#### **About Henry Art Gallery**

A museum of contemporary art and ideas, Henry Art Gallery presents exhibitions by a multi-national roster of emerging and mid-career artists. Known for taking risks and for allowing space for uncertain outcomes, the museum anticipates the conversations and opinions that will be important and relevant in the field. Learn more at [henryart.org](http://henryart.org).

#### **About the Portland Art Museum**

The seventh oldest museum in the United States, the Portland Art Museum is internationally recognized for its permanent collection and ambitious special exhibitions drawn from the Museum's holdings and the world's finest public and private collections. The Museum's collection of more than 45,000 objects, displayed in 112,000 square feet of galleries, reflects the history of art from ancient times to today. The collection is distinguished for its holdings of arts of the native peoples of North America, English silver, and the graphic arts. An active collecting institution dedicated to preserving great art for the enrichment of future generations, the Museum devotes 90 percent of its galleries to its permanent collection.

The Museum's campus of landmark buildings, a cornerstone of Portland's cultural district, includes the Jubitz Center for Modern and Contemporary Art, the Gilkey Center for Graphic Arts, the Schnitzer Center for Northwest Art, the Northwest Film Center, and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Center for Native American Art. With a membership of more than 22,000 households and serving more than 350,000 visitors annually, the Museum is a premier venue for education in the visual arts. For information on exhibitions and programs, call 503-226-2811 or visit [portlandartmuseum.org](http://portlandartmuseum.org).

The Portland Art Museum welcomes all visitors and affirms its commitment to making its programs and collections accessible to everyone. The Museum offers a variety of programs and services to ensure a quality experience and a safe, inclusive environment for every member of our diverse community. Learn more at [portlandartmuseum.org/access](http://portlandartmuseum.org/access).

The Portland Art Museum is pleased to offer accommodations to ensure that our programs are accessible and inclusive. Please email a request to [access@pam.org](mailto:access@pam.org) two to three weeks in advance, or call 503-226-2811.

#### **About Seattle Art Museum**

As the leading visual art institution in the Pacific Northwest, SAM draws on its global collections, powerful exhibitions, and dynamic programs to provide unique educational resources benefiting the Seattle region, the Pacific Northwest, and beyond. SAM was founded in 1933 with a focus on Asian art. By the late 1980s the museum had outgrown its original home, and in 1991 a new 155,000-square-foot downtown building, designed by Venturi, Scott Brown & Associates, opened to the public. The 1933 building was renovated and reopened as the Asian Art Museum in 1994. The building is currently undergoing a renovation and expansion with a scheduled reopening in fall 2019. SAM's desire to further serve its community was realized in 2007 with the opening of two stunning new facilities: the nine-acre Olympic Sculpture Park (designed by Weiss/Manfredi Architects)—a “museum without walls,” free and open to all—and the Allied Works Architecture designed 118,000-square-foot expansion of its main, downtown location, including 232,000 square feet of additional space built for future expansion. The Olympic Sculpture Park and SAM's downtown expansion celebrated their tenth anniversary in 2017.

From a strong foundation of Asian art to noteworthy collections of African and Oceanic art, Northwest Coast Native American art, European and American art, and modern and contemporary art, the strength of SAM's collection of approximately 25,000 objects lies in its diversity of media, cultures, and time periods.

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