

BMA PRESENTS POWERFUL PHOTOGRAPHS REINTERPRETING MASTERWORKS OF PAINTING

BALTIMORE, MD (February 26, 2016)—The Baltimore Museum of Art presents four large-scale, dramatic color photographs that bring new meaning to masterworks of painting in *On Paper: Picturing Painting*, on view March 30—October 23, 2016. The featured works combine elements of historical paintings with traits particular to photography to create images with a unique and powerful presence.

At the end of the 20th century, a number of artists created photographs that seemed to share more attributes with painting than with photography's conventional roles within the fields of journalism and advertising. "The images in this exhibition take this comparison a step further by reinterpreting masterworks of painting as photographs," said Kristen Hileman, Senior Curator of Contemporary Art. "In some cases fashioned as an homage, in others a critique."



Examples include Rineke Dijkstra's *Hel. Poland, August 12, 1998* (1998), Andres Serrano's *Black Supper* (1990, printed 1992), Starn Twins' *Large Blue Film Picasso* (1988–89), and Mickalene Thomas' *Le déjeuner sur l'herbe: Les Trois Femmes Noires* (2010). These works were influenced respectively by Sandro Botticelli's *The Birth of Venus* (c. 1486), Leonardo da Vinci's *The Last Supper* (1494–99), Pablo Picasso's *Deux femmes nues assises* (1921), and Édouard Manet's *Le déjeuner sur l'herbe* (1863).

The exhibition is curated by Senior Curator of Contemporary Art Kristen Hileman.

Image Credit: Mickalene Thomas. *Le déjeuner sur l'herbe: Les Trois Femmes Noires*. 2010. The Baltimore Museum of Art: Collectors Circle Fund for Art by African Americans, and Roger M. Dalsheimer Photograph Acquisitions Endowment, BMA 2010.36. © Mickalene Thomas, courtesy the artist and Lehmann Maupin Gallery, New York

THE BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART

The Baltimore Museum of Art is home to an internationally renowned collection of 19th-century, modern, and contemporary art. Founded in 1914 with a single painting, the BMA today has 95,000 works of art—including the largest holding of works by Henri Matisse in the world. Throughout the museum, visitors will find an outstanding selection of American and European painting, sculpture, and decorative arts; prints and drawings from the 15th century to the present; works by established and emerging contemporary artists; and exceptional objects from Africa and Asia. Two beautifully landscaped gardens display an array of 20th-century sculpture that is an oasis in the city. The 210,000-square-foot museum is distinguished by a grand historic building designed in the 1920s by renowned American architect John Russell Pope. A \$28 million multi-year renovation that began in 2010 has transformed galleries for contemporary, American, African, and Asian art, and improved visitor amenities and essential infrastructure. Since 2006, the BMA has provided free general admission so that everyone can enjoy the power of art.

VISITOR INFORMATION

The Baltimore Museum of Art is open Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. The museum is closed Monday, Tuesday, New Year's Day, July 4, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. The BMA is located at 10 Art Museum Drive at North Charles and 31st Streets, three miles north of Baltimore's Inner Harbor. For general Museum information, call 443-573-1700 or visit artbma.org. Connect with us: #ARTBMA • [Blog](#) • [Facebook](#) • [Twitter](#) • [Instagram](#) • [YouTube](#)