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Advance Exhibition Schedule

Summer - Fall 2025

This schedule is current as of August 2025 and is subject to change. Please discard earlier versions and verify all information with BMA Communications before publishing. * Indicates working title or date

Upcoming Exhibitions & Installations

Deconstructing Nature: Environmental Transformation in the Lucas Collection

August 27, 2025 – January 11, 2026

Engaging the Elements: Poetry in Nature

September 17, 2025 – February 8, 2026

The Way of Nature: Art from Japan, China, and Korea

September 21, 2025 – March 8, 2026

John Akomfrah *

November 16, 2025 – February 1, 2026

Current Exhibitions & Installations

Earth as Medium: Extracting Art from Nature

April 6 – August 17, 2025

Black Earth Rising

May 18 – September 21, 2025

Heavy with History: Devin Allen and the Baltimore Uprising

April 16 – September 21, 2025

Malcolm Peacock: a signal, a sprout

March 19 – October 26, 2025

Air Quality: The Influence of Smog on European Modernism

February 9, 2025 – February 15, 2026

Crosscurrents: Works from the Contemporary Collection

Opened February 26, 2025

Raúl de Nieves: and imagine you are here

November 19, 2023 – December 2026

Upcoming Exhibitions & Installations

Turn Again to the Earth



November 2024 – January 2026

Throughout its 110th anniversary, the BMA is presenting a series of exhibitions and public programs that explore the relationships between art and the environment across time and geography. *Turn Again to the Earth*, which takes its title from the writing of environmental activist Rachel Carson, also encompasses a new sustainability plan for the museum and an eco-challenge led by the BMA that invites other cultural and civic organizations to engage in conversations about the environment and enact their own plans for a more sustainable future.

Sponsors: Turn Again to the Earth is generously supported by the Cohen Opportunity Fund, the Henry Luce Foundation, Nancy Dorman and Stanley Mazaroff, Baltimore Gas and Electric, Johns Hopkins University & Medicine, the Eileen Harris Norton Foundation, CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield, and the Clayton Baker Trust.



Jean-François Millet. *The Gleaners*. c. 1855. Baltimore Museum of Art, The George A. Lucas Collection, purchased with funds from the State of Maryland, Laurence and Stella Bendann Fund, and contributions from individuals, foundations, and corporations throughout the Baltimore community. BMA 1996.48.18686

Deconstructing Nature: Environmental Transformation in the Lucas Collection

August 27, 2025 – January 11, 2026



This exhibition of more than 50 19th-century works on paper investigates how European and American artists both documented and contributed to the transformation of the environment into an industrial resource to be hoarded or shared. Drawn from the BMA's George A. Lucas Collection, the exhibition foregrounds the ecological issues at stake in these works and opens up new ways of understanding extractive relationships among people, including imperialism and capitalism. The exhibition is organized thematically, focusing on five specific environments and the ways artists explored them in their work: The Desert, The Forest, The Field, The City, and The Studio. Born and raised in Baltimore, George A. Lucas (1824-1909) spent most of his adult life immersed in the Parisian art world and amassed a personal collection of nearly 20,000 works of art, the majority of which are works on paper by French artists.

Organization: Co-curated by Joanna Karlgaard, BMA Assistant Curator of Prints, Drawings, and Photographs and Robin Owen Joyce, BMA Assistant Curator of Academic Engagement

Sponsors: This exhibition is supported by the Nancy Dorman and Stanley Mazaroff Fund of the Baltimore Community Foundation. The audio guide is made possible with support from the Getty Foundation through The Paper Project initiative.



Larry Schwarm. *Wheat Stubble Fire*, Eastern Colorado, 1992, printed 2004. Baltimore Museum of Art: Gift of Nancy and Tom O'Neil, Baltimore. BMA 2013.348

Engaging the Elements: Poetry in Nature September 17, 2025 – February 8, 2026



This focus exhibition looks at how artists use nature both as inspiration and as a material to spark conversations about caring for the environment. Approximately 20 photographs, prints, drawings, and textiles demonstrate changing views of nature—from the industrial boom of the 1800s to the climate challenges we face today. Artworks illustrate a dwindling sea, dramatic storm clouds, fiery landscapes, and other elemental phenomena that remind us of our deep-rooted connection to Earth.

Organization: Curated by Andaleeb Badiee Banta, former BMA Senior Curator of Prints, Drawings, and Photographs, and Leslie Cozzi, BMA Curator and Department Head of Prints, Drawings, and Photographs.

Sponsor: This exhibition is supported by the Henry Luce Foundation.



Tsukioka Kogyo. *Chrysanthemums beside a Stream*. 1900-1910. Baltimore Museum of Art: Straton Family Fund. BMA 2014.50

The Way of Nature: Art from Japan, China, and Korea

September 21, 2025 – March 8, 2026



For centuries, East Asian cultures have considered human life as part of a much larger system that encompasses the natural world. More than 40 artworks from Japan, China, and Korea demonstrate a way of living where mountains and seas, animals—both wild and supernatural—and plant life and insects are symbolically meaningful and historically pervasive in visual culture. The objects range from delicate 13th-century porcelain to a luminous 18th-century embroidered silk Buddhist Priest's Robe and large-scale 20th-century photography. Collectively, these works provide a sense of the impulse to fully experience the natural world, as foundational to our existence, as impacted by human life, and as an enduring metaphor for our survival.

Organization: Curated by Frances Klapthor, BMA Associate Curator of Asian Art.

Sponsors: This exhibition is supported by the Henry Luce Foundation, E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation, and Mark Edelson.



John Akomfrah. Detail of untitled work. 2025. © Smoking Dogs Films, Courtesy Lisson Gallery.

John Akomfrah *

November 16, 2025 – February 1, 2026

The BMA and the Menil Collection in Houston have co-commissioned a major new work by the pioneering, London-based filmmaker and artist John Akomfrah RA. This multi-channel video installation brings together multiple perspectives of young activists during the U.S. Civil Rights Movement in the 1960s to raise issues relating to memory and social change. Akomfrah constructs a conversation between past and present by creating a montage of archival footage, still photography, and newly filmed materials overlaid with an immersive sound design. Celebrating the rich history of the Civil Rights era, accompanying programs and interpretation will highlight forgotten or unheard accounts of activists and campaigns in the Baltimore region, unearthing the global legacies of local actions.

Organization: Curated by Cecilia Wichmann, BMA Curator and Department Head of Contemporary Art.

Tour: The exhibition will be presented at the Menil Collection in 2026.

Sponsors: Major support for this exhibition has been generously provided by Nancy Dorman and Stanley Mazaroff and the Suzanne F. Cohen Exhibition Fund. Free admission to this exhibition is provided by Nancy Dorman and Stanley Mazaroff.


Current Exhibitions & Installations



Unidentified Potosi Artist (Bolivia).
Tray. c. 1725-1750. Baltimore
Museum of Art: Decorative Arts
Acquisitions Endowment established
by the Friends of the American Wing.
BMA 2020.9

Earth as Medium: Extracting Art from Nature

April 6 – August 17, 2025

 Art is, at its core, grounded in the extraction of nature. Artworks are made of and made through the transformation of earth, air, light, animals, and plants. This focus exhibition foregrounds the natural-ness of all artworks and tells a history of artmaking's relationship to the natural world from historic sustainability to exploitative practice and sustainable futures. The exhibition features approximately 20 objects from cultures around the world spanning the 14th through 21st centuries. This includes works produced through a communal relationship with nature as well as artworks created by the extraction of materials for industry, leisure, and even explicit domination over nature.

Organization: Co-curated by Brittany Luberda, BMA Anne Stone Associate Curator of Decorative Arts, and Kevin Tervala, BMA Eddie C. and C. Sylvia Brown Chief Curator.


Sponsor: This exhibition is supported by the Henry Luce Foundation.



Alejandro Piñero Bello. *Viajando En La Franja Del Iris*. (detail)
2024. Courtesy the artist and Pace
Gallery, New York.

Black Earth Rising

May 18 – September 21, 2025

 *Black Earth Rising* brings together a selection of 23 magnificent paintings, sculptures, and films that celebrate the beauty and fragility of the earth. These vibrant, monumentally scaled artworks demonstrate how contemporary artists are reclaiming the splendor of nature from the legacies of colonialism. The featured artists—Igshaan Adams, Firelei Báez, Alejandro Piñero Bello, Frank Bowling, Teresita Fernández, Todd Gray, Sky Hopinka, Tyler Mitchell, Wangechi Mutu, Otobong Nkanga, Jaune Quick-to-See Smith, Yinka Shonibare, Stacy Lynn Waddell, and Alberta Whittle—are each invoking the natural world as a source of renewal, resistance, and liberation. The title is taken from *terra preta*, Portuguese for 'black earth,' a type of fertile soil created by ancient Indigenous civilizations in the Amazon basin thousands of years ago. The BMA is the only venue for this ticketed exhibition, which is accompanied by a soundscape composed by Baltimore-based musician Jamal R. Moore that can be heard in the galleries or the BMA's Bloomberg Connects page. An expansive companion book published by Thames & Hudson delves further into the subject with essays and works by more than 150 contemporary artists.

Organization: Guest curated by British writer and curator Ekow Eshun with support from Katie Cooke, BMA Manager of Curatorial Affairs.

Sponsors: This exhibition is supported by the Hardiman Family Endowment Fund, the Dorman/Mazaroff Art Exhibition Fund, the Sigmund M. and Mary B. Hyman Fund for American Art, The Clair Zamoiski Segal and Thomas H. Segal Contemporary Art Endowment Fund, and the Victor J. Schenk Trust.



Heavy with History: Devin Allen and the Baltimore Uprising

April 16 – September 21, 2025

This focus exhibition of 35 rarely shown photographs by Baltimore-based artist Devin Allen documents a defining moment in the city's history. Allen captured the raw emotion of the uprisings that followed Freddie Gray's untimely death in 2015 and his powerful black-and-white images reveal both the pain and strength of people in Baltimore. A soundscape featuring voices of the Baltimore uprisings is also accessible to visitors while they are in the gallery.


Organization: Organized by Lisa Snowden, Editor-in-Chief and co-founder of *Baltimore Beat*, with support from Tracey Beale, BMA Director of Public Programs.



Malcolm Peacock. Five of them were hers and she carved shelters with windows into the backs of their skulls. 2024. Courtesy of the artist.

Malcolm Peacock: a signal, a sprout

March 19 – October 26, 2025

 This exhibition features a monumental installation by New York-based artist and long-distance runner Malcolm Peacock. Inspired by the giant, ancient redwood trees he encountered while training for marathons in the Pacific Northwest, the 8-foot tall and wide tree-like form is covered with thousands of strands of hand-braided synthetic hair—the creation of which was an act of endurance itself. Pinned to the sculpture are pages from *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* (1965) and *A Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* (1845) that have inspired the artist. An atmospheric audio recording evokes the interconnectedness of all forms of life through sounds of the artist breathing while running, as well as his conversations with his family, friends, and teammates.

Organization: Organized by Cecilia Wichmann, BMA Curator of Contemporary Art.


Sponsor: This exhibition is supported by The Hardiman Family Endowment Fund.



Claude Monet. *Waterloo Bridge, Sunlight Effect with Smoke*. 1903. Baltimore Museum of Art: The Helen and Abram Eisenberg Collection. BMA 1976.38

Air Quality: The Influence of Smog on European Modernism

February 9, 2025 – February 15, 2026

 This focus exhibition of nine works explores the relationship between burning fossil fuels—namely, coal—and the emergence of European modernism. Drawing on research conducted by climate scientists and art historians, the exhibition presents a range of paintings and works on paper by Henri Matisse, Claude Monet, James McNeill Whistler, and others to explore the ways that their artistic practices and style emerged, in part, in response to widespread pollution in London and Paris.

Organization: Curated by Kevin Tervala, BMA Eddie C. and C. Sylvia Brown Chief Curator



Shahzia Sikander. *Touchstone*. 2021. Baltimore Museum of Art: Fund established with exchange funds from gifts of Dr. and Mrs. Edgar F. Berman, Equitable Bank, N.A., Geoffrey Gates, Sandra O. Moose, National Endowment for the Arts, Lawrence Rubin, Philip M. Stern, and Alan J. Zakon. BMA 2023.227

Crosscurrents: Works from the Contemporary Collection Opening February 26, 2025

All of the Contemporary Wing galleries have been reinstalled with themes that range from the environment and ecology to social protest, cohabitation, and migration. The artworks range from repurposed everyday objects, video, ceramics, mosaics, photography, painting, and furniture. Collection cornerstones such as Bruce Nauman's *Raw War* (1970), as well as recent acquisitions on view for the first time such as Justen Leroy's three-channel video installation *Lay Me Down in Praise* (2022), Shahzia Sikander's mosaic *Touchstone* (2021), Faye Toogood's translucent *Roly-Poly Chair/Water* (2016/2020), and Nari Ward's powerful sculptural installation *Peacekeeper* (1995/2020) are included. *Crosscurrents* also features *Under Other Skies*, a new commission of 10 steel sculptures by interdisciplinary artist Abigail Lucien.

Organization: *Crosscurrents* is curated by Jessica Bell Brown, former BMA Curator of Contemporary Art; Cecilia Wichmann, Curator and Department Head of Contemporary Art; and Leila Grothe, Associate Curator of Contemporary Art; with Antoinette Roberts, Assistant Curator of Contemporary Art; Dylan Kaleikaumaka Hill, Meyerhoff-Becker Curatorial Fellow; Oscar Flores-Montero, Curatorial Assistant for Contemporary Art; and Maura Callahan, University of Maryland Fellow.

Sponsor: This installation is made possible by the Suzanne F. Cohen Exhibition Fund.



Raúl de Nieves: and imagine you are here installation at the Baltimore Museum of Art, November 2023. Courtesy of the artist and Company Gallery, New York. Photo by Mitro Hood

Raúl de Nieves: and imagine you are here November 19, 2023 – December 2026

Multimedia artist, performer, and musician Raúl de Nieves's joyful, interactive installations investigate notions of beauty and transformation. For the BMA's Robert E. Meyerhoff and Rheda Becker Biennial Commission, he created a new work that engages with ideas of metamorphosis in the natural world. The centerpiece is a 27-pane faux stained-glass window that evokes the migratory patterns of Monarch butterflies across the United States and Mexico, a Crested Caracara falcon who came to the artist in a dream, and cicadas, among other symbolic imagery that reflects wild transformation. The installation also includes a multi-tiered chandelier and opulently decorated figurative sculptures placed for direct visitor interaction. Together, these vibrant works immerse audiences in de Nieves' distinctive visual language, which draws on Mexican craft traditions, costumes and adornment, religious iconography, mythology, and folktales.

Organization: Curated by Leila Grothe, BMA Associate Curator of Contemporary Art.

Sponsor: This exhibition is sponsored by Robert E. Meyerhoff and Rheda Becker Biennial Commission.

The Baltimore Museum of Art

Founded in 1914, the Baltimore Museum of Art (BMA) inspires people of all ages and backgrounds through exhibitions, programs, and collections that tell an expansive story of art—challenging long-held narratives and embracing new voices. Our outstanding collection of more than 97,000 objects spans many eras and cultures and includes the world’s largest public holding of works by Henri Matisse; one of the nation’s finest collections of prints, drawings, and photographs; and a rapidly growing number of works by contemporary artists of diverse backgrounds. The museum is also distinguished by a neoclassical building designed by American architect John Russell Pope and two beautifully landscaped gardens featuring an array of modern and contemporary sculpture. The BMA is located three miles north of the Inner Harbor, adjacent to the main campus of Johns Hopkins University, and has a community branch at Lexington Market. General admission is free so that everyone can enjoy the power of art.

Free Admission

General admission to the BMA is free for everyone—every day! Special exhibitions and programs may be ticketed.

Hours

The BMA is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursdays to 9 p.m. The Sculpture Gardens are open Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to dusk (weather permitting). The museum and gardens are closed New Year’s Day, Juneteenth, July 4, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

Location

The BMA is located on Art Museum Drive at North Charles and 31st Streets, three miles north of Baltimore’s Inner Harbor, and is accessible by CityLink Silver and LocalLink 51 buses and the Purple Route of the Charm City Circulator. Parking is available on the street, in the BMA lots, and in JHU’s South Garage on Wyman Park Drive.

Contact Information

General	443-573-1700	Gertrude’s	410-889-3399
BMA Box Office	443-573-1701	Programs & Events	443-573-1832
BMA Shop	443-573-1844	Website	artbma.org