UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

The information below was updated June 2016 and is subject to change. All exhibitions are organized by The Phillips Collection, unless otherwise noted.

People on the Move: Beauty and Struggle in Jacob Lawrence’s Migration Series
October 8, 2016‒January 8, 2017
The Phillips Collection and Museum of Modern Art reunite and present an exhibition of Jacob Lawrence’s masterwork The Migration Series, the seminal, 60-panel work of one of the most celebrated African American artists of the 20th century. Shaped by an interdisciplinary team of scholars, this exhibition provides multiple perspectives on the historical, literary, socio-cultural, aesthetic, and contemporary manifestations of migration that underlie Lawrence’s visual narrative. The Phillips is a leader in the study and presentation of Lawrence’s art, organizing retrospective presentations of the artist’s work, producing national arts-integrated teaching curriculum, and recording and archiving two definitive interviews with Lawrence on his art and life before his death. This exhibition is accompanied by the launch of an interactive website, developed by the Phillips to further engage visitors in the multifaceted story of the Great Migration. The website will include unpublished interviews with the artist and explore the theme of migration from diverse cultural perspectives.

Whitfield Lovell: The Kin Series & Related Works
October 8, 2016‒January 8, 2017
The work of American artist Whitfield Lovell (b. 1959) evokes memories of the past while transcending the specifics of time and space. This exhibition is organized by The Phillips Collection in conjunction with the publication of a monograph on Lovell’s recent Kin series, a group of 60 stark drawings featuring portraits of African Americans. Made from charcoal and Conté crayon on found pieces of wood and placed alongside antique objects, his poetic and intricately crafted tableaux and installations document the passage of time and pay tribute to the daily lives of anonymous early- to mid-20th-century African Americans, evoking a haunting sense of their presence. Lovell’s inspiration comes from songs, films, and poems—which he alludes to in the titles of the works—compounding the psychological and sociological resonances of each piece.

Toulouse-Lautrec Illustrates the Belle Époque
February 4‒April 30, 2017
Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec (1864–1901) captured the heart of Parisian nightlife in dynamic cabaret and café-concert scenes inspired by the city’s burgeoning entertainment district. A frequent visitor to lively hotspots in Montmartre, like the Chat Noir, Mirliton, and Moulin Rouge, his record of local amusements fashioned a portrait of modern Parisian life. Toulouse-Lautrec’s arrival in the City of Light coincided with a resurgence in printmaking, and his experiments with lithography revolutionized the field. For the first time in the US, Toulouse-Lautrec Illustrates the Belle Époque presents one of the foremost collections of the artist’s lithographs and posters. Drawn from the artist’s most prolific years (1891–1899), these iconic images and rarely exhibited unique proofs provide insight into his innovative and complex printmaking process. Encompassing nearly 100 examples of incomparable quality and color, these prints celebrate the premier performers of the belle époque—Aristide Bruant, Marcelle Lender, Cha-U-Kao and others—cleverly caricatured through Toulouse-Lautrec’s perceptive skills of observation and transformation. His modern aesthetic and sharp wit immortalized Paris’s celebrity elite, embraced bohemian culture, and fueled the public imagination.
February 18–April 30, 2017
This exhibition marks the first major survey of drawings by American artist George Condo (b. 1957), a prolific painter best known for his rich pictorial inventions, existential humor, and imaginative portraits that incorporate a hybrid of art-historical influences, including Goya, Velázquez, Rembrandt, Manet, Picasso, and Guston. Featuring 260 drawings—many of which have never been exhibited—the exhibition was conceived and organized in close collaboration with Condo, offering an unprecedented insight into the creative mind of one of today’s most celebrated artists.

INTERSECTIONS

Bettina Pousttchi: Double Monuments
June 9–October 2, 2016
Through photography and sculpture, Berlin-based artist Bettina Pousttchi explores the history and memory of architecture. In her series Double Monument for Flavin and Tatlin (2010–2014), Pousttchi incorporates constraining materials like rails, street barricades, and metal crowd barriers into sculptural forms with spiraling vertical towers and neon light tubes. These “double monuments” reference the work of Russian Constructivist sculptor-architect Vladimir Tatlin from the 1920s and American minimalist artist Dan Flavin from the 1960s. Five Double Monument sculptures, ranging from 8 to 12 feet, will be on view, dramatically illuminating the space with their neon lights. The sculptures will be paired with Naum Gabo’s Linear Structure in Space No. 1 (1943) and photographs from the 1930s and 1940s by Berenice Abbott, Louis Faurer, Alfred Eisenstaedt, and Gjon Mili, black-and-white images that underline the theme of illuminated space presented in Pousttchi and Gabo’s works.

Arlene Shechet
October 20, 2016–January 22, 2017
New York-based sculptor Arlene Shechet’s abstract—and often humorous—glazed ceramic sculptures are alluring, in part, because while their subject matter remains elusive, they are familiar and comforting. A practicing Buddhist, Shechet creates works grounded in forms, images, and processes that emerge from Buddhist practices and seem to expand and deflate like a breath, continually transforming and reappearing anew moment by moment. The artist will install 10 to 12 sculptures throughout the museum’s permanent collection galleries.
TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS

Conversations: Impressionist and Modern Masterworks from The Phillips Collection
CaixaForum, Barcelona; March 10–June 12, 2016
CaixaForum, Madrid; July 16–October 23, 2016
Conversations: Impressionist and Modern Masterworks from The Phillips Collection presents paintings arranged thematically from the early 19th century through the mid-20th century. Viewers will encounter a stunning array of masterpieces from the 19th century by Courbet, Daumier, Goya, Ingres, and Manet in dialogue with the great Impressionist and Post-Impressionist masters at the end of the century, such as Cézanne, Degas, Monet, and van Gogh. Central to the exhibition are modern masters like Bonnard, Kandinsky, Matisse, Picasso, Pollock, Rothko, Rousseau, and Soutine, who together have shaped the look of the 20th century. Seminal works from recent decades by Diebenkorn, Gottlieb, Guston, and Louis create an entirely new conversation for audiences in the 21st century.

American Mosaic: Picturing Modern Art through the Eye of Duncan Phillips
Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, California; August 6–November 6, 2016
Brandywine River Museum of Art, Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania; February 25–May 21, 2017
The featured artists in American Mosaic are those museum founder Duncan Phillips singled out as important standard-bearers for the modern spirit, whose work reflects the changing nature of American art in the 20th century. Phillips was determined to lift American art out of obscurity, while also advocating for a creativity that expressed the country’s diversity. Featuring 65 works created from the 1860s to 1960s, this exhibition presents a thematic journey that reveals the breadth of America’s modernist vision, beginning with the great heroes of American art of the late 19th century, whose work set the course for modern art in the United States, and concluding with the Abstract Expressionists, whose new visual language turned American art into a global force.

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