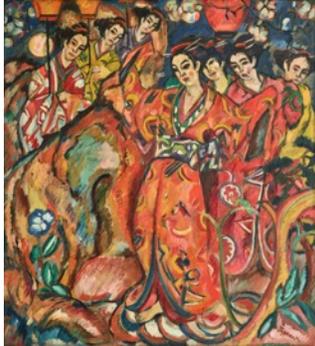




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**Spring Exhibitions at the Wadsworth
On View and Opening April–June, 2021**

Hartford, Conn. (March 25, 2021)—Each month through June 2021 a new exhibition project is scheduled to open at the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art. With over 50,000 square feet of gallery spaces and a collection that ranges from Greek and Roman antiquities to unsurpassed Hudson River School landscapes and world-renowned Baroque, Surrealist, Impressionist, Modern, and Contemporary works of art, the Wadsworth offers a visual experience for every taste. Admission to the museum is free through June 2021. Reserve free tickets online in advance via thewadsworth.org. Walk-up visitors may be accommodated based on availability.

**The Dance on the Volcano: German Expressionism at the Wadsworth
Through May 30, 2021**

Spurred by the recent acquisition of Georg Tappert's *Geisha-Revue*, *The Dance on the Volcano* sheds new light on the Wadsworth's collection of German Expressionism. The gaudy nightclub scene, painted with garish colors in a cacophonous composition, is exemplary of the vibrant artistic life in Berlin before the outbreak of World War I. Tappert's *Geisha-Revue* shows Geisha dancers gathering under a cherry tree. A frequent visitor of Variété theatres, Tappert repeatedly painted scenes of Berlin nightlife.

Nine paintings and prints by Tappert's friends including Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, Erich Heckel, and Max Pechstein are shown alongside *Geisha-Revue*. Rarely seen together, these artworks provide a unique opportunity to discover Georg Tappert and to explore the Wadsworth's collection of Expressionist paintings, drawings, and prints.

Goya, Posada, Chagoya: Three Generations of Satirists

April 23–November 7, 2021

Francisco Goya (Spanish, 1746–1828), José Guadalupe Posada (Mexican, 1852–1913), and Enrique Chagoya (American, born 1953) examine their respective cultures through printmaking, establishing a visual dialogue about the shared human condition. Chagoya's *Homage to Goya II: Disasters of War* (2003), a portfolio of ten etchings that draws on Goya's eponymous series, is prominently featured. Chagoya reimagines the prints for contemporary audiences with visual references to precolonial mythology, Mexican culture, American politics, and pop culture. Posada was known for popular cartoons and illustrations printed in newspapers. His work provided early inspiration for Chagoya, who was born and raised in Mexico. The three artists are even depicted together in one of Chagoya's prints.

Focus Exhibition Series | Presentations of singular masterpieces

Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec: Jane Avril Leaving the Moulin Rouge

April 30–August 29, 2021

Jane Avril was one of the great stars of Paris during the late nineteenth century, regularly performing in dance halls and cabarets in Montmartre. At the height of her career, she befriended Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, who rendered her leaving the famed Moulin Rouge cabaret after one of her concerts. This exhibition celebrates both artists, their unique friendship, and the world in which they thrived—the nightlife in Paris at the *fin de siècle*, the end of the nineteenth century. Rarely seen lithographs by Toulouse-Lautrec as well as works by his contemporaries will also be on view. Passionate and provocative in his personal relationships as well as in his work, Toulouse-Lautrec became known as a remarkably sympathetic, sensitive, and idiosyncratic portraitist of women, as can be seen in this great painting.

Milton Avery: The Connecticut Years

May 14–October 17, 2021

This exhibition presents an intimate look at the formative years of the modernist painter Milton Avery (American, 1885–1965). Beginning in Hartford in the 1910s and 1920s, Avery forged a staunchly independent path as an artist for more than half a century. Two dozen sketches, watercolors, and oils illustrate his early interest in depicting landscapes, which he continued to do throughout his career. Highlights of the show also include rarely seen works from Avery's summer stay in Collinsville, CT, in 1930. To add context to these formative experiences and influences, artwork by Avery's teachers and colleagues from the Connecticut League of Art Students and the Hartford Art School will be displayed along with brochures, reviews, and letters from the Wadsworth's archives. Seen together, these objects tell the story of Avery's artistic roots in Connecticut.

Stories in Ivory and Wood, told by Master Carvers

June 11–October 2021

In the mid 1600s a carver known only as the Master of the Martyrdom of Saint Sebastian created dramatic, emotionally-charged works of art in ivory and boxwood. This intimate exhibition will feature two of his most extraordinary sculptures, *The Fall of Man* and *Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane*, both triumphs of visual storytelling.

A comparison of these two biblical stories, the media the artist used, and additional works in ivory and wood by his contemporaries illuminates the artistic world in which this mysterious artist practiced. As only about 20 of his carvings are known today, this exhibition is a rare opportunity to study his distinctive hand in two different materials.

Leonardo Drew: Two Projects

Late May–December 2021

Raised in Bridgeport, Connecticut, and now residing in Brooklyn, New York, artist Leonardo Drew responds to a longstanding fascination with the life cycle of material decomposition and transformation in his work. In this two-part project, Drew has planned a site-specific installation—an expansive sculptural work the artist refers to as an “explosion”—for the museum’s Main Street lobby, and an outdoor, interactive sculptural landscape spanning the museum’s open-air central courtyard. Originally realized in 2019 as a commission for Madison Square Park in New York, *City in the Grass* will be modified for the Wadsworth’s courtyard. Drew’s participatory art sculpture is created for public interaction, a place for rest and reflection as much as performance and play. Drew invites and encourages visitors to engage with it directly to fulfill its purpose. Programs that creatively and physically activate the sculpture throughout the summer and fall will soon be announced.

Paulanship: Ancient Made Modern

Through July 3, 2021

"...this exhibition reveals how Manship became Manship, how he melded his interests in ancient art and mythological tales with early 20th century sensibilities to make something new, a style that bloomed into Art Deco." —Judith H. Dobrzynski, *The Wall Street Journal*

Paul Manship’s sculpture visually defines a melding of ancient and modern sensibilities. One of America’s most celebrated sculptors of the early twentieth century, he is known for major public commissions such as Prometheus at Rockefeller Center in Manhattan and the Rainey Memorial Gates at the Bronx Zoo. Manship spent his student years at the American Academy in Rome. His time there was the foundational chapter in a long career, when his ideas and working methods were deeply influenced by the ancient works he studied. While abroad, Manship developed a repertoire of designs that he incorporated into his streamlined Art Deco style. Upon his return to New York City, his dramatic, energetic bronze sculptures reinterpreted the past for the modern age, attracting critical acclaim and establishing a new direction for American sculpture. Together with his signature bronzes, associated sketches and ancient artifacts illuminate how Manship became a master of his craft.

Todd Gray / MATRIX 186

Through July 18, 2021

"The work is history writ in visceral, photographic form: the landscapes that fed the slave trade are juxtaposed with the people who amassed wealth from it, along with the ghosts that remain." — Carolina A. Miranda, *Los Angeles Times*

Todd Gray (American, born 1954) creates photographic assemblages to explore the history and enduring impact of European colonialism, slavery, and the African diaspora. This subject matter holds personal significance for the artist: Gray's family has been unable to trace their lineage beyond three generations due to the legacy of slavery. To create new work, Gray mines his extensive archive of photographs created over decades of travel, then selects and juxtaposes images of African people and sublime landscapes, formally-designed European gardens and architecture, and dazzling constellations captured by the Hubble Space Telescope. Framed individually in different styles of new and used frames, the photographs are layered and stacked in dynamic overlapping compositions. Breaking the rules of formal presentation, Gray conceals and pairs imagery to take us on a complex journey about history and identity through Africa, Europe, and the cosmos, and through time and space.

Visit thewadsworth.org for a complete list of exhibitions and programs.

The Wadsworth is operating on a reduced schedule with timed entry in line with the state's Reopen Connecticut guidelines. Hours are noon–8pm Fridays, and noon–5pm Saturdays, and Sundays. Visitors are required to wear a face mask/covering, receive a contactless temperature check upon entry, and observe a safe social distance of 6 feet from others while on the grounds of the Wadsworth and inside the museum. The library, food service, and Austin House are currently closed to the public.

Sustaining support for the Wadsworth Atheneum provided by Newman's Own Foundation and the Greater Hartford Arts Council's United Arts Campaign.

About the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art

Founded in 1842 with a vision for infusing art into the American experience, the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art is home to a collection of nearly 50,000 works of art spanning 5,000 years and encompassing European art from antiquity through contemporary as well as American art from the 1600s to today. The Wadsworth Atheneum's five connected buildings—representing architectural styles including Gothic Revival, modern International Style, and 1960s Brutalism—are located at 600 Main Street in Hartford, Conn. Hours: noon–8pm on Fridays, noon–5pm, Saturdays and Sundays. Admission is free through June 20, 2021. Phone: (860) 278-2670; website: thewadsworth.org.

Image captions (left to right): Georg Tappert, *Geisha-Revue*, 1911/13, Oil on canvas. Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, The Ella Gallup Sumner and Mary Catlin Sumner Collection Fund. © 2021 Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York / VG Bild-Kunst, Bonn; Enrique Chagoya, *Goya conoce a Posada (Goya meets Posada)*, from *Homage to Goya II: Disasters of War*, 2003. Etching, aquatint, and rubber stamp on paper, ed. 3/30. Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Gift of Linda Cheverton Wick; Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec, *Jane Avril Leaving the Moulin Rouge*, 1892. Essence on board. Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, Bequest of George Gay.