

SAM SEATTLE
ART
MUSEUM

ROMAN ART FROM THE LOUVRE



and

The Gates of Paradise

Lorenzo Ghiberti's Renaissance Masterpiece



*From the Unsurpassed Collections
of the World's Most Famous Museum*

Roman Art from the Louvre

February 21–May 11, 2008

This extraordinary selection of ancient art from Paris's famed Musée du Louvre portrays nearly 400 years of imperial Roman life and history. The exhibition includes approximately 180 pieces—many that have never before traveled to the United States—from one of the richest collections of ancient Roman art in the world.

Visitors will meet emperors and members of the imperial court, elite and ordinary citizens, women and children, soldiers, gladiators, foreigners and slaves. Their lives and experiences are richly conveyed through a wide variety of media including monumental marble sculptures and reliefs, paintings and mosaics, bronze statuettes, jewelry, glass and silver implements.



above and left: Mosaic Depicting the Judgment of Paris, second half of the first century to early second century A.D., marble, limestone and molten glass, 73 1/4 x 73 1/4 x 5 7/8 in., Musée du Louvre, Paris (MA 3443–INV. MND 1945), © AFA / Musée du Louvre / Daniel Lebée and Carine Deambrosio, Courtesy of the American Federation of Arts; cover: Cameo with Jupiter, imperial Roman era, double-layered sardonyx, 5 3/8 x 3 1/2 x 5/8 in., Musée du Louvre, Paris (Bj 1820–INV. MR 57), © AFA / Musée du Louvre / Daniel Lebée and Carine Deambrosio, Courtesy of the American Federation of Arts

Thanks to our sponsors

The exhibition is organized by the American Federation of Arts and the Musée du Louvre.



LOUVRE

It is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.

The Seattle presentation has been made possible through the following:

Lead Sponsor **CHARLES SIMONYI FUND**
for Arts and Sciences

Generous support provided by

The Seattle Art Museum Supporters (SAMS) The Stack Foundation

The Seattle Times



Additional support provided by Contributors to the Annual Fund

A ROMAN HOLIDAY: PUBLIC OPENING WEEKEND

Friday, February 22

5–9 p.m., SAM Downtown, Brotman Forum

View the exhibition, sip a cocktail at SAM TASTE, and enjoy music and entertainment in the Brotman Forum.

The Three Faces of Rome: Ancient, Christian, and Opera

7 p.m., SAM Downtown, Nordstrom Lecture Hall

Seattle Opera Education Director Perry Lorenzo discusses the three Roman locales of the opera *Tosca* as the architectural history of Roman and Italian culture. Free and open to the public. Registration required. For more information about Seattle Opera's production of *Tosca* or to buy tickets, visit seattleopera.org.

Saturday, February 23

Family Day: Rome the Word

Presented by 

10 a.m.–3 p.m., SAM Downtown

From Rome to Africa, Europe to Asia, and back to the Northwest, families will explore the threads that connect world cultures. Games, music, storytelling, hands-on art making, and more. Free with museum admission.

Sunday, February 24

The History of Society: The Story of Ancient Rome

2 p.m., SAM Downtown, Plestcheeff Auditorium

Hear the story only the curators could tell about the history and society of ancient Rome as reflected in the Louvre collection. Featuring Cécile Giroire and Daniel Roger, curators from the Department of Greek, Etruscan and Roman Antiquities, Musée du Louvre, and Margaret Laird, Assistant Professor of Roman Art at the University of Washington and Seattle coordinator for *Roman Art from the Louvre*. Free with museum admission. Registration required.

See “Programs” page for more information on registering for programs.



MEMBERS SEE IT FIRST.

All Members Preview—Free to members!

Roman Art from the Louvre

Wednesday, February 20, noon–8 p.m.

Open to members only, with exhibition overviews at 12:30 and 6:30 p.m. by the exhibition's Seattle coordinator, Margaret Laird, Assistant Professor of Roman Art at the University of Washington.

Premier Members Reception

Saturday, February 23, 6–10 p.m.

Members Mondays

February 25, March 24 and May 5, 3–8 p.m.

Exclusive gallery access for members only.

Join today at seattleartmuseum.org



One of Florence's "Greatest Glories"

—The New York Times

The Gates of Paradise

Lorenzo Ghiberti's Renaissance Masterpiece

January 26–April 6, 2008

Michelangelo is credited with dubbing them "the gates of paradise." Three stunning panels from Lorenzo Ghiberti's *Gates of Paradise*, one of the most celebrated works of the Italian Renaissance, are on view at SAM Downtown. This exhibition marks the first time that the gilded bronze panels have traveled to the United States since their creation over 550 years ago.

Don't miss your chance to see a true gem of the Italian Renaissance. This is truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity; once the panels conclude their tour in Seattle, they will be installed in the Museo dell'Opera del Duomo in Florence permanently, never to travel again.



top: *Creation Panel, Gates of Paradise (detail), 1425-1452*
Lorenzo Ghiberti, Italian, ca. 1381-1455, gilt bronze, 31 1/2 x 31 1/2 in., Collection of the Museo dell'Opera del Duomo, Image courtesy of the Opificio delle Pietre Dure, Florence, Panels photographed by Antonio Quattrone / ARTstor; left: *Jacob and Esau Panel, Gates of Paradise, 1425-52*, Lorenzo Ghiberti, Italian, ca. 1381-1455, gilt bronze, 31 1/2 x 31 1/2 in., Collection of the Museo dell'Opera del Duomo, Image courtesy of the Opificio delle Pietre Dure, Florence, Panels photographed by Antonio Quattrone / ARTstor

Thanks to our sponsors

The Gates of Paradise: Lorenzo Ghiberti's Renaissance Masterpiece is organized by the High Museum of Art, Atlanta, in collaboration with the Opera di Santa Maria del Fiore and the Opificio delle Pietre Dure, Florence.

The exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities and by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.

The Seattle presentation has been made possible through the following:

Lead Sponsor: Robert Lehman Foundation, Inc.

Generous sponsorship provided by:

PONCHO

Seattle Art Museum Supporters (SAMS)

The Seattle Times



Rosa Ayer, The John C. & Karyl Kay Hughes Foundation, The MacRae Foundation, Sally & Bill Neukom, the Offield Family Foundation, Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Scheumann, Schnitzer West, Ann P. Wyckoff, and contributors to the Annual Fund.

PROGRAMS

Pivotal Perspectives: Conversations on Art and Culture

Roman Art: The Metropolitan Museum of Art's Perspective

Wednesday, March 5, 7 p.m.
SAM Downtown, Plestcheeff Auditorium

Last spring, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York reopened its Greek and Roman galleries in a spectacular new installation that has won international acclaim. Join Carlos Picón, curator of the Greek and Roman Department at the Met, to discuss the wide range of Roman antiquities included in the landmark exhibition *Roman Art from the Louvre*. This lecture will also illustrate other antiquities in the collections of the Seattle Art Museum and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Free and open to the public. Registration required.

Support for this lecture provided by the Charles Simonyi Fund for Arts and Sciences.

Rome Past and Present with Rick Steves

Thursday, March 20, 7:30 p.m.
SAM Downtown, Plestcheeff Auditorium

Rick Steves, PBS travel host and author of America's leading Rome guidebook, shares the wonders of Rome past and present, with the latest tips on enjoying the city smartly. Free with museum admission. Registration required.

Lorenzo Ghiberti's Art and Innovation with Andrew Butterfield

Wednesday, March 26, 7 p.m.
SAM Downtown, Plestcheeff Auditorium

Writer and Renaissance sculpture expert Andrew Butterfield addresses the innovation in Ghiberti's magnificent baptistery doors. Hear Butterfield elaborate on this topic with SAM Chief Conservator Nicholas Dorman. Reception to follow, sponsored by SAM's Decorative Arts and Paintings Council. Free and open to the public. Registration required.

How to register for public programs

Advance registration is required for all adult public programs at SAM unless otherwise noted. To register, email boxoffice@seattleartmuseum.org or call 206.654.3121. For events marked "Free with museum admission," both members and nonmembers must obtain museum admission tickets during public hours at the Admissions Desk before proceeding to the event location to check in. If you have not checked in 10 minutes prior to start time, your space may be released to others.



Illuminating the Gates of Paradise with Gary Radke and Annamaria Giusti

Thursday, March 27, 7 p.m.
SAM Downtown, Plestcheeff Auditorium

How did the Gates of Paradise make their way from Florence to Seattle? Join Gary Radke, guest curator of *The Gates of Paradise*, and Annamaria Giusti, chief conservator of the project, as they discuss how they brought new life to this Renaissance masterpiece. Free with museum admission. Registration required.

Support for this lecture provided by the Samuel H. Kress Foundation.

Empire to Nation: The Emergence and Development of World Governance with Strobe Talbott

Friday, April 11, 7 p.m.
SAM Downtown, Plestcheeff Auditorium

Strobe Talbott, president of the Brookings Institution, shares insights into the origins of the Roman Empire and the emergence of individual nations, as well as their contemporary manifestations. Free with museum admission. Registration required.

Co-presented with the World Affairs Council.



Models for Understanding Visual Representation of Roman Ritual with John R. Clarke

Friday, April 18, 6:30 p.m.
SAM Downtown, Plestcheeff Auditorium

SAM is proud to present this keynote address by the definitive scholar of Roman art history, John R. Clarke, Annie Laurie Howard Regents Professor in the History of Art at the University of Texas at Austin. This lecture is part of *Roman Imperial Art and Ritual*, a two-day symposium in collaboration with the University of Washington Simpson Center for the Humanities, Department of Classics, Department of History, Division of Art History, the Graduate School, and the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Washington. Free with museum admission. Registration required.

From Ancient Rome to Today's Antiquities Market with Maxwell L. Anderson

Friday, April 25, 7 p.m.
SAM Downtown, Plestcheeff Auditorium

Maxwell L. Anderson, the Melvin & Bren Simon Director and CEO of the Indianapolis Museum of Art, will consider the dilemmas facing U.S. art museums that seek to present evidence of the ancient world without contributing to the illicit trade in antiquities. Sharing his perspective as a former curator of Greek and Roman art at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Anderson will shed light on the current debate among art museum leaders. Free with museum admission. Registration required.

Ancient Rome on Modern Screens: The Politics and Pleasures of Reinventing Empire with Sandra Joshel

Thursday, May 1, 7 p.m.
SAM Downtown, Nordstrom Lecture Hall

Sandra Joshel, Associate Professor of History at the University of Washington and editor of *Imperial Projections: Ancient Rome in Modern Popular Culture*, will discuss how imperial Rome appears in films, the pleasures of viewing Rome, and the history of films about Rome. Free with museum admission. Registration required.

Fragment of a Relief of a Double Suovetaurilia Sacrifice, first or second quarter of first century A.D., grey-veined marble, 70 7/8 x 90 5/8 x 6 3/4 in., Musée du Louvre, Paris (MA 1096-INV. MR 852), © AFA / Musée du Louvre / Daniel Lebée and Carine Deambrosis, Courtesy of the American Federation of Arts

KIDS AND FAMILIES

Don't miss Family Day on February 23!
See details under "Public Opening Weekend."

Family Fun

Second Saturday of every month, 10 a.m.–noon
SAM Downtown, Brotman Forum

Explore the galleries and create works of art. Recommended for ages 12 and under and their parents/ guardians. Free with museum admission. To attend, register online at seattleartmuseum.org/learn/YouthFamily/familyfunform.asp. Class begins promptly at 10 a.m.

March 8

Marvelous Mosaics

Wander the special exhibition *Roman Art from the Louvre* with mosaics in mind, then compose your own mosaic in the studio.

April 12

Sculpt it— What a Relief!

Travel back in time to experience ancient Roman society.

Generous support for Family Fun at SAM Downtown provided by The Foster Foundation and the Phil and Geda Condit Family. Print sponsor: Parent Map.

TEENS

Teens ages 13–19 get in free from 5 to 9 p.m. on the second Friday of every month.

ARTattack: Teen Night Out Teens 'n' Togas

April 11, 6–9 p.m., SAM Downtown
Teens ages 13–19 free.

Bursting at the seams with teen talent, this evening of cool culture will make you have an art attack! For high school-age youth only, these showstopping evenings feature poetry, hot DJs, teen art tours, and workshops led by some of today's hottest contemporary artists. ARTattack print sponsor: SeattleWeekly.

Propaganda + People: Art Workshop

Saturdays and Sundays, March 22, 23, 29 and 30
10 a.m.–3 p.m., SAM Downtown

From Roman imperial reign to presidential elections, propaganda and art have always played a powerful role in how we cast our votes. Teens are invited to this four-day workshop led by contemporary artists. Participants will create contemporary propaganda posters that promote an iconic figure or political candidate. Registration required: call 206.654.3159 or register online at seattleartmuseum.org/calendar/calendar.asp.

FILMS

Rome on Film

Fridays, March 7–28, 7:30 p.m.
SAM Downtown
Plestcheeff Auditorium

Series tickets: nonmembers
\$32, members \$29.
SAM Box Office: 206.654.3121.

March 7

Rome, Open City

(Roberto Rossellini, 1945) Anna Magnani, Aldo Fabrizi. Movingly chronicles the resistance efforts of Rome's anti-Nazi underground during World War II. In 35 mm, 105 min.

March 14

Umberto D.

(Vittorio DeSica, 1952) Carol Battisti, Maria-Pia Casilio, Lina Gennari. A retired civil servant struggles to get by on his dwindling pension. In 35 mm, 89 min.

March 21

Fellini's Roma

(Federico Fellini, 1972) Peter Gonzales Falcon, Stefano Mayore. The maestro's "nostalgic carefree diary" projects Federico Fellini's lifelong love affair with the city. In color, 35 mm, 128 min.

March 28

Gladiator

(Ridley Scott, 2000) Russell Crowe, Joaquin Phoenix, Connie Nielsen, Oliver Reed. A first-century soldier whose family has been murdered comes to Rome to fight in the Colosseum and seek his revenge. In color, 35 mm, 154 min.

April 4

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum

(Richard Lester, 1966) Buster Keaton, Phil Silvers. Stephen Sondheim's rollicking musical finds a Roman slave (Zero Mostel) trying to win his freedom. In color, 35 mm, 99 min.



FIRST FRIDAY PROGRAMS

Free with museum admission. Seniors age 62 and over are admitted to SAM installations for free and to special exhibitions at a reduced price on the first Friday of the month.

Roman Art from the Louvre

Friday, March 7, 11 a.m.
SAM Downtown, Plestcheeff Auditorium

Margaret Laird, Assistant Professor of Roman Art at the University of Washington and Seattle coordinator for *Roman Art from the Louvre*, provides a sampler of the 180 prime examples of Roman art from the famous Paris museum, now on view at SAM, their only West Coast venue.

Roman Art: The Diversity of an Empire

Friday, May 2, 11 a.m.
SAM Downtown, Plestcheeff Auditorium

Sarah Berman, SAM Collections Coordinator and Research Associate, will discuss art spanning the four centuries and three continents of the Roman Empire.

TOURS

Free with museum admission

The Gates of Paradise

January 26–April 6, Saturdays at 11 a.m. and Sundays at 1 p.m.

Roman Art from the Louvre

February 21–May 11, Tuesday–Sunday at 1 p.m. and at 2:30 p.m.

My Favorite Things: Roman Art from the Louvre Led by Gene Openshaw

Thursday, March 6, 6:30 p.m.

Gene Openshaw is an art and history lecturer who has co-written numerous books with travel guru Rick Steves. Be sure to purchase admission to the exhibition prior to start time.

Roman Art Remixed!

Thursdays: April 3 and May 1, 6:30 p.m.
Fridays: February 22, March 7, April 4 and May 2, 6:30 p.m.

Revolutionize your *Roman Art from the Louvre* experience with unique guided tours led by University of Washington graduate students. Tours begin at the entrance to the Charles Simonyi Special Exhibition Galleries on the Fourth Floor.

AFTER HOURS

Thursday and Friday Nights at SAM

Check out music and fresh beats by local DJs and musicians, explore the galleries with local artists/critics/cultural producers, and enjoy a drink at the TASTE Bar. There's always something happening at SAM Downtown! See our online calendar for more details: seattleartmuseum.org. Print sponsor: SeattleWeekly.

First Thursdays—Art for All

First Thursday of every month, 6–8 p.m.

Live music and programs tied to SAM's global collections.
Radio sponsor: KEXP.

First Fridays—SAM Remix

First Friday of every month, 6–9 p.m.

Featuring award-winning KEXP DJ Kid Hops.

Second Thursdays—Art of Jazz and SAM Word

Second Thursday of every month, 5:30–9 p.m.

Live jazz by local and national artists presented by Earshot Jazz, as well as poetry and spoken-word by some of Seattle's finest wordsmiths. Radio sponsor: KPLU.

SAM TASTE RESTAURANT

This spring SAM's TASTE Restaurant features a Rome-inspired menu including slow-roasted short ribs, black olive polenta, braised rabbit and pappardelle, and a surprising dessert selection. Its wine list features local wines touting Italian varietals. TASTE is open for lunch and dinner Tuesday–Sunday, 10 a.m.–10 p.m., and always uses local, sustainable, organic and fresh-from-the-market ingredients. For reservations, call 206.903.5291 or email tasterestaurant@tastesam.com. SAM members receive 10% off.

SAM SHOP

Visit SAM's Special Exhibition Shop on the Fourth Floor to be transported to the days of the ancients and the glory of Roman civilization. You'll find olive oil jugs with rich patinas; luminous hand-turned alabaster bowls; Roman-inspired glass; textiles reminiscent of fresco paintings; and exquisite collections of jewelry, including pounded metal, leather, dangling gems, and sterling silver that incorporates 2,000-year-old shards of Roman glass, cameos and pearls. SAM members receive 15% off.



The stunning catalogue for *Roman Art from the Louvre* is available at SAM SHOP in hardback (\$65) and softcover (\$55).

SAM PARTNERS

Seattle Opera

Seattle Opera presents Italy's most beloved operas. For tickets and information, visit www.seattleopera.org or call 800.426.1619.

Tosca

By Giacomo Puccini
February 23–March 9

Famed opera diva Tosca wants Cavaradossi, an artist and political firebrand, to turn away from revolution for the sake of their love. Menacing chief of police Scarpia just wants Tosca. It's a larger-than-life battle of wills, and love may not be the only casualty...

I Puritani

By Vincenzo Bellini
May 3–17

This Romeo and Juliet—Elvira and Arturo—are separated not just by a family feud but by a civil war. Bellini's bel canto opera *I Puritani* captures the volatile influences of young love, with soaring heights and unhinging lows.

Tea at the Fairmont Olympic Hotel

The historic Fairmont Olympic Hotel in downtown Seattle is offering a sumptuous tea inspired by *Roman Art from the Louvre* this spring. Relax while savoring one of twelve blends of loose-leaf tea, dainty finger sandwiches, tempting sweets and delicious scones. The price of the tea is \$56 for adults, \$19 for children 12 and under, and it includes tickets to *Roman Art from the Louvre*. For more information and reservations, call 206.621.7889.

SAM Downtown Admission

	Suggested General Admission*	<i>Roman Art from the Louvre</i>
Adults	\$13	\$20
Seniors (62+)	\$10	\$17
Students (with ID) & Teens (13–19)	\$7	\$14
Kids 12 and under	Free	Free
Members	Free	Free

*General Admission includes *The Gates of Paradise*. Gallery entrance to *The Gates of Paradise* is on a first-come, first-served basis due to limited capacity. Advance tickets for *Roman Art from the Louvre* are available at seattleartmuseum.org.

Please see seattleartmuseum.org for special prices on first Thursday and first and second Fridays of the month.

Sorry, SAM cannot accept discounts or coupons from February 21 to May 11, 2008.

COMING JUNE 2008



Inspiring Impressionism: The Impressionists and the Art of the Past

This groundbreaking survey will feature over eighty old master and Impressionist masterpieces, many never before shown in the United States. Works from some of the world's most renowned artists will be included, such as Degas, Velázquez, Cassatt, El Greco, Cézanne, Goya, Renoir, Raphael, Gauguin and Seurat.

This exhibition was organized by the Denver Art Museum in collaboration with the High Museum of Art, Atlanta, and the Seattle Art Museum. Northern Trust is the National Tour Sponsor of *Inspiring Impressionism*. Additional support provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities and an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities. Local support is provided by the Sarkowsky Endowment.

MEMBERS SEE IT FREE.

JOIN TODAY!

The best way to experience these magnificent exhibitions is with a SAM membership. Call 206.654.3180 or go to seattleartmuseum.org and sign up today.

Membership starts at \$60 and includes:

- Members-only previews and events
- Twelve months of free admission
- Discounts at SAM SHOP and TASTE Restaurant

A Young Girl Reading, ca. 1776, Jean-Honoré Fragonard, French, 1732–1806, oil on canvas, 32 x 25 1/2 in., Gift of Mrs. Mellon Bruce in memory of her father, Andrew W. Mellon, 1961.16.1, image © 2007 Board of Trustees, National Gallery of Art, Washington

SAM SEATTLE
ART
MUSEUM

1300 1st Avenue, Downtown Seattle
seattleartmuseum.org