



**Ten years of
Acquisitions
Ten years of
Passion**

**29/5/2015
– 21/9/2015**



**Press
Release**

MUSÉE
DES BEAUX-ARTS
DE LYON



Exhibition Curating Ten years of Acquisitions, ten years of Passion

Sylvie Ramond, Director, Curator-in-Chief in charge of 20th century Paintings, Sculptures and the Graphic Arts Cabinet, assisted by **Claire Mathieu**

Geneviève Galliano, Curator-in-Chief in charge of the Antiquities Department.

Salima Hellal, Curator in charge of the Department of Decorative Arts.

Stéphane Paccoud, Curator-in-Chief, in charge of 19th century Paintings.

François Planet, In charge of Coins and Medals, assisted by **Zoé Courdier**

Ludmila Virassamynaïken, Curator in charge of Ancient Paintings and Sculptures.

Exhibition Commissariat GenevièveASSE

Sylvie Ramond, Director, Curator-in-Chief in charge of 20th century Paintings, Sculptures and the Graphic Arts Cabinet, assisted by **Claire Mathieu**

Rainer Michael Mason, Art Historian, Curator.

Exhibition Commissariat Georges Adilon

Sylvie Ramond, Director, Curator-in-Chief in charge of 20th century Paintings, Sculptures and the Graphic Arts Cabinet, assisted by **Claire Mathieu**



**Ten years of
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The museum is celebrating ten years of acquisitions in the form of a dedicated tour of its collections and temporary exhibition rooms. It features antiquities, paintings, sculptures, decorative arts, coins and medals as well as recently acquired collections of drawings and etchings that illustrate the museum's acquisition policies, which have placed it among the leaders on the national and international scene. Exhibitions of works by Geneviève Asse and Georges Adilon are also present, thus highlighting the importance of 20th century art in the museum's collections. Finally, three thematic presentations are exhibited during *Ten years of Acquisitions, ten years of Passion* – graphic arts, medals and Auguste Morisot.

The various departments of the Fine Arts Museum of Lyon have greatly enriched their collections since 2004, with over 580 works being added to them as part of an acquisitions policy that puts the emphasis on the coherence of its collections. The museum has increased the presence of works by some artists, addressed certain absences in style and chronology and expanded the content of certain artistic movements. The museum has chosen to present a selection of works in the permanent collections in the shape of a tour rather than in specific exhibition rooms. This presentation has for objective to put the accent on their inscription within the history of art and reveal their singular beauty. The tour also reflects the diversity of the acquisition procedures that major museums such as this have at their disposition, which include donations, bequests, purchases, deposits and gifts. It also thanks and pays homage to donators and art collectors, the Friends of the museum association, stakeholders who are members of the Saint-Pierre Museum Club, private individuals from the Cercle Poussin and subscribers, and public institutions such as the city authorities of Lyon, the Culture Ministry, the DRAC Rhône-Alpes, the Rhône-Alpes Region and the FRAM, all of whom have helped the museum and supported its acquisition policy in many ways.

Acquisitions in all departments

The Department of Antiquities

A new submission from the Lumière Lyon 2 University, the Victor Loret Egyptology Institute, has enhanced the museum's collections with small objects of daily use. Antique inscriptions – a stele from Roman Syria, an Aramean stele and a Palmyrian bas-relief – have also enriched the collections thanks to a bequest. The department has also received a donation consisting of two Gnostic (or 'magic') lamellas from the Middle East, a jug from Cyprus and an Attic cup with ornamental black figures.



Relief of Malikou
Palmyria – 2nd century AD
Limestone
■ Bequest from Magdeleine Dupont-Sommer, 2011

Decorative Arts Department

A blown glass vase with bronze gilding by Émile Gallé (1846-1904) has entered the Decorative Arts collection as well as several contemporary ceramics, some of which were crafted by Daniel de Montmollin (born 1921). They will be exhibited in echo of the Far East ceramics collections, thus highlighting the transmission of know-how from generation to generation of artists.



Émile Gallé (1846-1904)
Vase
Ca. 1904
Blown glass with bronze gilding
■ Acquired by the cabinet Bonnet – 2009

Coins and Medals Collection

The principal acquisition in the Coins and Medals department is a teston of Louis XII that was struck in Lyon in 1514 and is the first French coin featuring a portrait of the king. Moreover, the collections are regularly enriched by curious and precious pieces, many of them originate from the cabinet of Michel Descours. The additions include delicate and lightweight Mesopotamian pieces in the form of a trussed up duck and a shell that was given to the museum in 2009.



Louis XII, king of France
Teston in struck silver, made in Lyon
and dated 1514

■ Acquired in 2005

Paintings and Sculptures

The Department of Ancient Paintings has been enriched by the acquisition of several works, including *Saint Augustin et son disciple Alypius recevant la visite de Ponticianus*, a tempera on wood by Nicolo di Pietro (Ca. 1340–1414), which is a unique work in the French collections, a terracotta bust of Louis XV as a boy by Antoine Coysevox, and two paintings by Jacques Stella (1596–1657), one of which is *Sémiramis appelée au combat* (1637). The arrival of two landscapes by Jean-Honoré Fragonard (1732–1806) thanks to the Saint-Pierre Museum Club – *L'Abreuvoir* (Ca. 1765) and *Le Rocher* (after 1780) – complete the collection in spectacular fashion.



Jean-Honoré Fragonard (1732-1806)
L'Abreuvoir
Ca. 1765
Oil on canvas

■ Acquired with the aid of the Saint-Pierre Museum Club, 2013



Jean-Honoré Fragonard (1732-1806)
Le Rocher
After 1780
Oil on canvas

■ Acquired with the aid of the Saint-Pierre Museum Club, 2013

19th century Collections

A large number of 19th century paintings and sculptures have been added to the collections in four principal categories. They include;

- Neoclassical sculpture, represented by the Lyonnaise artist Clémence Sophie de Sermezy (1767-1830)
- Historicism and representations of national history, with the notable acquisition of a painting by Jean Auguste Dominique Ingres, *L'Arétin et l'envoyé de Charles Quint* (1780-1867), thanks to sponsors and a public subscription.
- Ingres' students in Lyon and a study of the primitives, with the acquisition of works by Victor Orsel (1795-1850), Hippolyte Flandrin (1809-1864) and Louis Janmot (1814-1892).
- Landscapes, thanks to a donation by Brigitte and Jacques Gairard.



Jean Auguste Dominique Ingres (1780-1867)
L'Arétin et l'envoyé de Charles Quint
1848

Oil on canvas

■ Acquired with the aid of the Saint-Pierre Museum Club, the Poussin Circle, the French state, the Rhône-Alpes Region within the framework of the FRAM and a public subscription in 2013 which was supported by 1500 donors.

20th and 21st century Collections

The 20th century collection has seen a significant input of works in the form of a series of works by Albert Gleizes (1881-1953) and his students from Moly-Sabata, in the Isère region of France. The presence of works by a group of artists from gallery owner Marcel Michaud highlights the work of artists from Lyon in the 1930s and 1940s such as Jean Bertholle (1909-1996), Jean Le Moal (1909-2007), Dimitri Varbanesco (1908-1963), Émile Picq (1911-1951) and Maurice Ferréol (1906-1969).

Pierre Soulages (born – 1919) and Étienne-Martin (1913-1993) are now very well represented with, for the former, the entry of three works in 2012: *Brou de noix sur papier* 60,5 x 65,5 cm, 1947, *Peinture* 202 x 143 cm, 22 novembre 1967 and *Peinture* 181 x 244 cm, 25 février 2009 and for the latter, the acquisition in 2014 of *Hommage à Brown* (1988-1990), a sculpture that is supplemented by a series of donations by his family.



Pierre Soulages (born – 1919)
Peinture 181 x 244 cm, 25 février 2009
Acrylic on canvas

■ Acquired from the artist with the aid of the Saint-Pierre Museum Club in 2011.

Graphic Arts Cabinet Dedicated Presentation

Several graphic arts works have entered this collection and are exhibited. Among these fragile works can be found *L'Enlèvement des Sabines* by Jacques Stella, painted cardboard works by Louis Janmot and Joseph Guichard (1806-1880), and 20th century works by Albert Gleizes, Geer van Velde (1898-1977), Max Schoendorff (1934-2012), Frédéric Benrath (1930-2007) and Jean Fautrier (1898-1964).



Jacques Stella (1596-1657)
L'Enlèvement des Sabines
Plume and brown ink applied with pierre noire, grey wash drawing, white gouache highlights, additional plume and brown ink

■ A gift from the Friends of the Museum association in 2012



Albert Gleizes (1881-1953)
Clown
1914
Charcoal on paper

■ A bequest from André Dubois, 2014

Exceptional deposits

Five new enameled plaques have been restored to the altarpiece from Limoges to which they belonged. Accepted by the state as a gift, they were deposited by the Louvre. Ten years of acquisitions, ten years of *Passion* also offers the museum an opportunity to exhibit *Les Peupliers* by Paul Cézanne (1879-1880) for the public. This work was recently deposited by the Orsay Museum. The gifts for the 20th century collection are particularly significant with deposits from the Centre Pompidou of works by Jean Fautrier, Jean Bazaine (1904-2001), Jean Le Moal (1909-2007), Eugène Leroy (1910-2000), Alfred Manessier (1911-1993), Olivier Debré (1920-1999) and a series of drawings by Hans Hartung (1904-1989), loaned by the Hartung Bergman Foundation.



Paul Cézanne (1839-1906)
Les Peupliers
1879-1880
Oil on canvas

■ Deposit from the Orsay Museum, 2015

Geneviève Asse
(Born - 1923)

Exhibition - Level 2

**29/5/2015 –
21/9/2015**

The Fine Arts Museum of Lyon pays homage to the career of Geneviève Asse by highlighting a vast chronological range and the most significant moments of her work, as well as some lesser-known and studied subjects, including her early figurative period, works in white paint (rather than her trademark blue), and drawings.



Geneviève Asse (née en 1923)
Composition
Couleurs dans l'espace
[*Couleurs de l'espace*]
1966
Oil on canvas
■ Donation by the artist, 2011

Georges Adilon
(1928-2009)

**Exhibited in the temporary
exhibition rooms**

**29/5/2015 –
24/8/2015**

Better known for his architectural work, George Adilon was also a painter and is now the focus of this exhibition thanks to two donations to the museum. It contains landscapes and still lifes in a rather abstract style that are characterised by the use of large formats and the artist's conscious choice to obey formal constraints.



Georges Adilon (1928 - 2009)
Untitled, 12-06-68
Black glycerol lacquer on paper
■ Donated by Jacqueline Adilon and her children (Marie, Blaise and Emmélie), 2014

Auguste Morisot
(1857-1951)

Exhibited on level 2
29/5 /2015–
21/9/2015

Drawings, paintings, engraving, master glass-making and decorations, Auguste Morisot excelled in many disciplines. The museum has been compiling works by Morisot since 1991. The collection initially consisted of a stained glass work, *Jour et Nuit*, as well as five preparatory studies. These works were followed by eleven more stained glass pieces, fifteen drawings, one of which is a self portrait, two watercolours and two engravings. His work first became known to the public in 2012 with the *Auguste Morisot, du crayon au vitrail* exhibition.



Auguste Morisot (1857-1951)
La Becquée
Ca. 1900
Stained glass, iridescent glass, silver iodide, American glass, grisaille, metal point, and enamel.
■ Acquired in 2007

Sponsorship and the Fine Arts Museum of Lyon

Sponsorship consists of a gift from a company or private individual for the benefit of all. Although the museum is very proud of its ambitious policy of acquisitions, it would not have been successful without the help of sponsors and stakeholders, including the Saint-Pierre Museum Club and its sixteen member companies, the 120 private sponsors from the Poussin Circle and the Association of Friends of the Museum, which has over 2000 members.

Their sponsorship falls into two categories; the financial aid aspect of acquisition policy in tandem with other sources of finance, and the direct acquisition of specific works for the museum which then enter the collections.

Sponsorship is also an act of generosity and anyone may contribute, as the museum's recent subscription campaigns for Ingres and Corneille de Lyon demonstrated. Since 2012 almost 2000 private individuals have helped the museum to acquire new works.

In actively participating in the life of the museum the Saint-Pierre Museum Club, the Poussin Circle, the Association of Friends of the Museum and all the subscribers have made it possible to enrich the public collections and ensure the permanent growth of its remarkable heritage.

Sponsorship has benefitted from an advantageous fiscal disposition since the Aillagon Law, which came into force on August 1st, 2003. Sponsoring companies may now set up to 60% of all donations against tax up to a limit of 0.5% of their turnover. Private individuals may set 65% of their donations against tax up to a limit of 20% of their taxable income.

USEFUL INFORMATION



ENTRANCE FEES

Exhibition: €7 / €4 / Free Entry
Evening hours: €5 / Free Entry
+ €3 for activities
Tickets online – www.mba-lyon.fr

OPENING TIMES

Open daily from 10am to 6pm except
Tuesdays and Bank Holidays, and from
10.30am to 6pm on Fridays.

Visual gallery for the press – please contact
us for access codes for press resources.

PRESS CONTACT

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