
Exhibition Preview 2025: Vlaininck, Kandinsky's Universe, Pissarro, Unicorn

Press release, Potsdam, July 18, 2024

Maurice de Vlaininck: Modern Art Rebel September 14, 2024 – January 12, 2025

The exhibition *Maurice de Vlaininck: Modern Art Rebel* is the first posthumous retrospective devoted to the Fauvist and influential artist of the French avant-garde in a German museum. With around 70 selected exhibits, it provides a broad overview of Vlaininck's entire painting oeuvre: from his first compositions executed at the beginning of the 20th century, through his experiments with Cubism inspired by Cézanne and Picasso, to his last landscape paintings, in which he developed a highly individual variety of Late Impressionism.

The approximately 40 international lenders include the Tate Modern in London, the Museo nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza in Madrid, the Centre Pompidou and the Musée d'Orsay in Paris, as well as the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the Dallas Museum of Art and the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.

An exhibition of the Museum Barberini, Potsdam, and the Von der Heydt Museum, Wuppertal, where the exhibition will be on view from February 16, to May 18, 2025.

Kandinsky's Universe: Geometric Abstractions in the 20th Century February 8 – May 10, 2025

At the beginning of the 20th century, painting underwent a profound transformation. Artists no longer wanted to depict the visible; they aspired to a new visual language that reduced artistic expression to an interplay of colors, lines, and shapes. Geometric Abstraction viewed these elements as a visual language that reflected the modern world and transcended national boundaries. *Kandinsky's Universe: Geometric Abstractions in the 20th Century* spans six decades and showcases how Geometric Abstraction found radical expression in all its variations in Europe and the USA.

The exhibition features more than 100 works by over seventy artists, including Josef Albers, Sonia Delaunay, Barbara Hepworth, Wassily Kandinsky, El Lissitzky, Agnes Martin, Piet Mondrian, Bridget Riley, Frank Stella, and Victor Vasarely. The more than thirty international lenders include the Tate and the Courtauld Gallery in London, the Whitney Museum of American Art and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York, the National Gallery of Art in Washington, and the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice.

Camille Pissarro: Impressionist Imagery
June 14 – September 28, 2025

With Camille Pissarro, an outsider became a central figure within the Impressionist collective. Born in the Caribbean, he came to France in 1855, sensed the anti-academic upsurge in painting, and attracted like-minded people. With their revolutionary style of painting, they founded the Impressionist movement. Pissarro also experimented with the pointillism of the younger artists and was the only painter to take part in all eight Impressionist exhibitions in Paris.

With around 80 landscapes, cityscapes, still lifes, and figure paintings from about 50 international collections, the exhibition *Camille Pissarro: Impressionist Imagery* gives a broad overview of his entire oeuvre and shows the social utopian implications of his art.

In cooperation with the Denver Art Museum, where the exhibition will be shown from October 26, 2025, to February 8, 2026.

Unicorn: The Mythical Beast in Art
October 25, 2025 – February 1, 2026

The unicorn has stimulated the imagination like no other animal. It has been documented in many cultures for centuries. Its fascination continues to this day. The mythical animal is a multi-faceted symbol that emanates associative energy. Tracks of the unicorn can be found in Christian and non-European art, in natural science and medicine and in a wide range of symbols. Studying the iconography of the unicorn invites reflection on fantasy, world knowledge, ambivalences and projections.

The exhibition *Unicorn: The Mythical Beast in Art* presents over 100 artworks from international lenders, including the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, the Museo Nacional del Prado, Madrid, the Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna, the Szépművészeti Múzeum, Budapest, and numerous other collections, primarily from Germany and France and will be on display at the Musée de Cluny in Paris from March 16 to June 28, 2026.

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