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Arts Guide

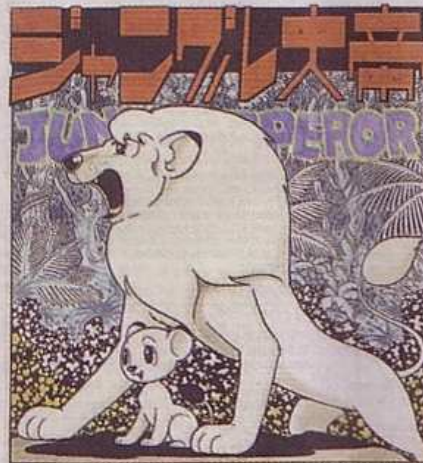


Musée Monet, Giverny



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From ukiyo-e prints to manga and anime, Japanese art has become a curatorial favorite. Prints by Utamaro, left, and Kunisaga, above, that belonged to Monet, are on view in Paris. So is a still from "Japanese Commuter Train," right, a video film by Tabaimo. Osamu Tezuka's title page for the manga "Jungle Emperor" is in a Melbourne show.



Tezuka Productions



Tabaimo/Courtesy of Gallery Koyanagi

were highly sought after in France, while little appreciated in Japan. Monet, like Baudelaire, Rodin and van Gogh, collected them, assembling a collection of more than 200 works by Edo artists Harunobu, Hokusai, Utamaro and Hiroshige in his house at Giverny, near Paris. The works will return to Giverny after the show closes.
www.marmottan.com

and cityscapes allow an appreciation of Cézanne's colorful precision as opposed to Bonnard's fluidity.

JAPAN | OSAKA

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ART
To March 25: "Pablo Picasso: The Prints and Ceramics." The exhibition focuses on the successful forays made by Picasso into two different media, prints and ceramics. In 1904, after moving from Spain to France, the artist began making prints, to wit the "Saltimbanques" series created during his "blue period." More than 40 years later, Picasso took up ceramics after travelling to Vallauris, a pottery town in southeast France. His output was about 3,000 pieces.
www.nmao.go.jp

SINGAPORE

ASIAN CIVILISATIONS MUSEUM
To April 15: "Mystery Men: Finds From China's Lost Age." The 100 bronze human heads, masks and ceremonial objects in jade and gold come from a

sacrificial pit from about 3,200 B.C. that was discovered in Sichuan in 1986. According to experts, they can stand the comparison with contemporary bronzes from the Shang dynasty whose culture flourished in the Yellow River basin, called "the cradle of early Chinese civilization."
www.acm.org.sg

UNITED STATES | WASHINGTON

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART
To Feb. 4: "Prayers and Portraits: Unfolding the Netherlandish Diptych." About 40 diptychs and pairs of paintings created in the 15th and 16th century in the Netherlands. The format — two hinged panels that can be opened or closed like a book — allowed the artists — Rogier van der Weyden, Memling and Van Eyck — a great variety of subject matters; the works were often small and used for private devotion.
www.nga.gov

PERFORMANCE ART

LONDON TATE MODERN
Jan. 27, from 10 p.m.: "Matt Mullican Under Hypnosis." For 30 years, the American artist (born 1951) has been using performances to explore his own creativity while taking on altered personalities. Mullican, hypnotized, will create a new work in front of the public in the vast Turbine Hall of the museum.
www.tate.org.uk/modern

CLOSING SOON

HAMBURG HAMBURGER KUNSTHALLE
To Jan. 28: "Caspar David Friedrich: Die Erfindung der Romantik." Paintings, drawings, sepias and watercolors are the pictorial devices — combining detailed realism and abstract structure — used by the German Romantic painter (1774-1840) to evoke Romantic moods and feelings.
www.hamburger-kunsthalle.de

ROTTERDAM KUNSTHAL ROTTERDAM
To Jan. 28: "Henry Moore and the Challenge of Architecture." The monumental hall designed by Rem Koolhaas is the perfect setting for Moore's sculptures. Having stated that architects usually considered public sculpture as a "mere surface decoration" to adorn their buildings, Moore (1898-1986) attempted to make sculpture an integral part of a building. Several architectural commissions are deciphered through drawings and sculptures.
www.kunsthal.nl

Compiled by Elisabeth Hopkins

AUSTRALIA | MELBOURNE

NGV INTERNATIONAL
To Jan. 28: "Tezuka: The Marvel of Manga." The mangaka, or Japanese manga artist, Osamu Tezuka (1928-1989) is considered a figurehead of the manga and anime industry in Japan. His prolific work, often praised for its exceptional calligraphic dynamism, is twofold: manga for a young audience and gekiga, or dramatic pictures, aimed at adults. The exhibition brings together both aspects of his work.
www.ngv.vic.gov.au

BRITAIN | LONDON

WALLACE COLLECTION
To Feb. 25: "Rembrandt Regained." A small display of several paintings that were attributed to other artists by the Rembrandt Research Project 20 years ago, but have recently been re-examined and re-attributed to the Dutch painter (1606-1669).
www.wallacecollection.org

CHINA | SHANGHAI

SHANGHAI SCULPTURE SPACE
To Feb. 18: "Sculpture Exhibition of Rodin." A former steelmaking factory, the Space is offering its long pillared gallery to a display of 33 emotional and expressive replicas of sculptures by the French artist (1840-1917), such as "The Thinker," "The Kiss" and "Balzac," as well as photographs and manuscripts, and more than 100 etchings.

CZECH REPUBLIC | PRAGUE

NATIONAL GALLERY, WALDSTEIN RIDING SCHOOL
To April 8: "Silesia, Pearl in the Czech Crown." The exhibition explores the importance of the relations between Silesia and Bohemia on the development of fine arts. It is divided in three sections: the development of the Gothic style in the 14th and 15th centuries, under the Luxemburg dynasty; the artistic exchanges between Prague and Wrocław in the 16th and 17th centuries, and Silesian Baroque art until the country was annexed by Prussia in 1742.
www.ngprague.cz

FRANCE | PARIS

FONDATION CARTIER
To Feb. 4: "Tabaimo." The animated films and installations of the Japanese artist (born 1975) play upon the ambiguity between the normal and the abnormal to reveal the dark side of contemporary Japan. They usher the viewer into a seductive and yet troubling world. "Japanese Commuter Train," for instance, combines drawings reminiscent of Japanese woodblocks and advanced computer technology. Its passengers appear unperturbed by such incongruities as a pile of severed arms, or a child who hung himself from a strap.
www.fondation.cartier.com

MUSÉE MARMOTTAN MONET

To March 4: "Les Estampes Japonaises: La Collection de Claude Monet." At the end of the 19th century, ukiyo-e prints

GERMANY | FRANKFURT

STÄDEL MUSEUM
To March 11: "Gärten: Ordnung, Inspiration, Glück." About 200 artists' renderings of gardens: paradisaical gardens of the Middle Ages, erotic playgrounds à la Rubens, natural gardens that followed the flourishing of open air painting, and Impressionist gardens that had a symbiotic relationship with the people placed in them.
www.staedelmuseum.de

HUNGARY | BUDAPEST

LUDWIG MUSEUM, MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART
To Feb. 4: "Akos Birkas: Works, 1975-2006." The Hungarian artist (born 1941) came to fame with "Heads," a series of abstract ovals that he painted for 15 years until the end of the 1990s. His more recent works are large, realistic portraits and narrative scenes. They reflect the artist's need for self-reappraisal, and his search for diversity in genre, style and technique.
www.lumu.org.hu



An exhibition of 180 bronze sculptures by Henry Moore documents the artist's relationship to architecture. It can be seen in Rotterdam until Jan. 28.



Courtesy of the Henry Moore Foundation