

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

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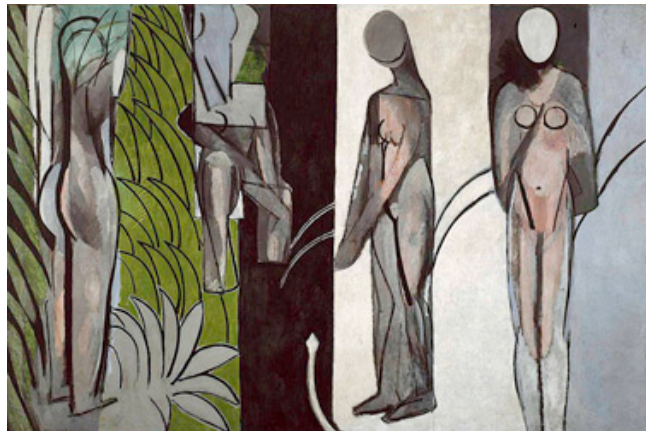
THE ART INSTITUTE CELEBRATES “THE MODERN” SEASON 2009–2010

“500 Ways of Looking at Modern” Includes

Lectures, Programs, Exhibitions, Readings, and Performances

**Museum Partners With the Chicago Symphony Orchestra,
the Poetry Foundation, and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago**

Continuing its tradition of collaborating with other Chicago cultural institutions to offer yearlong programming around a central theme, the Art Institute of Chicago announces its **2009–2010 season as “500 Ways of Looking at Modern.”** Partnering with the **Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Poetry Foundation, and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago,** the museum will



present 500 lectures, programs, exhibitions, readings, and performances on the theme of the modern—from avant-garde art to points throughout world history in which conventions were overturned and new world views emerged. Highlights of the season include the first ever residency of a major dance company, the Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, at an art museum; a major exhibition that reframes the work of artist Henri Matisse; and a very rare loan from the National Gallery of London of Caravaggio’s *Supper at Emmaus*, one of the very few times a

Caravaggio has been seen in Chicago. “500 Ways of Looking at Modern” begins on September 3, with actors from Steppenwolf Theatre performing highlights from plays by Arthur Miller, Eugene O’Neill, and others, and ends in June 2010, with the one-year anniversary of the Modern Wing.

“The opening of the Modern Wing in May gives us an opportunity to examine moments of monumental change in world history,” said James Cuno, President and Eloise W. Martin Director of the Art Institute of Chicago. “We are thrilled to be working once again with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Poetry Foundation, and we welcome our new partner, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, whose members will be choreographing and performing works based on our permanent collection. The Modern Wing is a celebration of the new and the revelatory in the visual arts, and we will be collaborating with our partners to bring visitors a better understanding of the new and the revelatory across history and cultural expressions.”

Four years ago, the Art Institute partnered with the City of Chicago, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, and Yo-Yo Ma’s Silk Road Ensemble to offer a yearlong exploration of the Silk Road and the cultural exchanges it brought about. Since that time, the museum, working with partners around the city, has presented similar themed seasons in which programs and exhibitions were developed around such topics as American identities, globalism, and, for 2009–2010, “the modern.”

While people and institutions have throughout history always said, done, and created new forms, ideas, inventions, and objects, the idea that these activities were “modern” did not emerge until the historian Jakob Burkhardt in 1867 looked back to the Renaissance and argued that it was during this flowering of artistic expression and political change that individuals became the engines of significant change. The season “500 Ways of Looking at Modern” launches from this fundamental idea to present those individuals and ideas that literally changed the world.

On Thursday evenings, the museum will present lectures by such noted speakers as Alex Ross (the author of *The Rest is Noise*), Glenn Lowry (the director of the Museum of Modern Art), and Pulitzer Prize-winning composer John Adams. These Thursday night talks will address a wide range of topics, from twentieth-century music to the poetry of Robert Lowell to the life and work of Caravaggio. The Art Institute will also present chamber music concerts with the CSO as well as CSO previews; conversations about music and theater with composers, musicians, and actors; and poetry readings by C. D. Wright, Derek Walcott, and Carol Ann Duffy, the poet laureate of

Great Britain. Also offered is a symposium on contemporary art and a full slate of exhibitions at the museum, including works by contemporary designer Konstantin Grcic and contemporary artist Monica Bonvicini; *Apostles of Beauty: Arts and Crafts from Britain to Chicago*; and *Matisse: Radical Invention, 1913–1917*. A full calendar of events, exhibitions, and programs is available at www.artinstituteofchicago.org.

IMAGE: Henri Matisse. *Bathers by a River*, 1909, 1913, 1916. Charles H. and Mary F. S. Worcester Collection.

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MUSEUM HOURS

10:30 am–5:00 pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

10:30 am–8:00 pm Thursday

10:00 am–5:00 pm Saturday, Sunday

TARGET FREE THURSDAY EVENINGS AFTER 5:00 pm

SUMMER HOURS (from Memorial Day to Labor Day)

10:30 am–5:00 pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

10:30 am–9:00 pm Thursday, Friday

10:00 am–5:00 pm Saturday, Sunday

TARGET FREE SUMMER EVENINGS THURSDAY AND FRIDAY AFTER 5:00 pm

FREE FEBRUARY 1 TO 28

Closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

ADMISSION

Adults \$18.00 Includes all special exhibitions and coat check

Children 14 and over, students, and seniors \$12.00 Includes all special exhibitions and coat check

Chicago residents receive a \$2.00 discount with proof of residency

Children under 14 always free

Members always free

Free Evenings are free to all. City of Chicago residents with Chicago Public Library cards can borrow a "Museum Passport" card from any library branch for free general admission to the nine members of Museums in the Park, including the Art Institute of Chicago.

The Art Institute of Chicago is a museum in Chicago's Grant Park, located across from Millennium Park. Visitors can enter the museum via the Michigan Avenue entrance or the Millennium Park entrance on Monroe Street.