

Scandinavia's biggest Monet exhibition at Ordrupgaard

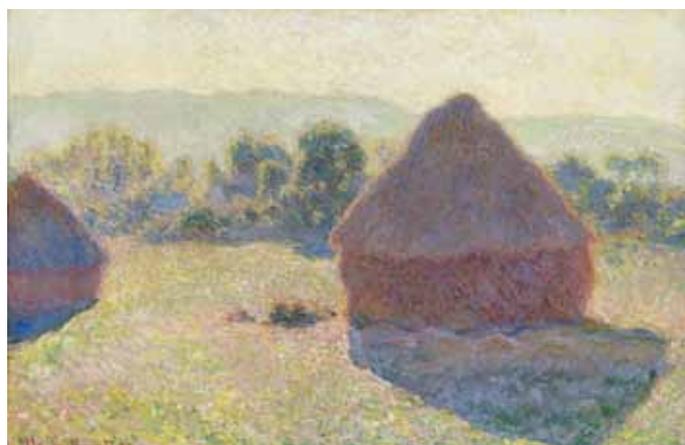
Monet. Beyond impressionism

24 August – 4 December 2016



Water Lilies, c. 1914-17
FAMSF, museum purchase,
Mildred Anna Williams Collection

Haystacks, Midday, 1890.
National Gallery of Australia



There will be something great to look forward to when Ordrupgaard opens Scandinavia's biggest Monet exhibition. At this autumn's major exhibition, *Monet. Beyond impressionism*, visitors will be able to see close to fifty works by the famous artist, most of which have never been shown in Denmark before.

The world's most famous artist

Claude Monet's (1840-1926) masterly depictions of haystacks, bridges, cathedrals and water lilies have been endlessly reproduced and appear today on everything from biscuit tins to fridge magnets. The timeless motifs still captivate people more than a century after they were created, to such an extent that today, Monet is the world's most famous artist. So it is something of a sensation that, with *Monet. Beyond impressionism*, Ordrupgaard can offer the Danish public an opportunity to experience the artist's legendary series of paintings at close hand for the first time.

The exhibition will feature a galaxy of the artist's most celebrated works, on loan from prominent museums such as The Metropolitan and MoMA in New York, the National Gallery in London, the Musée d'Orsay in Paris and the National Gallery of Australia. The exhibition will provide a unique opportunity to get up close to masterpieces that are usually seen only in major art cities such as Paris,

New York and London. *Monet. Beyond impressionism* will display some of Monet's most iconic works, including his portrayals of haystacks, the bridges of London, Rouen cathedral and the water lilies from the artist's garden in Giverny – veritable orgies of light and colour, painted with great intensity.

Monet – a radical innovator in painting

With *Monet. Beyond impressionism*, Ordrupgaard is focusing on the legendary picture series that formed a recurring theme in the artist's impressive career, and which led him on a journey of evolution from impressionism towards the freer use of form and colour in modern art.

The exhibition follows Monet from his first tentative steps into serial painting with the landscape paintings of the Seine Valley and the coasts of Normandy and Brittany, to the haystacks, poplars and cathedrals of the 1890s, and finally to the culmination in the magnificent water lily pictures painted in the new century. The exhibition is the story of how Monet, with his serial and increasingly abstract art, renewed painting and undertook a formal quantum leap which remains of relevance for the art of today.

A giant undertaking

Museum Director Anne-Birgitte Fonsmark says:
"The exhibition is a giant undertaking, in line with our Van

The Water-Lily Pond, 1899
The National Gallery, London



Gogh exhibition of two years ago. For any museum, a work by Monet is a major attraction, so it is almost impossible to get permission to borrow even one of them. But Ordrupgaard has now succeeded in borrowing works of a calibre and quantity that has not been seen in the Nordic countries for decades, due both to the museum's outstanding collection of French impressionist art and its strong international network. It has also required a truly unbelievable amount of legwork, in the form of endless correspondence and numerous negotiations on potential loans – something that the museum guest is unaware of once the works are hanging on the walls. The fact that a small museum like Ordrupgaard can open a Monet exhibition of this size is a bit of a sensation, and something we feel we can allow ourselves to be proud of."

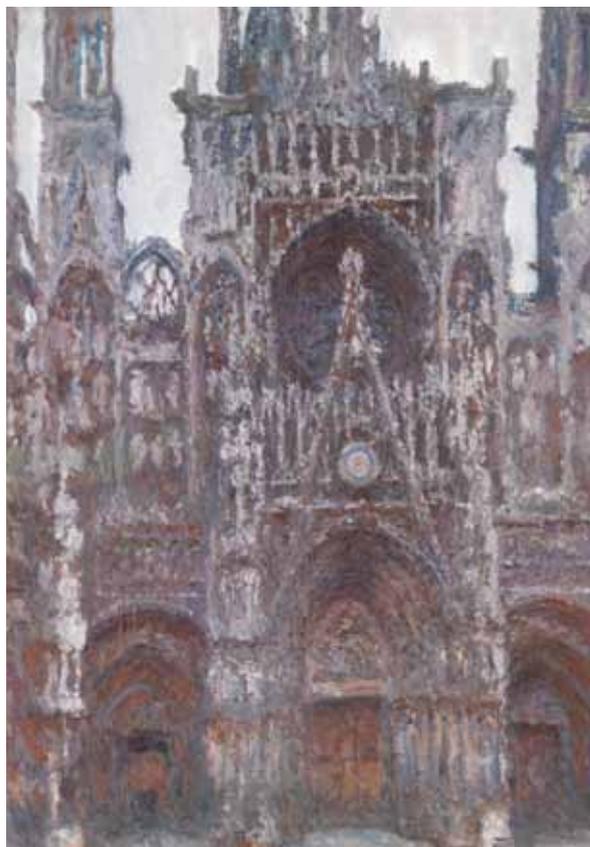
Monet for children and the young at heart

As part of the exhibition *Monet. Beyond impressionism*, children and the young at heart can explore a sensory room, *Monet's magical garden*. In a creative recreation of the artist's beloved garden, the public will have a chance to see, smell and touch their way through a magical landscape and literally walk in the footsteps of the great artist.

Monet's magical garden is part of Ordrupgaard's new concept, in which famous artists are reinterpreted in a living, sensory universe. It follows in the wake of the installation *At Home* from 2014, where inquisitive visitors could explore the Swedish artist home of Carl and Karin Larsson.

Royal participation

The exhibition will be opened in the presence of HRH Crown Princess Mary, and there will be talks by Museum Director



The Portal, Harmony in Brown, 1892-94
Musée d'Orsay, Paris

Anne-Birgitte Fonsmark and the French ambassador to Denmark, François Zimeray.

Extended opening hours

Ordrupgaard expects a great level of interest in *Monet. Beyond impressionism*, and will therefore be introducing extended opening hours throughout the exhibition. The museum will therefore be open Tuesday-Sunday 11:00 am - 6:00 pm, and on Wednesdays from 11:00 am - 9:00 pm..

As a special service for the guests, and in order to reduce queuing, Ordrupgaard is introducing a new system that makes it possible to buy tickets online.

Press conference

The exhibition will be presented at a press conference at 11:00 am on Tuesday 23 August. You can register for this by sending your name and medium to mms@ordrupgaard.dk

The exhibition *Monet. Beyond impressionism* has been realised with support from:

AAGE OG JOHANNE LOUIS-HANSENS FOND

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