

**SINGLE-GALLERY *FOCUS* EXHIBITION FEATURING SCULPTURES BY PABLO PICASSO
ON VIEW AT MoMA**

Focus: Picasso Sculpture

Through November 3, 2008

The Werner and Elaine Dannheisser Lobby Gallery, fourth floor

NEW YORK, July 9, 2008—This installation of 12 sculptures provides a broad overview of Pablo Picasso's (Spanish, 1881–1973) career as a creator of three-dimensional objects through selections from The Museum of Modern Art's collection. Picasso is best known for his paintings, but his sculptures are among the most radical, thought-changing artworks of the modern period. The strength of the Museum's collection in this area is due, in part, to the support it received from the artist himself, who donated his sheet-metal construction *Guitar* (1914), on view in this installation, to the Museum in 1971.

Picasso turned to sculpture at several key moments in his career, using the medium as a testing ground for ideas that would catalyze crucial shifts in his practice at large. The sculpture *Woman's Head (Fernande)* (1909) helped Picasso conceptualize the breaking of solid volume into shifting masses that suggest varying perspectives, and served as a foundation for the development of Cubism.

In much of his sculptural work, Picasso abandoned the traditional art of modeling in favor of assemblage and construction. Picasso introduced non-art materials into his artwork, radically incorporating everyday objects into his sculpture much as he introduced found print materials into his famous collage works. Several of Picasso's assemblages, including *Glass of Absinthe* (1914), *Pregnant Woman* (1950), and *Baboon and Young* (1951), are on display.

The exhibition is organized by Leah Dickerman, Curator, with Nora Lawrence, Curatorial Assistant, Department of Painting and Sculpture, The Museum of Modern Art.

ABOUT THE *FOCUS* SERIES:

The *Focus* series provides an opportunity for in-depth and cross-disciplinary presentations that variously concentrate on a single artist's achievement, on broader artistic manifestations, on particular historical moments, or on significant groupings of works. This initiative aims to animate the larger history set forth in the Painting and Sculpture galleries, ensuring that a greater number of familiar and unfamiliar works in the collection are rotated on and off view.

This exhibition, part of an ongoing series highlighting noteworthy aspects of the Museum's collection, is made possible by BNP Paribas.

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