

# The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release  
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## THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART RECEIVES TWO MAJOR KLIMT PAINTINGS FOR VIENNA 1900 EXHIBITION

The Museum of Modern Art has received an unprecedented loan of two masterpieces by the Austrian painter Gustav Klimt for the VIENNA 1900: ART, ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN exhibition opening July 3. Supreme examples of the artist's "Golden Style," The Kiss (1907/08) and The Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer I (1907) are celebrated as national treasures. Due to their fragile nature, neither of the paintings has previously been seen outside Austria. They are on loan from the Oesterreichische Galerie, Vienna.

In discussing The Kiss, Kirk Varnedoe, adjunct curator in the Department of Painting and Sculpture and organizer of the exhibition, states, "The lovers float above the world in an enclosing nimbus of light, and the melding of opposites is conjured in the coming together of the darker rectangles of the man's robe with the clustered ovals of the woman's....A sweetened intensity that might be called psychedelic permeates this lyrical vision, in which elements of high naturalism and abstract ornament, flowered softness and metallic gleam, seething coiled energy and floating weightlessness, come together to suggest the transports of love as fusion and dissolution."

VIENNA 1900: ART, ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN is the first major exhibition in the United States to present the complete range of Viennese painting, decorative objects, graphic design, and architecture produced between 1898 and 1918. The exhibition will remain on view through October 21, 1986.

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For further information, contact the Department of Public Information, 212/708-9750.