

# Henri Matisse

## A RETROSPECTIVE

SEPTEMBER 24, 1992 - JANUARY 12, 1993

### FACT SHEET

- EXHIBITION** **HENRI MATISSE: A RETROSPECTIVE**
- DATES** September 24, 1992 - January 12, 1993
- ORGANIZATION** John Elderfield, Director, Department of Drawings, and Curator, Department of Painting and Sculpture, with the assistance of Beatrice Kernan, associate curator, Department of Drawings, The Museum of Modern Art
- SPONSORSHIP** Sponsored by Philip Morris Companies Inc.
- Additional support has been provided by the National Endowment for the Arts and The International Council of The Museum of Modern Art. An indemnity for the exhibition has been granted by the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.
- CONTENT** This exhibition is the most comprehensive retrospective ever devoted to Henri Matisse (1869-1954). Installed chronologically in the Museum's second- and third-floor collection galleries, it presents about 400 works, including some 275 of the most important paintings, complemented by a generous selection of sculptures, drawings, prints, and paper cutouts.
- The core of the exhibition includes key loans from The State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg; the State Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts, Moscow; and the Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, along with The Museum of Modern Art's own Matisse holdings. The exhibition also draws on many other private and public collections throughout the world.
- The exhibition begins with Matisse's early academic paintings and tonal still-lives of the 1890s before tracing his responses to Impressionism and Post-Impressionism, from which evolved his breakthrough Fauvist pictures in the years around 1905. It continues with his great Decorative and

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Experimental periods that extend through World War I, showing a greater range of those works than ever previously assembled. After a section devoted to Matisse's art in Nice in the 1920s, the exhibition offers, for the first time, a thorough review of the artist's new decorative styles of the 1930s and 1940s, culminating in the large paper cutouts of his final years.

## PUBLICATION

***Henri Matisse: A Retrospective*** by John Elderfield. Catalogue section, prepared with the collaboration of Beatrice Kernan, includes chronology compiled with Judith Cousins. 480 pages. 320 color and 272 black-and-white illustrations. Published by The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Hardbound, \$75.00, distributed in the United States and Canada by Harry N. Abrams, Inc., New York; paperbound, \$37.50; both available in The MoMA Book Store.

## AUDIOTOUR

A forty-minute audiotour of the exhibition is available in English, French, and Spanish. Narrated by actress Kathryn Walker, with commentary by John Elderfield, the recorded tour may be rented for \$3.50 with the purchase of an admission ticket or at the exhibition's entrance.

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