

## *Techniques and Styles: A Sampling of Paintings, Drawings, and Prints from the Georgia Museum of Art*

ATHENS, GA -- *Techniques and Styles: A Sampling of Paintings, Drawings, and Prints from the Georgia Museum of Art*, an exhibition of various works from the permanent collection at the Georgia Museum of Art, will be on view at \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ through \_\_\_\_\_.

This exhibition features 20 works by artists such as Paul Cézanne, Jean Charlot and Ferdinand Bol and highlights several American, French and German artists. Combining works from a variety of artistic movements, it provides insight into different artistic styles and techniques.

*Techniques and Styles* includes a variety of printing methods and painting styles. The woodcuts, engravings, etchings, lithographs, and screen-prints emphasize the evolution of prints as a medium. Woodcuts are a form of relief printmaking, in which an image is carved into the surface of a block of wood, along the grain. The outline of the image is cut using a knife or a chisel, which leaves the actual image at the surface level. Popular during the 1500s, woodcut prints remain so in the present day.

Etching is the process of using strong acid to cut into the unprotected surface of a metal to create a print. Ferdinand Bol, a Dutch artist, mastered the art of etching as seen in his work *Old Bearded Man in a Cap*, included in the exhibition. Bol apprenticed under Rembrandt van Rijn before he established himself as an independent artist. His works demonstrate his outstanding artistic ability.

Jean Charlot, a featured artist in the exhibition, produced both lithographs and screen prints. The image by Charlot included in *Techniques and Styles* is a screen print titled *Female Drummer* (1977). Charlot was introduced to Mexico by his mother in 1920, where he participated in the sketching of Mayan ruins for excavations. After establishing himself as an artist in Mexico, Charlot traveled to New York City, where he took up lithography and began his career as a lithographer and screen printer.

This exhibition includes works from a variety of artistic movements, including post-Impressionism, Surrealism and Photorealism. Although the styles vary distinctly from image to image, the works provide an exceptional exhibition. One would

probably not think to include an image from the Impressionist movement and an image from the Pop art movement in the same exhibition; however, by placing them together, one sees the combination of similarities and differences. The vivid use of color and the unusual angles help to bring these two distinct styles together. This exhibition plays off the different styles and techniques in order to allow the observing eye to draw similarities among all of the images. Each movement draws from the previous one and by including works from different movements, the evolution of art becomes visible.

The post-Impressionist movement emerged as both an extension of impressionism and a rejection of its limitations. Paul Cézanne's etching *Guillaumin*, which is included in *Techniques and Styles*, conveys the ideals of the post-impressionist era. Cézanne combines design, color and composition using thick application of paint and distinctive brush strokes; however, his abstraction of nature distinguishes him as a post-Impressionist.

Surrealism began in the 1920s as a cultural movement and it combines the element of surprise with interesting juxtapositions to create startling images. Photorealism, the genre of painting in which the work of art resembles a photograph, was at its height from the late 1960s to the early 1970s. It is an exceptional style, which helps to combine all the techniques and styles in to one exhibition.

Techniques and styles change as time progresses; however, past styles and techniques play an important role in the development of future ones. Each new art movement is a reaction to the previous one. As a result, artists choose to vary their techniques and styles to pay homage to or rebel against the past. The interesting side to art is that each new movement appears to build off the previous one. The continuation of art is what makes the combination of different styles and techniques extraordinary.

This exhibition was organized by the Georgia Museum of Art, the University of Georgia, Athens.