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EXHIBITION REVEALS NEW FINDINGS ON VAN GOGH'S METHODS

***Van Gogh Repetitions* opens at The Phillips Collection in October 2013 and Cleveland Museum of Art in March 2014**

Washington, D.C.— The Phillips Collection and the Cleveland Museum of Art take a fresh look at the artistic process of Vincent van Gogh (1853–1890). While recognized for the intensity and speed with which he painted during his 10 year career, less well known is the deliberate and methodical process he also brought to many of the same subjects. The exhibition *Van Gogh Repetitions* goes beneath the surface of some of the artist's most renowned works to examine the ways in which he created nearly identical compositions. Approximately 30 paintings, alongside related drawings and technical photographs, will be on view at the Phillips from Oct. 12, 2013, through Jan. 26, 2014. The exhibition will then travel to the Cleveland Museum of Art from March 2 through May 26, 2014.

The exhibition is the first to focus on van Gogh's "repetitions"—a term the artist used to describe his practice of producing multiple versions of a particular subject. Paintings by van Gogh from some of the world's most renowned collections, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; the Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam; the Musée d'Orsay, Paris; and the Art Institute of Chicago will be on view.

Van Gogh Repetitions is inspired by the artist's iconic work *The Road Menders* (1889) in The Phillips Collection and a painting of the same subject (also from 1889) in the Cleveland Museum of Art. The exhibition reunites the two masterpieces and invites deep, focused study of the similarities and differences between them, as well as van Gogh's process and motivation in repeating himself. The exhibition features x-radiography and digital overlays of van Gogh's repeated compositions, as well as the results of other scientific studies, all of which shed a captivating new light on the artist's methods and intentions.



Vincent van Gogh, *The Road Menders*, 1889. Oil on canvas, 29 x 36 ½ in.
The Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C. Acquired 1949.

“This exhibition gives us a rare opportunity to get to know one of the world’s most recognizable artists in a fresh, new way,” said Dorothy Kosinski, director of The Phillips Collection. “He is such a beloved figure, but there is still much more to be learned. Through a close examination of this fascinating but only partially understood aspect of his work, we can create a richer, more meaningful understanding of both his personal life and artistic production.”

“We are excited to partner with The Phillips Collection on this ground-breaking exhibition,” said David Franklin, Sarah S. and Alexander M. Cutler director of the Cleveland Museum of Art. “The exhibition presents new scholarship that contributes to a unique experience where visitors will have the opportunity to compare and contrast van Gogh’s compositions while gaining new insights into this well-known figure.”



Vincent van Gogh, *The Large Plane Trees (Road Menders at Saint-Rémy)*, 1889. Oil on fabric, 28 7/8 x 36 1/8 in. The Cleveland Museum of Art, Gift of the Hanna Fund, 1947.

ORGANIZATION

The exhibition is co-organized by The Phillips Collection, Washington, D.C. and the Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, Ohio.

ABOUT THE PHILLIPS COLLECTION

The Phillips Collection is one of the world’s most distinguished collections of impressionist and modern American and European art. Stressing the continuity between art of the past and present, it offers a strikingly original and experimental approach to modern art by combining works of different nationalities and periods in displays that change frequently.

The setting is similarly unconventional, featuring small rooms, a domestic scale, and a personal atmosphere. Artists represented in the collection include Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Vincent van Gogh, Edgar Degas, Henri Matisse, Pierre Bonnard, Paul Cézanne, Pablo Picasso, Paul Klee, Claude Monet, Honoré Daumier, Georgia O’Keeffe, Arthur Dove, Mark Rothko, Milton Avery, Jacob Lawrence, and Richard Diebenkorn, among others. The Phillips Collection, America’s first museum of modern art, has an active collecting program and regularly organizes acclaimed special exhibitions, many of which travel internationally. The Intersections series features projects by contemporary artists, responding to art and spaces in the museum. The Phillips also produces award-winning education programs for K–12 teachers and students, as well as for adults. The museum’s Center for the Study of Modern Art explores new ways of thinking about art and the nature of creativity, through artist visits and lectures, and provides a forum for scholars through courses, postdoctoral fellowships, and internships. Since 1941, the museum has hosted Sunday Concerts in its wood-paneled Music Room. The Phillips Collection is a private, non-government museum, supported primarily by donations.

ABOUT THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

The Cleveland Museum of Art is renowned for the quality and breadth of its collection, which includes almost 45,000 objects and spans 6,000 years of achievement in the arts. Currently undergoing an ambitious, multi-phase renovation and expansion project across its campus, the museum is a significant international forum for exhibitions, scholarship, performing arts, and art education. One of the top comprehensive art museums in the nation, and free of charge to all, the Cleveland Museum of Art is located in the dynamic University Circle neighborhood.

The Cleveland Museum of Art is generously funded by Cuyahoga County residents through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture. Additional support comes from the Ohio Arts Council, which helps fund the museum with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans. For more information about the museum, its holdings, programs, and events, call 888-CMA-0033 or visit www.ClevelandArt.org.

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