



Tuesday's Tip

information provided by Adriance Memorial Library to make your life a little bit easier

Personal viewings of works on paper

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Along with the nice weather comes museum visiting season!

Interested in drawings and watercolors? Did you know that at many art museums you can make an appointment for a personal viewing of original drawings, watercolors, or lithographs created by artists like Jean Auguste Dominique Ingres, Winslow Homer, or Pablo Picasso?



Madame Alexandre Lethière
-Jean Auguste Dominique Ingres



Fisherman's Family (The Lookout) -Winslow Homer



Bust of a Woman with Hand
on Her Face, -Pablo Picasso

Because works on paper are sensitive to the damaging effects of light, many museums have collections of drawings, watercolors, prints, and photographs that are not on permanent display. The items are shown for only brief periods at a time. Often, the works that are not currently on view may be examined in a museum's study room upon request. There is usually no charge for the viewings but you will have to make an appointment in advance and tell them exactly what you want to see. This gives the staff time to locate your items, retrieve them from the archive, and to make sure someone will be available to assist you. You may also have to show an ID for security reasons. You can find out what is in the archive by searching or browsing a list on a museum's website. Expect to follow the museum's strict guidelines for viewing original and fragile items such as washing your hands and no eating or drinking. Also expect to be amazed at how different original artwork looks from its digital representation!

So, if you plan to visit to a museum like the [Metropolitan Museum of Art](#), the [Museum of Modern Art](#), the [Museum of Fine Arts](#) or even Vassar's [Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center](#) and you are an artist, an art student, an art historian, or simply have an interest, why not enhance your visit with a personal viewing of works on paper by your favorite artist?

References:

Ingres, J.A.D. (1815). *Madame Alexandre Lethière, née Rosa Meli, and Her Daughter, Letizia* [Graphite on tracing paper]. New York, NY: Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Homer, W. (1881). *Fisherman's Family (The Lookout)* [Watercolor over graphite pencil on paper]. Boston, MA: Museum of Fine Arts.

Picasso, P. (1948). *Bust of a Woman with Hand on Her Face (plate, folio 32) from the illustrated book Vingt poèmes* [Print]. New York, NY: Museum of Modern Art.

For more information or other reference and collection development assistance,
call the Reference & Information Desk at Adriance Memorial Library at (845) 485-3445 x 3702 or (800) 804-0092 x 3702.