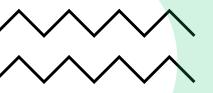
## THE PUSHKIN STATE MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

In 1894, Ivan Tsvetaev, the father of the poet Marina Tsvetaeva, proposed at the Fir st Congress of Russian artists and art lov ers to create an educational Museum. Four years later, the project was presented to Emperor Nicholas II. The Emperor approved the project and allocated 200,000 rubles f or the construction of the Museum. Many in vestors, having learned about the approval of Nicholas II, also allocated a total of about 200,000 rubles, provided that the M useum will bear the name of Alexander the third.





The Royal family at the opening ceremony of the Museum, 1912



## TSVETAEV COLLECTION OF PLASTER CAST REPRODUCTIONS

Collecting exhibits for the Museum began even before the opening. Masterpieces of culture at that time were already impossible to buy, so initially the Museum exhibited copies of works of ancient culture.



Portrait of Caracalla (186-217)



The first originals in the Museum appeared only a year after the opening of the Museum thanks to Dmitry Khomyakov. These were Italian sculptures from the 16th century.





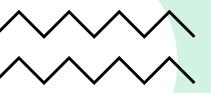
Brothers Ilyas and Joseph Brooch. Cupids fighting for the heart

Initially, the Museum did not present paintings. Only 14 years after the opening of the Museum began a regular exhibition of European paintings then the Museum was brought such famous paintings as: "Rinaldo and Armida" by Nicolas Poussin, "Bacchanal" by Peter Paul Rubens, portraits by Harmens van Rijn Rembrandt, "still Life with the attributes of art" by Jean-Baptiste Chardin, "Satire on doctors" by Antoine Watteau

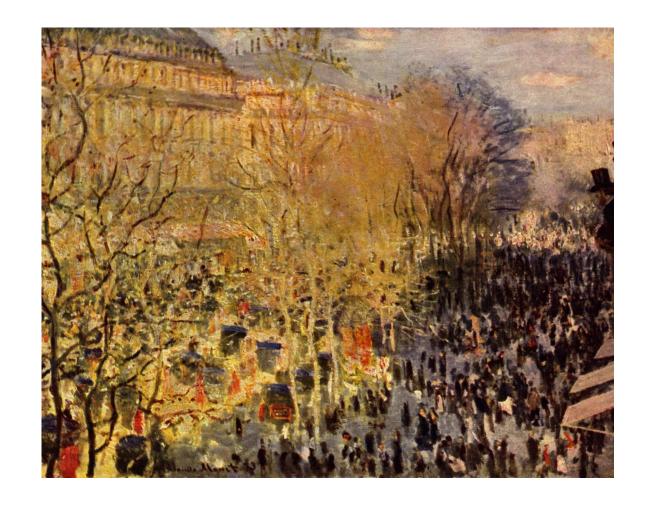


Rinaldo and Armida by Nicolas Poussin





In 1948, after the closure of the state Museum of new Western art, the Museum received about 300 works by French and American artists. In the same year, the Museum received such famous masterpieces as: "Boulevard des Capuchins in Paris" by Claude Monet, "Blue dancers" by Edgar Degas, "Nude" by Pierre Auguste Renoir, "Bridge over the Marne in Creteuil" and two views of mount Saint-Victoire by Paul Cezanne, "Red vineyards in Arles" and "prisoners' Walk» Vincent van Gogh, Henri Matisse, Paul Gauguin, Pierre Bonnard, Andre Derain and Fernand Leger. In 1950, the Museum received works by artists from European socialist countries.



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Claude Monet

Boulevar des Capucines 1873



In 1949, all the exhibits were removed to the basement and the Museum was given over to an exhibition of gifts sent to Joseph Stalin for his 70th birthday. After Stalin's death, the Museum exposition was returned to its place

Three years later, the Museum hosted an exhibition of paintings by Pablo Picasso. The Soviet authorities allowed the exhibition only because of Pablo Picasso's participation in the international Communist movement.

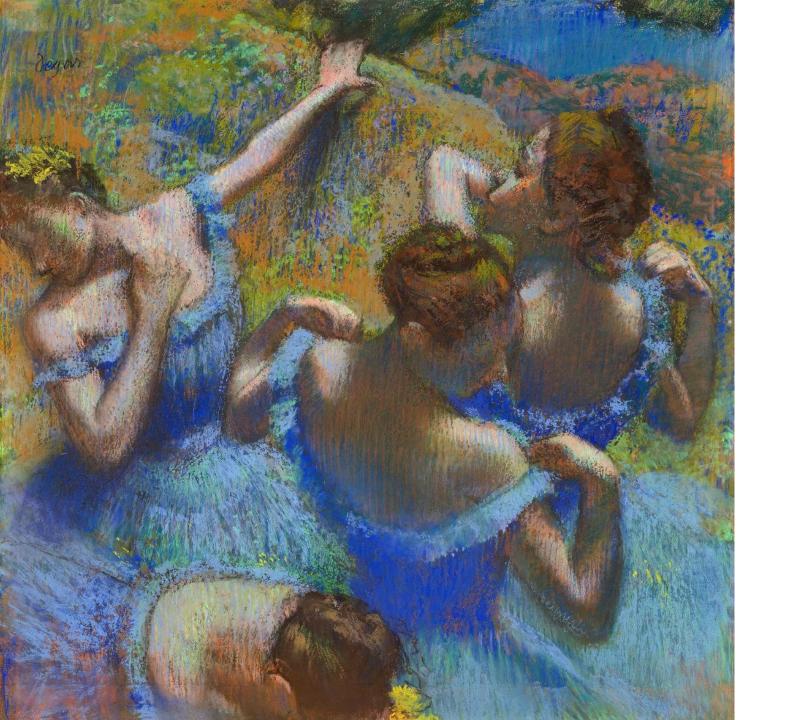


Pablo Picasso

In 1981, the Museum hosted the exhibition Moscow Paris. It exhibited works by avant-garde artists. The exhibition featured works by Vasily Kandinsky, Pavel Filonov, Vladimir Tatlin, Kazimir Malevich.

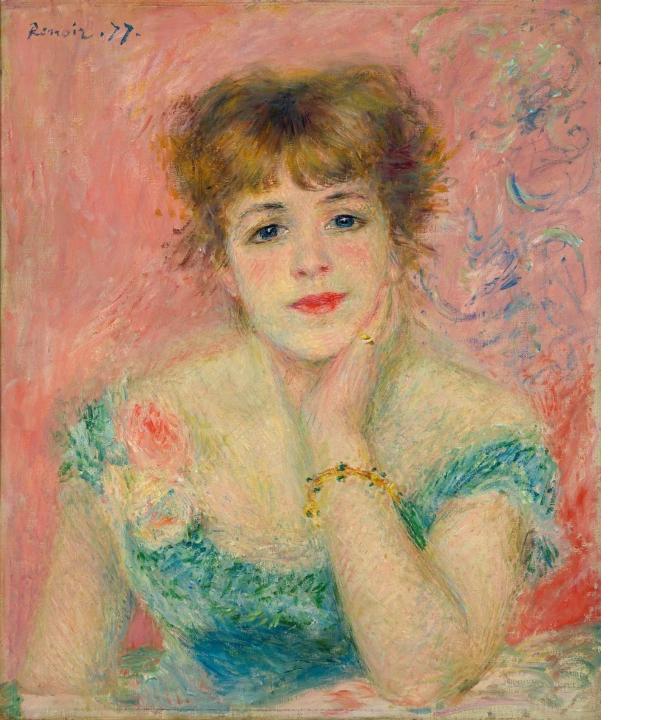


Kazimir Malevich Children on the grass. 1908

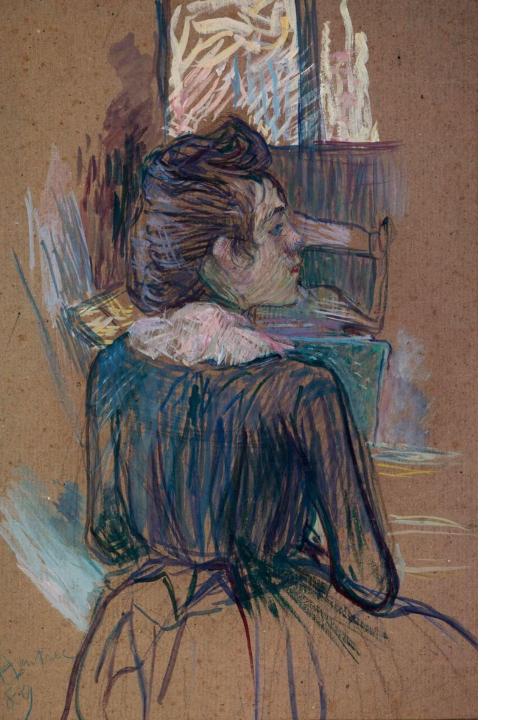


Edgar Degas Blue dancers. Circa 1898





Pierre-Auguste Renoir Portrait of Jeanne Samary. 1877



Toulouse-Lautrec, Henri Marie Raymond de Woman at a window. 1889



Vincent van Gogh Red Vineyard at Arles (Montmajour). November 1888





Philipp Veit
Portrait of a Woman. 1820-s



Lorrain, Claude THE RAPE OF EUROPE. 1655





André Derain Drying the Sails. 1905





Sandro Botticelli Annuciation. 1495-1498



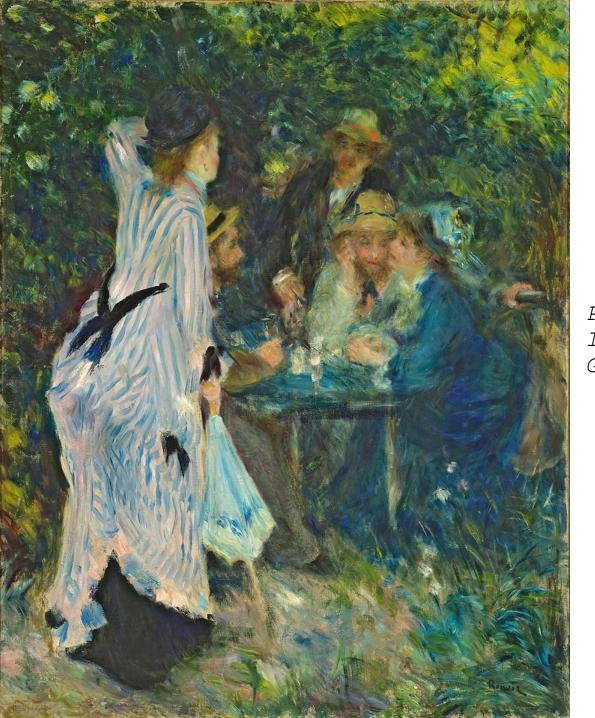


Giovanni Antonio
Canal
(Canaletto)
Bucentaur's
return to the
pier by the
Palazzo
ducale. 1727-172





Edgar Degas Ballet Rehearsal. 1875-1877



Pierre-Auguste Renoir In the garden. Under the trees of Moulin de la Galette. 1876



Caspar David Friedrich 1810-s





Claude Monet Luncheon on the Grass. 1866





Pablo Picasso Young Acrobat on a Ball. 1905

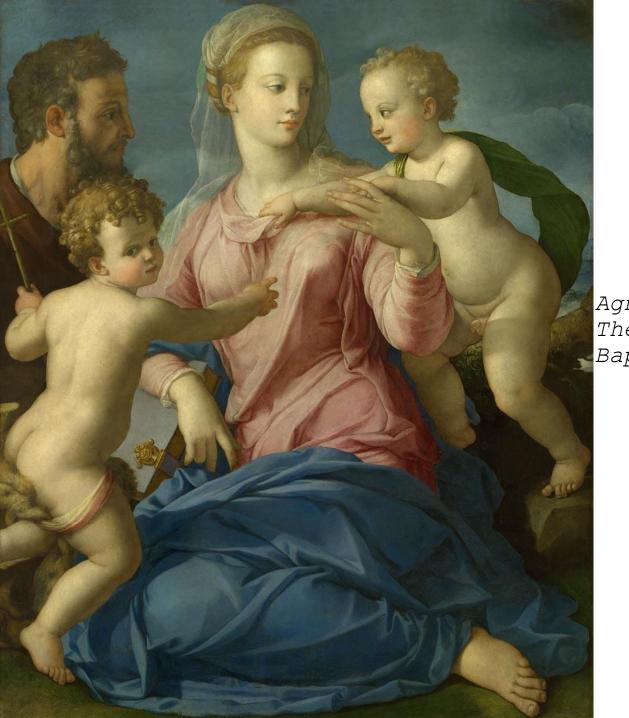


Edouard Manet The Bar. 1878-1879





Francisco de Zurbarán The Madonna and Child. 1658



Agnolo Bronzino
The Holy Family with the infant Saint John The
Baptist (Madonna Stroganoff). Early 1540-s