

# cincinnati art museum



Cincinnati  
CHAMBER  
ORCHESTRA



Created in collaboration between: Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra Guest Conductor Sarah Ioannides, Multimedia Director and Schiff Professor of Art at Northern Kentucky University Brad McCombs, and CAM Coordinator of Interpretive Programming Sara Birkofer.

## **"Creation of the World" through the eyes of Music, Art & Film**

This tour of the Cincinnati Art Museum will guide you through the galleries to find selected artwork for a world premier film specially created to accompany live Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra Summertime festival performance of *La Création du Monde* by Darius Milhaud. The music of Darius Milhaud connects many cultures, including those from Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, New York City and Paris. Take time to contemplate selected artwork that relate to Milhaud's muse. Imagine the music that would have been influential to these artists, and how this artwork may relate to Milhaud's work. Pick up a map at the front desk, and start your adventure.

### **Gallery 151** *Human Figure*, Nigeria, Mid 20th Century

This figurative sculpture represents the African influences in Milhaud's work. In the first scene of the original staging of the ballet, three African gods were portrayed in a cubist style in the first lively dance. Although this artwork is not cubist, African masks with similar styles influenced the cubist movement. In what way is this African sculpture different from western figurative sculptures you have seen?

### **Gallery 124** *Mural for the Terrace Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati*, Joan Miró, 1947

This Joan Miró mural's bright colors and unique character mirror that of Milhaud's *La Création du Monde*. Milhaud was much influenced by the jazz of Harlem. Miró often listened to jazz while creating artwork. What do you think Miro was listening to when he painted this?

### **Gallery 109** *Eve Disconsolate*, Hiram Powers, 1872-1877

This piece represents the part of Milhaud's composition representing the "Creation of Man and Woman." This artwork depicts a part of the biblical narrative of Adam and Eve; which part of the story is Powers' Eve representing?

### **Gallery 108** *Landscape with Waterfall*, Robert S. Duncanson, 1853

This idyllic landscape, painted by renowned Cincinnati native Robert Duncanson reflects Milhaud's representation of "Slowing Lifting of Darkness" and the "Creation of trees and plants" because of its verdant qualities. If you were able to step inside this landscape, what would you feel, taste, hear and smell?

**Go upstairs to Gallery 227** *Mahana Ma'a*, Paul Gauguin, 1892

Milhaud and Gauguin were both experimental by nature. Their strongest connection is their fascination in cultures of indigenous peoples. This piece portrays Milhaud's interest in ethnic music traditions and can be linked to the "Dance of Creative Beings". Interestingly, Milhaud was asked to compose music for a film about Gauguin by Resnais. In your opinion, what kind of music would this piece exude?

**Gallery 229** *The Red Rooster (Le Coq rouge)*, Marc Chagall, 1940

This piece shows the musicality that can exist in all art forms. Marc Chagall was passionate about theatre, music and the arts in general. Regarding his gift of a ceiling painting at the Opera Garnier in Paris Marc Chagall wrote: "I wanted to represent, as in a mirror, a bunch of dreams, the creations of the actors and musicians; to keep in mind the colorful clothes of the audience stirring on the lower level. To sing like a bird, free of any theory and method. To render homage to the great composers of operas and ballets." What kind of dream or story do you think Chagall is telling?

**Gallery 229** *Abstraction (Head)*, Pablo Picasso, 1930

Picasso's artwork and the compositions of Poulenc and Milhaud, members of Le Six whose music is highlighted this week with CCO, share many common influences. Both were heavily inspired by African masks and sculpture. Do you see any similarities to African Masks you have seen?

**Gallery 223** *Lunar Life Dreamer*, Michael Lucero 1984

This work of art by Michael Lucero evokes ideas in *La Création du Monde*, specifically that nature and man are one. Walk around this piece, what is the difference between the landscape on the front of the head and the one on the back? If this work had a soundtrack, what kind of music would play for the front of the head, and what kind for the back?

**Gallery 217** *View across Frenchman's Bay from Mt. Desert Island, after a Squall*, Thomas Cole, 1845

This seascape painting exemplifies the "Chaos Before Creation" part of Milhaud's composition. The artist talks about this location and its dangers: "The whole coast along here is iron bound; threatening crags, and dark caverns in which the sea thunders." How do you imagine the "Chaos Before Creation", is it similar to Milhaud or Cole's descriptions?

**Gallery 207** *Bacchant and Bacchante with a Cupid*, Clodion, 1799

Following the Summermusik Festival 2016 French theme, this erotic artwork ties nicely to the "the Desire of Man and Woman" piece of the composition. Describe this artwork in 3 words.

Join Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra's performances with Music Director Candidate, Sarah Ioannides, for "Saxophone Fusion" featuring a world premier art film specially created in partnership with the Cincinnati Art Museum and a world premier work by Latin America, Grammy award winning composer Roberto Sierra's *Caribbean Rhapsody* featuring virtuoso saxophonist, James Carter. Buy tickets online at [CCOCincinnati.org](http://CCOCincinnati.org)

**Saxophone Fusion | Sat, August 27 | 8pm | Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra  
Corbett Theater | School for Creative & Performing Arts**

**Sensory Winds {CCO winds, saxophonist James Carter, Cincinnati Contemporary Jazz Orchestra} | Sun, August 28 | 4pm |  
Fath Auditorium | Cincinnati Art Museum**

"Our sensory experience will culminate in a reception offering delicious desserts that will complete our international journey."