



**WILLIAM J. GLACKENS AND PIERRE-AUGUSTE RENOIR:  
AFFINITIES AND DISTINCTIONS  
AT NSU ART MUSEUM FORT LAUDERDALE  
October 21, 2018 – May 19, 2019**



L to R: William J. Glackens, *Lenna Dressed as Toy Soldier*, c. 1923, Oil on canvas, Private Collection.  
Pierre-Auguste Renoir, *The Young Soldier*, c. 1880, Oil on canvas, National Gallery of Art, Washington,  
Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mellon

Fort Lauderdale, FL – One of America's leading modern artists, painter William Glackens (1870-1938) had a keen interest in the work of Pierre-Auguste Renoir that has long been recognized. He saw the French Impressionist's works in New York galleries as early as 1908 and had unique access to the growing collection of his friend and colleague, Albert C. Barnes. However, Glackens' specific debt to the art of this important French modernist has never been fully explored. *William Glackens and Pierre-Auguste Renoir: Affinities and Distinctions* fills this void by bringing together 25 works by each artist that illuminate Renoir's influence on Glackens' artistic development. It also reveals how changes in Glackens' work after 1920 illustrate his response to Renoir's late work, as well as that of other important European modernists in Barnes' collection in order to forge his own distinctive American modernism. On view at NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale from October 21, 2018 through May 19, 2019, the exhibition defines Glackens' late style for the first time (c.1920 to 1938), and also sheds light on the history of taste in American collecting from the late-19<sup>th</sup> to the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century.

*William J. Glackens and Pierre-Auguste Renoir: Affinities and Distinctions* is organized by NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale and is curated by Barbara Buhler Lynes, Ph.D., Sunny Kaufman Senior Curator. Following its presentation in Fort Lauderdale, the exhibition will also travel to other venues to be announced.

The exhibition demonstrates Glackens' response to Renoir's Impressionistic work from 1860 to the mid-1880s, which was avidly purchased by a wide variety of American collectors. Renoir's late work from the mid-1880s to 1919 appealed to other influential collectors such as Leo Stein and Barnes. Glackens, who traveled to Paris in 1912 on behalf of Barnes, purchased works for his then fledgling collection. Glackens was the only American

artist who subsequently had nearly carte blanche access to Barnes' increasingly important collection of American and European modernist art, which consequently had a profound influence on Glackens' painting as demonstrated by Dr. Lynes in this exhibition.

Glackens presumably became aware of Renoir's art as early as 1895, when he first visited Paris. However, his knowledge of Renoir did not play a role in the development of his work until after he attended the 1908 exhibition of 41 Renoir paintings at the Durand-Ruel Gallery, New York. When he was sent to Paris by Barnes in 1912, Glackens' purchases included works by Renoir, Pierre Bonnard, Paul Cézanne, Paul Gauguin, Vincent van Gogh and others. These acquisitions sparked Barnes' growing interest in modern European art as well as his enthusiasm for the late work of Renoir. Glackens' study of the late Renoirs and the other works in Barnes' collection by Cézanne, Matisse and Charles and Maurice Prendergast, shaped his continuing realization of his own conception of the modern.

### **Sponsorship**

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### **Publication**

The exhibition will be accompanied by a fully-illustrated catalogue published by Skira, with essays by Bonnie Clearwater, Barbara Buhler Lynes of NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale, Avis Berman, independent scholar, and Martha Lucy, Deputy Director and Curator of the Barnes Collection.

**NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale is located at One East Las Olas Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, FL. For additional information, please visit [nsuuseum.org](http://nsuuseum.org) or call 954-525-5500. Follow the Museum on social media @nsuuseum**

### **About NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale: Celebrating 60 Years**

Celebrating its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2018, NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale provides exceptional learning and inspirational opportunities through access to works of the highest level of artistic expression. The Museum is housed in an 83,000-square foot modernist building designed by Edward Larrabee Barnes, and is located in the heart of the city's downtown riverfront. Under the helm of Director and Chief Curator Bonnie Clearwater, the Museum is a leader in the visual arts and a vibrant cultural resource serving South Florida and national and international audiences. In 2008, the Art Museum became part of Nova Southeastern University, one of the largest private research universities in the United States. AutoNation, the country's largest automotive retailer, presents a year of 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary programming.

A collecting institution since 1959, NSU Art Museum's permanent collection was established with acquisitions of 19th and 20th Century American and European paintings and sculpture, Oceanic, African, Pre-Columbian and Native American art. Today, among its most notable holdings is the largest collection of Cobra art by the avant-garde post-World War II artists of Copenhagen, Brussels and Amsterdam in the U.S.; the world's largest collection of works by American painter and Ashcan School founder William Glackens (1870-1938); strong collections of works by Latin American and Cuban artists of the 20th century; and contemporary paintings, sculpture, video, installations, and drawings with an emphasis on women and multicultural artists. Two scholarly research centers complement the collections: The Dr. Stanley and Pearl Goodman Latin American Art Study Center and the William J. Glackens Study Center.

Exhibitions and programs at NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale are made possible in part by a challenge grant from the David and Francie Horvitz Family Foundation. Funding is also provided by Wege Foundation, Nova Southeastern University, Hudson Family Foundation, Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. NSU Art Museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.

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