

BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART



MEDIA ALERT: Blanton Museum to Present *Medieval X Modern*

What: The Blanton Museum of Art at The University of Texas at Austin presents [Medieval X Modern](#), an exhibition that explores modern artists' fascination with the Middle Ages, opening December 10, 2022, in the museum's *Paper Vault* galleries.

Medieval X Modern (pronounced: Medieval by Modern) showcases 19th- and 20th-century works by artists across Europe and the Americas, from prints and drawings to paintings, illustrated books, sculptures, and decorative objects, that are influenced by the styles and subjects of medieval art and architecture. Paired with medieval objects, the modern works in the exhibition show a renewed interest in the craftsmanship and mediums associated with the Middle Ages, such as illuminated manuscripts, stained glass, and woodcut printmaking, as well as the era's compelling figures and tales. Many artists portrayed martyrs and saints, from Joan of Arc to Catherine of Alexandria; major works of medieval literature, notably Dante's *Divine Comedy* and Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales*; and legends, like the sword of Charlemagne, reinterpreting them for the modern age. Others revived an interest in Gothic architecture, exemplified by Ellsworth Kelly's studies for the stained-glass windows that would later become the "tumbling squares" in his iconic *Austin*.

Drawn primarily from the Blanton's collection, *Medieval X Modern* includes exemplary medieval works alongside works by Kelly, Marc Chagall, Robert Rauschenberg, Clare Leighton, among many other modern artists who turned to the Middle Ages for inspiration. Created during a time characterized by increased industrialization, war, and political change, the artworks reveal ideals and anxieties of the modern age.

When: December 10, 2022–July 9, 2023

Digital Program & Playlist:

Curated Conversations: [Mad About Medieval!](#)

Wednesday, December 14, 2022 | 12 noon CT

As part of the Blanton's digital *Curated Conversations* series, exhibition curator Christine Zepeda will discuss the medieval cathedrals, chapels, and collections that inspired modern artworks in the exhibition.

Inspired by the exhibition, the Spotify playlist [Bardcore at the Blanton](#) includes medieval-inspired covers of popular songs.

Admission Information:

Monday and Tuesday: Closed

Wednesday – Saturday: 10 a.m.– 5 p.m.

Sunday: 1– 5 p.m.

Due to construction on the grounds, the entrance to the museum is accessible via Brazos Street.

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Image: (Left) Circle of Michelino da Besozzo, *Madonna and Child*, circa 1428-29, tempera with tooled gold leaf on wood panel, 22 3/16 × 15 1/8 in., Blanton Museum of Art, The University of Texas at Austin, The Suida-Manning Collection, 2017; (Right) Ellsworth Kelly, *Mother and Child*, 1949, oil on linen, 29 x 17 in., Blanton Museum of Art, The University of Texas at Austin, Gift of the artist, 2018

About the Blanton Museum of Art:

Founded in 1963, the Blanton Museum of Art holds the largest public collection in Central Texas with more than 21,000 objects. Recognized as the home of Ellsworth Kelly's *Austin*, its major collecting areas are modern and contemporary U.S. and Latin American art, Italian Renaissance and Baroque paintings, and prints and drawings. The Blanton offers thought-provoking, visually arresting, and personally moving encounters with art.