Women with Vision: Masterworks from the Permanent Collection

Exhibition Dates: February 10 – May 13, 2018

Williamsburg, Va. (December 20, 2017) – Paintings, drawings, works on paper and sculptures ranging across four centuries, from 1660 to 2017, will be featured in Women with Vision: Masterworks from the Permanent Collection, opening to the public on Saturday, February 10, 2018. The selection presents works by more than thirty women artists including such renowned names as Marguerite Gerard (1761 – 1837), Julia Margaret Cameron (1815 – 1879), Rosa Bonheur (1822 – 1899), Mary Cassatt (1844 – 1926) and such twentieth-century leaders as Alice Neel, Louise Nevelson, Miriam Schapiro, Cindy Sherman, and Kiki Smith.

Among the numerous highlights is White Flower, a captivating close-up and large still life by Georgia O’Keeffe (1887 – 1986). White Flower, gifted to the College by Abby Aldrich Rockefeller (Mrs. John D. Rockefeller), remains the most significant modern painting in the Muscarelle collection. In 1938—just twenty years after the arrival of the first women students at the College—William & Mary granted O’Keeffe an honorary Doctor of Fine Arts.

Women with Vision also offers the opportunity to see art by cutting-edge contemporary artists, including Carole A. Feuerman, Kay Jackson, Ana Maria Pacheco, and Tania Brassesco (and her partner Lazio Passi Norberto). Notable recent acquisitions include Barbara Holtz’s allegorical painting Prospects, Sue Johnson’s digital perspectives on Duchamp, and Maria Larsson’s abstract photo collage.

“We are so happy to have the opportunity to show our diverse and growing collection of women artists; just before the official 100th anniversary celebration by the College of the first female graduates. This historic commemoration year coincides with the summer closing of the Muscarelle Museum of Art as we embark on our new building project,” Muscarelle Director Aaron De Groft said. “The quality of the art in this exhibition is impressive and shows the growth of this important area of our collection.”

Women with Vision: Masterworks from the Permanent Collection is a special exhibition organized in anticipation of the official commemoration by the College of William & Mary of the 100th anniversary of the first women admitted as undergraduate students at the College during the Fall semester of 1918. Programming for the celebration will kick off in September 2018 and throughout the academic year 2018-19, William & Mary will explore many of the issues raised by the historic transformation from same-sex higher education to co-education.

About the Muscarelle Museum of Art
Since its founding in 1983, the mission of the Muscarelle Museum of Art has been to integrate and celebrate the role of artistic exploration in the life of William & Mary. Over the last decade, the Muscarelle has grown from a small university art museum to a world-class brand featuring groundbreaking exhibitions such as Michelangelo and Botticelli. The Muscarelle has been voted the Best Art Museum in Virginia by a statewide poll, a reflection of its vital role in both the campus community and surrounding region.

The Muscarelle Museum of Art is located on the campus of William & Mary at 603 Jamestown Road in Williamsburg, Va. For more information, call 757-221-2700 or visit muscarelle.org. Follow on Twitter (@Muscarelle), Instagram (@muscarellemuseum) or on Facebook (Muscarelle Museum of Art). General public admission is $10 during this exhibition. Admission is free to members, William & Mary students, faculty and staff, as well as children under the age of 12.