Albrecht Dürer: The Age of Reformation and Renaissance

November 6, 2020–February 7, 2021 Organized by the Cincinnati Art Museum



Albrecht Dürer. St. Jerome in His Study, 1514. Woodcut, image: 9 1/4 x 6 1/8 in. Cincinnati Art Museum, Gift of Herbert Greer French, 1940.221

The Frist Art Museum is supported in part by







The brilliant and versatile German Renaissance artist Albrecht Dürer (1471–1528) lived in the prosperous city of Nuremberg and is celebrated as one of the finest printmakers of all time. This exhibition of more than one hundred engravings, etchings, and woodcuts from the Cincinnati Art Museum's collection spans Dürer's entire career, from his apprenticeship through his death, and highlights the major themes of his art, including religious subjects such as the Passion and the Apocalypse. His lifetime coincides with the advent of the Protestant Reformation, and the exhibition explores how the religious turmoil affected both the artist and his art.

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Tennessee State Standards

Fine Arts Standards

By analyzing, interpreting, and evaluating artworks, students fulfill the Respond domain of the Tennessee's Fine Arts Standards. Synthesizing information and contextualizing the works applies to the Connect domain. The Create domain includes the generation, conceptualization, development, and refinement of artistic work.

Seventh Grade Social Studies

World History and Geography: The Middle Ages to the Exploration of the Americas

7.44 Analyze Johannes Gutenberg's printing press and William Tyndale's translation of the Bible into the English language as vehicles for the spread of books, growth of literacy, and dissemination of knowledge.

7.45 Explain the significant causes of the Protestant Reformation, including: the Catholic Church's taxation policies, the selling of indulgences, and Martin Luther's 95 Theses.

7.46 Analyze the development of the Protestant Reformation and the split with the Catholic Church, including: the emphasis on scripture alone, salvation by faith, and predestination.

7.47 Explain the political and religious roles of Henry VIII and Mary I in England's transition between Catholicism and Protestantism.

7.48 Analyze how the Catholic Counter-Reformation emerged as a response to Protestantism and revitalized the Catholic Church, including the significance of: St. Ignatius of Loyola, the Jesuits, and the Council of Trent.

High School Ancient History

AH.58 Describe how Renaissance art, literature, and philosophy (e.g., Petrarch) differed from those in the medieval period.

AH.59 Compare and contrast the Italian and the Northern Renaissances, citing the contributions of writers and artists.

AH.60 Describe how economic and technological advances led to networks of trade and cultural interactions between major European civilizations.

Frist resources

Availability varies; details subject to change

- Martin ArtQuest® Gallery stations (on-site, after November 6; reservations required)
- FristKids videos and activities; see especially "Inspiration and Printmaking" (FristArtMuseum.org/resource/inspiration-and-printmaking)
- Printmaking video and case of tools within the exhibition
- Virtual tours (details at FristArtMuseum.org/resources)

Selected programs

Thursday, November 12, 5:30 p.m.

Curator's Perspective

with Kristin L. Spangenberg, curator of prints, Cincinnati Art Museum

Free • Presented on Zoom • Visit FristArtMuseum.org to register

Saturday, January 23

Adult ARTlab: Drypoint Etching

with Lesley Patterson-Marx

Details will be published at FristArtMuseum.org