

# PROVA N.1: VERROCCHIO EXHIBIT AT THE NGA

## PROVA ESTRATTA

**VERROCCHIO'S FIRST COMPREHENSIVE EXHIBITION EXPLORES HIS INNOVATION IN RENAISSANCE ART AND CULTURE AT NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART, SEPTEMBER 15, 2019 THROUGH JANUARY 12, 2020**

The National Gallery of Art is pleased to present *Verrocchio: Sculptor and Painter of Renaissance Florence*, the first-ever monographic exhibition in the United States on Andrea del Verrocchio (c. 1435–1488), the innovative artist, painter, sculptor, and teacher whose pupils included Leonardo da Vinci, Pietro Perugino, and likely Sandro Botticelli as well. The exhibition examines the wealth and breadth of Verrocchio's extraordinary artistry by bringing together some 50 of his masterpieces in painting, sculpture, and drawing that allow viewers to appreciate how his work in each art form stimulated creativity in the others.

Groundbreaking technical research explores Verrocchio's materials and techniques, offering revelations about his artistic choices. Several carefully argued new attributions in different media are proposed in the exhibition. The sole American venue, *Verrocchio: Sculptor and Painter of Renaissance Florence* will be on view at the National Gallery of Art from September 15, 2019, through January 12, 2020.

As a sculptor, Verrocchio was the most important figure in Renaissance art between Donatello and Michelangelo, making works of unprecedented technical accomplishment and breathtaking naturalism and beauty. As a painter, he formed a direct link in the central chain of Florentine painting between his master, Fra Filippo Lippi, and his own pupil, Leonardo da Vinci. As a draftsman, he was a pivotal figure who explored new media techniques and functions of drawing and profoundly influenced Leonardo, Raphael, and others. As a teacher, he headed a studio that became a kind of laboratory for experimentation and innovation and helped lead to the creation of the High Renaissance in the early 16th century. It is no accident that of the founders of the High Renaissance—Leonardo, Michelangelo, and Raphael—one was the pupil of Verrocchio and the other two were trained by pupils of Verrocchio.

"A 'Renaissance man' in every way, Andrea del Verrocchio was a pioneering, versatile artist whose talents stood out for their brilliance," said Kaywin Feldman, director, National Gallery of Art.

# PROVA N.2: OPERA IS IN THE AIR

## **OPERA ITALIANA IS IN THE AIR TO PERFORM IN NEW YORK CITY'S CENTRAL PARK.**

Opera Italiana is in the Air, a Cultural initiative led by renowned conductor, Founder and Music Director Alvis Casellati is to host an outdoor concert at the Naumberg Bandshell in New York City's Central Park this Tuesday, September 24th, 2024 starting at 6:00pm until 7:30pm. This special event is offered for free to the public with no tickets required and the Master of Ceremonies for the event will be NBC News Entertainment Correspondent, Chloe Melas.

Opera Italiana is in the Air was created in 2017 in Central Park, New York, following a conversation between Daniele Bodini, Chairman of the FIAC Foundation, and Alvis Casellati, Conductor and former Secretary of FIAC. Since then, its success has been exponential and it has expanded from Central Park, New York to the cities of Washington and Miami and to the home of Opera in Italy: Naples, Milan and Rome.

The program for this special evening will begin with the *Hymn of the Nations*, created by Giuseppe Verdi with the idea of melting national anthems of all countries to demonstrate that music unites everyone. Additional performances include Mascagni and his *Cavalleria Rusticana* Intermezzo, Puccini's arias and duets from *Turandot* and *La Bohème* in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the composers passing.

Special guests' stars include internationally acclaimed American soprano Latonia Moore, and two of the most sought-after young talents: Chinese-Australian tenor Kang Wang and Georgian-Italian bass George Andguladze. Opera Italiana further collaborates again with Juilliard's Pre-College program. This year, Maestro Casellati, in a blind competition, selected for the second time a composition by Isaac Thomas, a 12-year-old composer, whom the Maestro refers to as "the Mozart of our times".

Opera Italiana is in the Air is a visionary initiative dedicated to celebrating the beauty and diversity of Italian opera while reimagining its role in contemporary culture. Maestro Alvis Casellati seeks to inspire a new generation of opera lovers and redefine its role in the future of classical music. In 2023, UNESCO, the cultural agency of the United Nations, added Italian Opera Singing to its Intangible Cultural Heritage list for protected status.

# PROVA N.3: DE NITTIS AT THE PHILLIPS COLLECTION

## THE PHILLIPS COLLECTION PRESENTS "AN ITALIAN IMPRESSIONIST IN PARIS: GIUSEPPE DE NITTIS"

The Phillips Collection is pleased to present the first exhibition in the U.S. devoted to the work of Giuseppe De Nittis (1846–1884), an Italian painter whose career flourished in Impressionist Paris in the 1870s and 1880s. The exhibition is organized by The Phillips Collection with the patronage of the Italian Ministry of Culture in collaboration with the Pinacoteca Giuseppe De Nittis, the City of Barletta, Italy, and the Region of Puglia with the Fondazione Pino Pascali. It unites 73 works from leading institutions and private collections in the U.S., France, and Italy, 32 of which are loans from the Pinacoteca De Nittis. *An Italian Impressionist in Paris: Giuseppe De Nittis* is on view November 12, 2022–February 12, 2023.

“Giuseppe De Nittis was a major figure in the Impressionism period but wasn’t heralded in the United States in the same way we think of Degas and Manet,” says Vradenburg Director and CEO Dorothy Kosinski.

De Nittis was a central figure in the aesthetic and institutional upheavals of 1870s Paris soon after he arrived in the French capital from Naples in 1867 at the age of 21. He quickly earned a name for himself, and in 1874 Edgar Degas invited him to participate in the first Impressionist exhibition, becoming the only Italian artist to do so. De Nittis marked out an independent path for himself that drew upon the aesthetic sensibilities of the Salon, as well as the modern compositional strategies of more progressive artists such as Edgar Degas and Edouard Manet, both of whom were friends of De Nittis and, in the case of Degas, a close mentor.

“Largely overlooked, Giuseppe De Nittis was a major figure in the history of modernism and 19th-century European art,” says Guest Curator Renato Miracco, independent curator and Curator of the Pinacoteca Giuseppe De Nittis. “This exhibition, created to rediscover the artist and the links between him and his French colleagues, explores his close friendships with Degas, Manet and Caillebotte and firmly cements De Nittis as a missing and important piece in understanding Impressionism.”