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VINCENT VAN GOGH'S BEDROOMS COME TOGETHER FOR THE FIRST TIME IN NORTH AMERICA

Van Gogh's Bedrooms Features Thirty-six Paintings, Drawings, and Illustrated

Letters by the Artist Accompanied by an Interactive Digital Experience

CHICAGO – Vincent van Gogh's painting of his bedroom in Arles is arguably the most famous *chambre* in the history of art. So important was this composition that Van Gogh made three distinct versions and considered it his finest painting. Now, for the first time in North America, all three versions of the painting will be together in an exhibition titled **Van Gogh's Bedrooms** at the Art Institute of Chicago.

Opening on **February 14, 2016**, the exhibition is the first ever dedicated to the *Bedroom* paintings, presenting an in-depth study of documentary,



scientific, and physical evidence pertaining to all three versions. Beginning with Van Gogh's early canvases of cottages and birds' nests, the show explores the artist's use of the motif of home as a haven, creative chamber, and physical reality. Enhancing the exploration of the artist's artworks and his longing for a place of his own are several engaging interactive technologies designed in partnership with Bluecadet. A digitally enhanced reconstruction of his bedroom allows visitors the chance to experience the physical reality of the space that so inspired him, while other enriching digital components bring to light significant recent scientific research on the three *Bedroom* paintings.

An illustrated exhibition catalog with a lead essay from Gloria Groom, Chair of European Painting and Sculpture and David and Mary Winton Green Curator, will be published by the Art Institute of Chicago in partnership with Yale University Press.

Associated Events

Opening Night Gala

February 20, 6:30 PM, Griffin Court

The Old Masters Society (OMS) celebrates the opening of *Van Gogh's Bedrooms* with a festive gala for OMS members and the Art Institute community featuring cocktails, an exclusive viewing of the exhibitions, and a special dinner in Griffin Court.

• Lecture - Van Gogh's Artistic Influences

February 25, 6:00 PM, Rubloff Auditorium

Who were Van Gogh's favorite artists? Steven Naifeh, co-author of the Pulitzer Prize—winning Van Gogh: The Life, explores the wide range of artists who so deeply affected the brilliant, troubled young painter's life and art.

Lecture & Screening - Van Gogh in Film

March 17. 6:00 PM. Griffin Court

March 31, 6:00 PM, Fullerton Hall

Using clips from feature films, documentaries, and shorts, Facets directors Milos Stehlik explores how filmmakers' depictions of Van Gogh changed over time, followed by a screening of Alain Resnais' *Van Gogh* (1948).

• Screenings – Films for Van Gogh

April 7, 6:00 PM, Price Auditorium

April 9, 16, 23 and 30, 1:00 PM Price Auditorium

April 7, 6:00 PM - Paul Cox's *VINCENT* (1987)

April 8, 1:00 PM – *LUST FOR LIFE* (1956)

April 16, 1:00 PM – *VINCENT & THEO* (1990)

April 23, 1:00 PM – VAN GOGH (1991)

April 30, 1:00 PM – THE EYES OF VAN GOGH (2005)

• **Performance** - Van Gogh's Letters

April 14, 6:00 PM, Fullerton Hall

April 17, 2:00 PM, Fullerton Hall

A cast of Chicago actors brings to life the dramatic biography and gripping words of Vincent Van Gogh, drawn from letters written to and from his family in the decades or so after Van Gogh left his home, and before his move to the south of France in 1888.

Lead support has been provided by the Estate of Jacquet McConville.

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The exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.

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Images:

Vincent van Gogh. The Bedroom, 1889. The Art Institute of Chicago, Helen Birch Bartlett Memorial Collection.

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