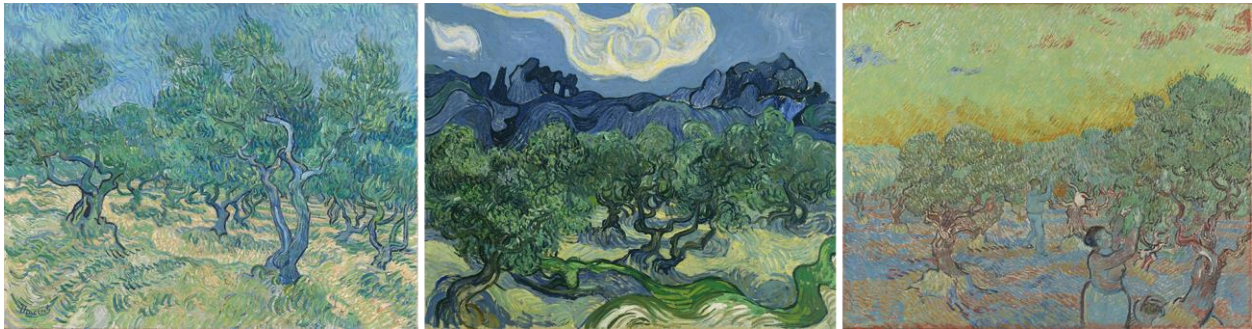


Van Gogh Museum and Dallas Museum of Art Co-Organize First Exhibition Dedicated to Van Gogh's Olive Grove Series

**Groundbreaking Exhibition Reunites Van Gogh's Expressive Paintings of Olive Trees
For the First Time and Features New Discoveries
From Collaborative Conservation and Scientific Research**



Amsterdam, Netherlands / Dallas, TX – March 5, 2020 – In 2021 the Dallas Museum of Art (DMA) and Van Gogh Museum (Amsterdam, Netherlands) will host the first exhibition dedicated to Vincent van Gogh's important olive grove series, executed during his yearlong stay at the asylum of Saint-Rémy-de-Provence. Co-organized by the two institutions, *Van Gogh and the Olive Groves* reunites for the first time the series of paintings devoted to the titular motif that the artist produced between June and December 1889. It additionally highlights new discoveries about the artist's techniques, materials, and palette that emerged from a collaborative conservation and scientific research project that included all fifteen paintings in the series. Co-curated by Nicole R. Myers, the DMA's Barbara Thomas Lemmon Senior Curator of European Art, and Nienke Bakker, Senior Curator of Paintings at the Van Gogh Museum, the exhibition will premiere at the Van Gogh Museum from June 25, 2021, through September 12, 2021, and will then travel to Dallas, where it will be presented from October 17, 2021, through February 6, 2022.

"The Van Gogh Museum is the leading authority in scholarly research into the life and work of Vincent van Gogh. This unique opportunity to study a complete series of paintings and dedicate a focused exhibition to it is immensely valuable for our knowledge on the artist's oeuvre, and we are delighted to collaborate with the DMA on this important project," said Emilie Gordenker, Director of the Van Gogh Museum.

"This exciting partnership with the Van Gogh Museum leverages the joint strengths of our two institutions—in curating and research—to present a fresh look at a much-beloved artist," said Agustín Arteaga, the DMA's Eugene McDermott Director. "Through world-class exhibitions such as this one, as well as the scholarship behind them, the DMA continues to uncover new insights on even the most time-honored artists for our communities and the art world more broadly."

Through a selection of the artist's paintings and drawings drawn from public and private collections, *Van Gogh and the Olive Groves* traces Van Gogh's evolving stylistic treatment and motivations for depicting the olive groves of Saint-Rémy over a six-month period during his stay as a self-admitted patient at the local asylum. This bold and experimental series, reunited for the first time in this exhibition, reveals Van Gogh's passionate investigation of the expressive powers of color and line, and his choice of the olive groves as an evocative subject. The exhibition will also explore the artist's tendency to produce groups of paintings on specific subjects, taking a closer look at select examples from key periods of his production, as well as at the larger series of paintings dedicated to motifs he considered quintessential to Provence, to which the olive groves belong.

Van Gogh and the Olive Groves will also highlight new discoveries on the artist's palette, techniques, and materials, as seen across the 15 paintings in the series. The product of a collaborative conservation and scientific research initiative launched by the organizing institutions in partnership with the various collections that hold the paintings, and helmed by Kathrin Pilz, Paintings Conservator at the Van Gogh Museum, these findings will provide new insight into Van Gogh's choice of materials and techniques in this particular phase of his production.

"These fascinating paintings clearly held an important place for Van Gogh within his oeuvre, making it that much more surprising that they had not yet been the subject of a dedicated study and exhibition," said curators Nicole Myers and Nienke Bakker. "After years of research, we are thrilled to reunite the olive grove series for the first time for audiences in Europe and the United States and to present exciting new discoveries on the paintings and artist alike."

About the Van Gogh Museum

The Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam, established in 1973, houses the largest collection of Van Gogh's works in the world, with over 200 paintings, 500 drawings, and nearly all of his letters. The collection also features paintings, drawings, and sculptures from between 1840 and 1920 by Van Gogh's friends and contemporaries, by artists who inspired him and by those whom he inspired, and a wealth of archival material relating to Van Gogh. In addition, the museum is home to an internationally acclaimed collection of fin-de-siècle prints and a collection of Japanese ukiyo-e woodcuts assembled by Van Gogh. Drawing on its unique collection, the Van Gogh Museum has developed into the leading knowledge institute on Vincent van Gogh. The museum complements the presentation of the permanent collection with a varied program of temporary exhibitions focusing on the art of Van Gogh and his contemporaries. Each year, the Van Gogh Museum receives over two million visitors from all over the world. For more information, visit vangoghmuseum.nl.

About the Dallas Museum of Art

Established in 1903, the Dallas Museum of Art (DMA) is among the 10 largest art museums in the country and is distinguished by its commitment to research, innovation, and public engagement. At the heart of the Museum and its programs is its global collection, which encompasses 25,000 works and spans 5,000 years of history, representing a full range of world cultures. Located in the nation's largest arts district, the Museum acts as a catalyst for community creativity, engaging people of all ages and backgrounds with a diverse spectrum of programming, from exhibitions and lectures to concerts, literary events, and dramatic and dance presentations. With a free general admission policy and community outreach efforts, the DMA served more than 900,000 individuals on-site and off-site in 2019. For more information, visit DMA.org. The Dallas Museum of Art is supported, in part, by the generosity of DMA Members and donors, the citizens of Dallas through the City of Dallas Office of Arts and Culture, and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

Images: Vincent van Gogh, *Olive Grove*, 1889, oil on canvas, Collection Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo, The Netherlands.
Photographer: Rik Klein Gotink; Vincent van Gogh, *The Olive Trees*, 1889, oil on canvas, The Museum of Modern Art, New York,
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