

Moderna Museet presents even more of its collection:

A new exhibition programme appearing in the collection galleries.

In 2023, we will open three new exhibitions with works from the Moderna Museet collection, one of Europe's finest selections of modern and contemporary art. This vast treasure is presented in thematic exhibitions that explore different narratives in art history, instead of sticking to the chronological format. Together, these presentations highlight art from the 20th century to today, reflecting the whole range of the collection. Classics, favourites and new acquisitions are the first thing visitors will see in the galleries, and in the Study Gallery downstairs everyone can choose what to see and request works from the collection.

Moderna Museet's director, Gitte Ørskou, explains the vision behind the new exhibition programme:

"The question we asked ourselves was, 'How can we show our visitors as much as possible?' Obviously, we can't display all 140,000 works at the same time. But with a succession of exhibitions that highlight even more works from the collection, our visitors can experience much more than before, over time."

The first three exhibitions in the programme are:

Sleepless Nights

From the 1980s in the Moderna Museet collection

28 February 2023–14 January 2024

The 1980s saw the emergence of a number of strong female artists in Sweden and the Nordic region in what was a time of conflicting and contradictory trends. It is the works of these women that form the nucleus of the exhibition "Sleepless Nights". The title is taken from Teresa Wennberg's major video installation "Nuit Blanche" (1983), which is one example of how these artists had begun experimenting with the new materials and media.

It was a time of financial ups and downs, a red-hot art market, an alternative art scene that sought to provoke and now, just as there were signs that the Cold War was drawing to an end, a new fear, that of HIV and AIDs, was starting to haunt society. Vestiges of this interlude between the politicised 1970s and the artistically more stringent 1990s can be found in the Moderna Museet collection.

“Sleepless Nights” introduces visitors to some 130 works of art by trailblazers such as Barbro Bäckström, Cecilia Edefalk, Stina Ekman, Tuija Lindström, Eva Löfdahl and Ingrid Orfali among others. On this occasion, however, the female artists are also joined by male colleagues, including Torsten Andersson and Max Book, while works by stellar names such as Daniel Buren, Robert Mapplethorpe, Cindy Sherman, and Andy Warhol contribute an international dimension to the exhibition.

Curator: Anna Tellgren

Pink Sails

Swedish Modernism in the Moderna Museet collection

17 June 2023–January 2025

The exhibition presents some of the numerous narratives and varying artistic expressions that existed side by side in what has become known as Swedish Modernism. Visitors will have the opportunity to familiarise themselves with works from the extensive Moderna Museet collection from the beginning of the twentieth century until the 1940s. In all, a total of around 100 works will be on display, from artists that include Anna Casparsson, Siri Derkert, Sven X:et Erixson, Isaac Grünewald, Sigrid Hjertén, Bror Hjort, Hilding Linnqvist, Vera Nilsson, Ragnar Sandberg and Otte Sköld.

The monumental changes in society that took place during this era, the impact of two world wars and the web of influences from European cities such as Paris and Berlin, all left their mark on art: in the depiction of landscapes that now bore the hallmarks of a new industrial age, the rapidly growing cities and the environments of the outer suburbs, intimate portrayals of everyday life, and representations of human emotions. Parallel with this, however, many artists turned their focus inwards, to private inner worlds and imagination, and to motifs that bear witness to a longing for times now past.

Curator: Matilda Olof-Ors

Seven Rooms and a Garden

Rashid Johnson + Moderna Museet

30 September 2023–September 2024

Seven Rooms and a Garden is an exhibition that juxtaposes the practice of the American conceptual artist, painter, sculptor, and filmmaker Rashid Johnson (b. 1977) with works from the Moderna Museet collection.

In the exhibition, Johnson proposes a question: how can you inhabit and live in a museum collection? His point of departure is the relationship between the home as an intimate place that holds the seemingly insignificant acts and fleeting moments of daily life—happiness and pain, longing and anxiety, rest and routine—and the museum’s presentation of its collection as a public space. How can this collection be occupied in a way that leaves it transformed?

Each room in the exhibition shows a different personal or artistic relationship between Johnson and the work of other artists, including Louise Bourgeois, David

Hammons, Jackson Pollock, Cy Twombly, and Stanley Whitney. Tenderness, appreciation, love, and kinship are mixed with critique, scrutiny and misunderstanding, as well as the occasional inside joke between artists. Together, these seven rooms and a garden are home, the interior of Johnson's home.

Curator: Hendrik Folkerts

Facts on the Moderna Museet collection

Moderna Museet has one of Europe's finest collections of modern and contemporary art. It is expanding constantly, as new works are acquired through funding from foundations and private donations. The most recent new presentation of the collection opened in 2019.

The Moderna Museet collection consists of some 140,000 works that are shown to the public in various ways: through exhibitions at the Museum, in the Study Gallery, where visitors can choose works to be viewed at eye level, and through "Search the Collection", an online search engine. Art from the collection is also featured in exhibitions at Moderna Museet Malmö, in public buildings all over Sweden and on loan to other museums and galleries in Sweden and internationally.

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