

where



A display shows off hunting tools at the Barnes Foundation. (Courtesy Barnes Foundation) 

where

## World-Class Works of Art On Display in Philadelphia Right Now

BY AMY GORDON ON 07/14/15

Several of Philadelphia's premier museums play host to fascinating art exhibitions that appeal to everyone from the avid art fan to the perpetual kid at heart. Step out of the heat and into one of the institutions below to inject an extra dose of creativity and culture into your Philadelphia visit.

**June 24 - Sept. 13:** After successful stints at the Musee de Luxembourg in Paris and the National Gallery in London, *Discovering the Impressionists: Paul Durand-Ruel* has arrived at the [Philadelphia Museum of Art](#) (2600 Benjamin Franklin Pkwy, Philadelphia, 215.763.8100). As an art dealer in the late 19th

and early 20th centuries, Durand-Ruel played an enormous role in the rise and success of the Impressionist movement. The savvy businessman organized shows for some of the genre's best-known talents, and this groundbreaking exhibition features works by such masters as Monet, Renoir, Degas and Cassatt. Through a selection of pieces from collections housed all over the world, *Discovering the Impressionists* tells the story of this enterprising dealer who helped change the art world forever.



📍 At the National Museum of American Jewish History, *Richard Avedon: Family Affairs* examines many of Avedon's photographic portraits. (Courtesy National Museum of American Jewish History)

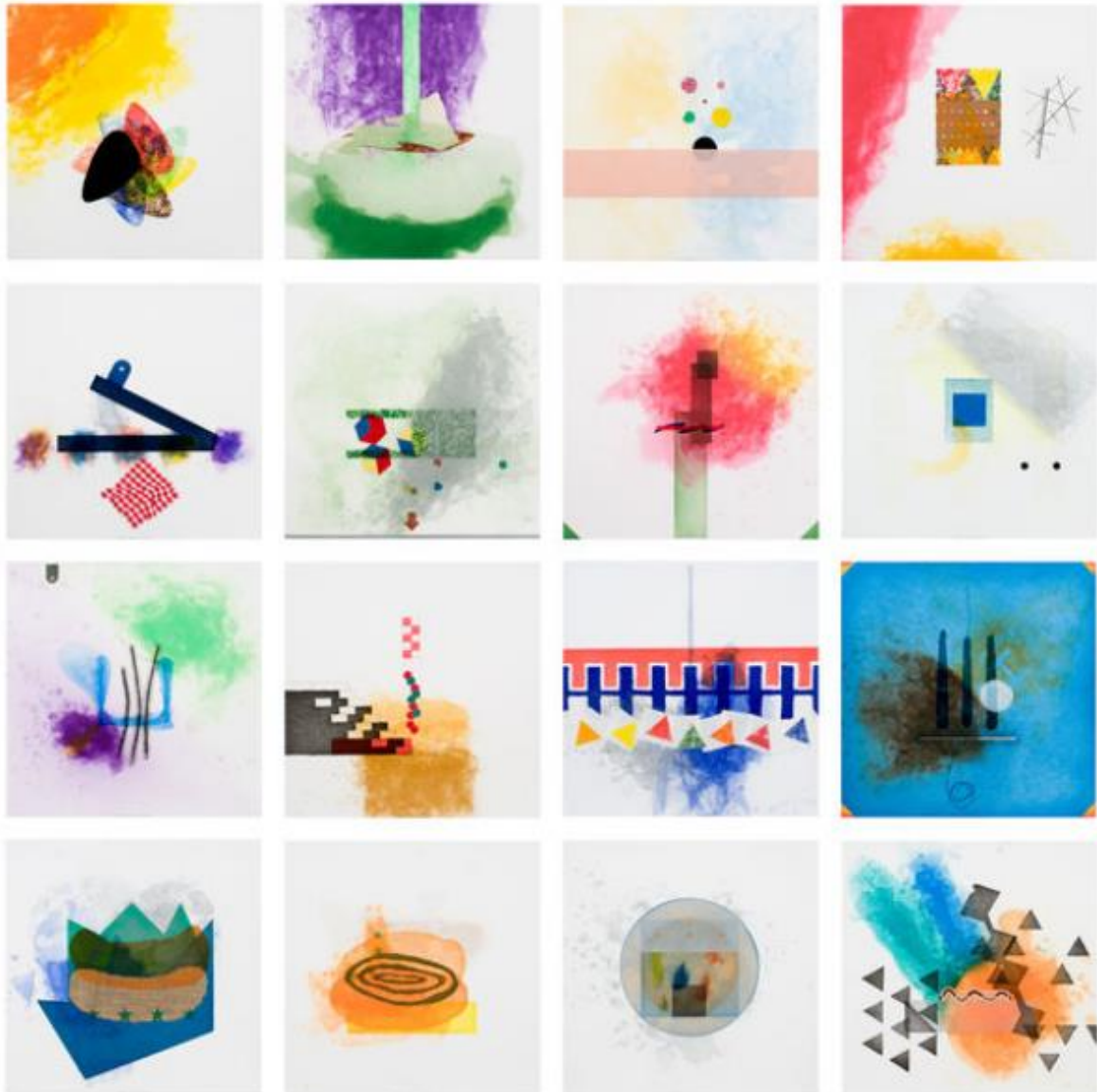
**April 1 - Aug. 2:** Before the selfie, there was the portrait. At the [National Museum of American Jewish History](#) (101 S. Independence Mall E., Philadelphia, 215.923.3811), *Richard Avedon: Family Affairs* examines many of Avedon's photographic portraits, some widely known, others rarely seen, all captivating. The exhibit opens with an in-depth look at the collage of images that collectively comprise "Allen Ginsberg's family, Paterson, New Jersey, May 3, 1970", one of the photographer's most famous portraits. The focus then shifts to the political process, which visitors get to view through Avedon's eyes. On assignment to cover the 1976 presidential election for *Rolling Stone* magazine, the artist shot individual portraits of more than sixty key figures of the time. The photos showcase politicians like George H. W. Bush and Ted Kennedy as well as leaders in other fields like Cesar Chavez and Walter Annenberg. Before leaving, visitors can express their own artistic sides by snapping self-portraits to take home.



Thousands of paintings hang on the walls amidst antique furniture and metalwork at the Barnes Foundation. (Courtesy Barnes Foundation)

**May 16 - Aug. 3:** If you have never been to the [Barnes Foundation](#) (2025 Benjamin Franklin Pkwy., Philadelphia, 215.278.7000), now's the time. And if you have, you'll surely remember the striking way that the thousands of masterpieces in this collection are displayed. Paintings hang on the walls amidst antique furniture, metalwork and household items, making each room its own work of art. In *The Order of Things*, renowned talents Mark Dion, Judy Pfaff and Fred Wilson were each tasked with creating large-scale installations that respond to the unconventional way that Dr. Albert C. Barnes chose to display the collection. The show even features an installation designed by Barnes himself.





📍 This month, the Fabric Workshop and Museum presents Both/And Richard Tuttle Print and Cloth. (Courtesy Fabric Workshop and Museum)

**May 15 - Summer 2015: The [Fabric Workshop and Museum](#)** (1214 Arch St., Philadelphia, 215.561.8888), an avant-garde space the Market East neighborhood, presents Both/And Richard Tuttle Print and Cloth. Tuttle, an influential American artist, is actually an artist-in-residence at FWM, and the exhibit covers more than 50 years of his work. He uses structure, material, color and process to express his vision. An accompanying brochure pairs each work with related excerpts of Tuttle's poetry.



Philadelphia's Franklin Institute this month has an exhibit that is a tribute to LEGO bricks. (©J. Fusco)

**Feb. 7 - Sept. 6:** In line with its proven track record of making science fun and acceptable, the [Franklin Institute](#) (222 N. 20th St., Philadelphia, 215.448.1200) presents *The Art of the Brick*, an exhibit dedicated to one of the world's favorite toys: LEGO bricks. Kids of all ages can enjoy this display, which features more than 100 creations designed and assembled by artist Nathan Sawaya. Pieces include a 20-foot-long Tyrannosaurus Rex skeleton, three-dimensional interpretations of classic works, including Munch's "The Scream" and Da Vinci's "Mona Lisa", and reproductions of iconic landmarks such as the Easter Island statues. Keep an eye out for Sawaya's LEGO-made Liberty Bell, created especially for Philly.

