

# COLOURS OF IMPRESSIONISM

MASTERPIECES  
FROM THE  
MUSÉE D'ORSAY

29.03–  
29.07  
2018

ART  
GALLERY  
OF  
SOUTH  
AUSTRALIA



MEDIA RELEASE

## Take a trip to Adelaide to enjoy French Impressionist masterpieces from the Musée d'Orsay, Paris from March to July 2018

**Adelaide, Australia:** More than sixty-five French Impressionist masterpieces from the renowned collection of the **Musée d'Orsay** in Paris will be celebrated in a major exhibition, to be presented exclusively at the **Art Gallery of South Australia** from 29 March to 29 July 2018.

*Colours of Impressionism: Masterpieces from the Musée d'Orsay* charts the revolution of colour that lies at the heart of what is arguably the world's most loved art movement. Curated by **Marine Kisiel** and **Paul Perrin** of the **Musée d'Orsay** for the **Art Gallery of South Australia** in collaboration with **Art Exhibitions Australia**, the exhibition underscores the truly seismic nature of Impressionism and reveals why it is regarded as the first artistic embodiment of modernity.

In an age of industrialisation that led to the establishment of rail networks and grand railway stations – such as the former Gare d'Orsay, which now houses the peerless collection of the Musée d'Orsay – Impressionist artists travelled throughout France and beyond, with some of them choosing to live in villages along the Seine including Giverny, Pontoise, Argenteuil, Vétheuil and Louveciennes. It was along the river that they painted some of their most luminous, serenely beautiful pictures, examples of which are included in *Colours of Impressionism*.

The mid- to late-nineteenth century also saw more and more people enjoy leisure activities in Paris and beyond, from attending café-concerts and sailing regattas to promenading along the beach or lazing by the banks of the Seine. These pursuits became a popular subject matter for Impressionist painters and the exhibition features a number of these paintings including Édouard Manet's *The beer maid* and Georges Seurat's *Study for 'Bathers at Asnières'*.

*Colours of Impressionism: Masterpieces from the Musée d'Orsay* will be presented in the Elder Wing of the **Art Gallery of South Australia**, one of Australia's few nineteenth-century galleries and a fitting backdrop for the nineteenth-century French Impressionist masterpieces presented in this exhibition.

Local and interstate visitors are invited to take a mini-break in Adelaide to enjoy this exceptional exhibition, land only packages are available through **InterContinental Adelaide** visit <https://www.icadelaide.com.au/promotions/> and travel packages are available through **Virgin Australia Travel Packages** visit <https://travel.virginaustralia.com/au/events/colours-impressionism>

**Singapore Airlines Regional Vice President, Mr Philip Goh** says 'Singapore Airlines is once again proud to be supporting a world class art exhibition. For the past 30 years we have worked closely with Art Exhibitions Australia to bring some of the world's most renowned artworks to Australia. *Colours of Impressionism: Masterpieces from the Musée d'Orsay* is another example of our continued support and investment in Australia's arts and culture scene and we look forward to working with Art Exhibitions Australia and the Art Gallery of South Australia on a successful exhibition.'

**Art Gallery of South Australia, Director Nick Mitzevich**, describes the exhibition as 'the most important exhibition ever to be shown at the Art Gallery of South Australia. With so few Impressionist works held in Australian collections, the exhibition presents a rare opportunity for Australians to see the movement's radical evolution of colour. I would like to thank the Musée d'Orsay for sharing this remarkable collection with Australia.'

ENDS

#### KEY DATES & DETAILS

- Media Preview Wednesday 28 March at 11am | Official Opening at 6pm
- Exhibition Season | 29 March to 29 July 2018
- To book your tickets visit [artgallery.sa.gov.au](http://artgallery.sa.gov.au)
- Virgin Australia Travel Packages visit: <https://travel.virginaustralia.com/au/events/colours-impressionism>

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**MEDIA IMAGES:** Available for download from

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/c3tvhnxxkrxbhaa/AAA2aIkLuBZXsXPV3-Kf34Ka?dl=0>

images details: (left) Paul Signac, France, 1863-1935, *The red buoy*, 1895, oil on canvas, 81.2 x 65 cm, Musée d'Orsay, Paris, France ©photo Musée d'Orsay / rmn, (right) Édouard Manet, France 1832-1883, *The beer maid*, 1878-79, oil on canvas, 77 x 64.5 cm, Musée d'Orsay, Paris, France ©photo Musée d'Orsay / rmn

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