

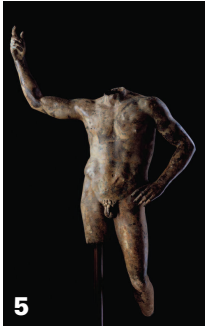
# WHAT TO SEE IN AN HOUR

## Works of art you won't want to miss

Visit these works of art in any order you wish. To learn more, visit [www.mfah.org](http://www.mfah.org).

*Some works of art may not be on view the day of your visit.*

### The Audrey Jones Beck Building



1. **William Bouguereau, *The Elder Sister* European Art Galleries (220)**

One of the most beloved works at the museum, this painting exemplifies Bouguereau's idealized compositions, which earned him popularity and financial success.

2. **Rembrandt van Rijn, *Portrait of a Young Woman* European Art Galleries (211)**

Known for his ability to paint flesh, hair, clothing, and the personality of the sitter, Rembrandt is considered one of the greatest painters in history.

3. **Willem van Aelst, *A Still Life of Game and a Blue Velvet Game Bag on a Marble Ledge* European Art Galleries (214)**

Still-life paintings often include objects that convey subtle moral messages to the viewer.

4. ***Mummy of a Child* Antiquities Galleries (200)**

Ancient Egyptians believed in life after death, and they created an elaborate process to preserve the body.

5. ***Portrait of a Roman Ruler* Antiquities Galleries (104)**

Powerful rulers commissioned portraits of themselves as physically perfect, regardless of actual age and appearance.

6. **Charles Deas, *Walking the Chalk* American Art Galleries (107)**

Depicting a popular drinking game of the same name, this painting is filled with social and symbolic importance.

7. **Frederic Remington, *Aiding a Comrade* American Art Galleries (108)**

Remington's images of the American West created the image of the cowboy as national folk hero.

8. **Claes Oldenburg, *Giant Soft Fan (Ghost Version)* American Art Galleries (109)**

One of a series of sculptures in which the hard, metallic, functional properties of a commonplace fan are humorously contradicted.

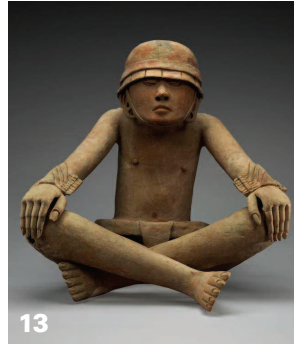
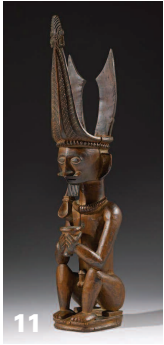
9. **Louis Comfort Tiffany, *A Wooded Landscape in Three Panels* American Art Galleries (109)**

Like many of Tiffany's glass windows, this one was made for a private home and was inspired by nature.

10. **James Turrell, *The Light Inside* Between Beck and Law Buildings (LL2)**

In this site-specific installation, the artist wants the visitor to physically feel light and "the presence of light inhabiting a space."

# The Caroline Wiess Law Building



## 11. *Sculpture of a Male Ancestor Figure* Indonesian Art Galleries (102M)

The people of Nias Island believed that ancestral spirits created the world and affected the fertility and fortune of the living. Each noble household had one of these sculptures to protect their homes.

## 12. *Vase with a Dragon* Korean Art Galleries (105M)

Unlike fierce dragons found on Chinese and earlier Korean art, this dragon is characterized by humor and exuberance.

## 13. *Sculpture of a Ballplayer* Pre-Columbian Art Galleries (210M)

A ball game similar to soccer was important to the cultures of ancient Mexico. This rare ballplayer figure wears a uniform and was originally painted.

## 14. *Maria and Julian Martinez, Jar* Native American Art Galleries (LL2)

A husband and wife team, Maria sculpted the pots and Julian developed the painting techniques. Working with archaeologists, the Martinezes were inspired to revive traditional motifs like the avanyu, a mythical water serpent.

## 15. *Vessel* Chinese Art Galleries (205M)

Used at special banquets and made of expensive bronze, these vessels were given as elaborate gifts.

## 16. *Mask in the Shape of an Elephant* African Art Galleries (203)

Elephant masks of Cameroon are made of beaded cloth and worn by the highest ranking men in the society. The elephant, a royal symbol, represents force and strength, and the imported beads indicate wealth.

## 17. *Ornament for a Sword* African Gold Galleries (201M)

Sword ornaments frequently have symbolic meanings. This sword ornament in the form of a seashell or pineapple symbolizes the constancy of the chief.

## 18. *Stanislav Libenský and Jaroslava Brychtová, Imprint of an Angel I* Law Building (Gallery 200)

Light changes the transparency, translucency, and opacity in this work of art and highlights the angel embedded in the glass.

## How to Read a Label

### William Bouguereau

French, 1825–1905  
The Elder Sister  
1869  
Oil on canvas

*Gift of an Anonymous Lady  
in memory of her father*  
92.163

### William Bouguereau

The artist's name

### French, 1825–1905

The artist's nationality, birth date, death date if applicable

### The Elder Sister

The title of the work of art

If the original title was in a different language, it is indicated in parentheses.

### 1869

The year the work of art was completed

### Oil on canvas

The materials used to make the work of art

### Gift of an Anonymous Lady in memory of her father

Works of art are either owned by the museum or on loan to the museum. This work of art was a gift to the museum's collection.

### 92.163

This number tells us that this work of art became part of the museum's collection in 1992, and was the 163rd work of art to enter the museum's collection that year. Loans are given numbers beginning with TR, which means 'temporary receipt.'

## Additional Details about the Art

1. William Bouguereau, *The Elder Sister*, 1869, oil on canvas, gift of an Anonymous Lady in memory of her father.

2. Rembrandt van Rijn, *Portrait of a Young Woman*, 1633, oil on wood, gift of Isabel B. and Wallace S. Wilson, Caroline Wiess Law, Faye Sarofim, the Blanton and Wareing families in honor of Laura Lee Blanton, the Fondren Foundation, Houston Endowment Inc., Mr. and Mrs. George P. Mitchell, Ethel G. Carruth, Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Duncan, Jr., Marjorie G. Horning, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Hudson, Jr., Mrs. William S. Kilroy, Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Tate, and Nina and Michael Zilkha, with additional gifts from the Linda and Ronny Finger Foundation, Ann Trammell, and Mr. and Mrs. Temple Webber in memory of Caroline Wiess Law, and additional funding from the Alice Pratt Brown Museum Fund and the Agnes Cullen Arnold Endowment Fund.

3. Willem van Aelst, *A Still Life of Game and a Blue Velvet Game Bag on a Marble Ledge*, c. 1665, oil on canvas, Sarah Campbell Blaffer Foundation.

4. Egyptian, *Mummy of an Egyptian Child*, c. 30 B.C.–A.D. 150, painted linen, gift of The Brown Foundation, Inc.

5. Roman, *Portrait of a Ruler*, c. A.D. 200–225, bronze, gift of D. and J. de Menil in memory of Conrad Schlumberger.

6. Charles Deas, *Walking the Chalk*, 1838, oil on canvas, museum purchase with funds provided by the Agnes Cullen Arnold Endowment Fund.

7. Frederic Remington, *Aiding a Comrade (Past All Surgery)*, 1889–90, oil on canvas, the Hogg Brothers Collection, gift of Miss Ima Hogg.

8. Claes Oldenburg, *Giant Soft Fan—Ghost Version*, 1967, canvas, wood, and polyurethane foam, gift of D. and J. de Menil.

9. Louis Comfort Tiffany, *A Wooded Landscape in Three Panels*, c. 1905, glass, copper-foil, and lead, museum purchase with funds provided by the Brown Foundation Accessions Endowment Fund.

10. James Turrell, *The Light Inside*, 1999, site-specific installation with neon light, gypsum board, plaster, and glass, museum commission, gift of Isabel B. and Wallace S. Wilson.

11. Indonesian, *Male Ancestor Figure*, 19th–20th century, wood, gift of Alfred C. Glassell, Jr.

12. Korean, *Cloud-Dragon Jar*, 1392–1910, porcelain with cobalt underglaze, National Museum of Korea.

13. Veracruz, *Ballplayer*, 600–900, terracotta, museum purchase with funds provided by the Alice Pratt Brown Museum Fund.

14. Maria Martinez and Julian Martinez, *Jar (Olla) with Feathers and an Avanyu*, 1934–43, matte black-on-black earthenware, gift of Miss Ima Hogg.

15. Chinese, *Ritual Vessel (Ding)*, early 5th century B.C., bronze, museum purchase with funds provided by the Alice Pratt Brown Museum Fund.

16. Bamileke, *Elephant Mask* (Kuosi society), first half of the 20th century, cotton cloth, flannel, glass beads, raffia cloth, indigo dye, and cane (?), gift of The Brown Foundation, Inc., with additional funds provided by the Brown Foundation Accessions Endowment Fund.

17. Akan, *Sword Ornament in the form of a Seashell known as Star*, 19th century, gold, gift of Alfred C. Glassell, Jr.

18. Stanislav Libenský and Jaroslava Brychtová, *Imprint of an Angel I*, 1998–99, cast glass, museum purchase with funds provided by the estate of Roger Ager, Liberty, Texas; Heller Gallery, New York, NY; Dr. Frances M. Davis Ryan and Neil F. Ryan; Neal and Judi Grossman of Illuminata Gallery; Steve Laedtke; Richard H. Moiel and Katherine S. Poeppel; Barbara and Mark Paull; the Susan Vaughan Foundation; and various other donors.