# MFA H Rienzi School Tours



Rienzi welcomes 5th–12th grade students to immerse themselves in a world of European art. Thematic tours of Rienzi, the house museum for European decorative arts of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, connect with established curricula, encouraging students to engage in European history, world cultures, geography, language arts, and more. Specially trained gallery educators lead interactive tours, which emphasize close observation of objects and facilitate the development of essential visual and critical-analysis skills. Make your reservation now!

#### **Tour Times**

Wednesdays–Fridays 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 1:00 p.m. Group size: 10–60 students To make a reservation, call 713-639-7800 or e-mail rienzi@mfah.org. School tours of Rienzi are always FREE!

#### **School Tours**

Choose a themed tour below, or work with Rienzi staff to customize a tour based on school curricula. Examples of TEKS standards are listed in parentheses below.



Clockwise from top right: Dihl and Guérhard, *Partial Tea and Coffee Service* (detail), c. 1800, hard-paste porcelain, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, the Rienzi Collection, gift of Mr, and Mrs, Harris Masterson III. 96.1393 Andrea Soldi, *Thomas Barrett-Lennard*, 17th Lord Dacre, 1736–44, oil on canvas, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, the Rienzi Collection, museum purchase funded by the Rienzi Society. 2008.30.

## **Highlights of the Rienzi Collection**

Join Rienzi docents for an overview of life and luxury in the 18th and early 19th centuries. The Rienzi Collection features decorative arts and paintings that explore how people lived in the period. Perfect for world history classes! (WH 3, 26, 31)

## The Eighteenth Century and the Ancient World: A Look at Mythology

Explore the ancient gods and goddesses of Mount Olympus through objects in Rienzi's collection. During the 18th century, the discovery of Pompeii spurred the creation of a visual culture inspired by ancient iconography and principles. Learn about the myths behind the images and their purpose in the Age of Enlightenment. (Eng I 2, 8) (WH 1, 3, 26)

Angelica Kauffmann, Ariadne Abandoned by Theseus, 1774, oil on carvas, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, the Rienzi Collection, gift of Mr. and Mrs. Harris Masterson III in memory of Neill Turner Masterson, Jr., 69.23. Mexican, *Ladies Box*, late 18th century, wood, paint, silver, silk, and glass, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, the Rienzi Collection, museum purchase funded by the Rienzi Society, 2008;31.

#### East Meets West: Trade and Globalization in the Eighteenth Century

Travel to four continents by exploring the idea of globalization. Find out how new methods of sea and land transport opened trade between Asia, Europe, and the Americas, and look at works of art that were made in England, but inspired by China, Japan, and India. (WH 3, 7, 8, 31)

## Women of the House: Roles of Eighteenth-Century Women

Explore the portraits of women in the Rienzi Collection. Learn about Mrs. Elisha Mathew; Lady Elizabeth Blunt; and Eleanor, Countess of Lauderdale; among others. The tour also investigates feminine wares produced for a female audience. (WH 3, 24)

MFAH Rienzi 1406 Kirby Drive, Houston, Texas 77019 • 713-639-7800 • mfah.org/rienzi • rienzi@mfah.org

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