



THE ART NEWSPAPER

The Year Ahead 2023 // Feature

Planning an art pilgrimage in 2023? The best cities to visit for groundbreaking exhibitions this year

The best shows in London, Paris, Berlin, Sydney, New York and Washington, DC

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Washington, DC: Look at the real art of politics

Politics tends to hog the limelight in Washington, DC, overshadowing the exhibition offerings of a city that can easily compete with New York and Los Angeles. With 2022's splashy opening of the [Rubell Museum DC](#), the scene has continued to expand, and the 2023 line-up combines Old Masters and Modernist superstars with the newly appreciated.

The National Gallery of Art has long been the city's behemoth, and three of the museum's 2023 shows are of international stature. [Canova: Sketching in Clay](#) (11 June-9 October) is the first exhibition about the expressive clay models that Neo-Classical artist Antonio Canova used to prepare his marble sculptures—some 60 examples survive and around 40 will be featured in the show. In autumn, the museum is mounting two big shows: [Mark Rothko: Paintings on Paper](#), featuring around 100 works (19 November-31 March 2024), and [Dorothea Lange: Seeing People](#) (5 November-31 March 2024), which recasts the Depression-era photojournalist as a sensitive portraitist.

This spring, the [National Portrait Gallery](#) will combine portraiture from far-flung collections, including Guam and Puerto Rico, in [1898: US Imperial Visions and Revisions](#) (28 April-25 February 2024). Stand-out loans include Honolulu's life-size painting of Queen Liliuokalani, Hawaii's last sovereign, painted in 1892 by William F. Cogswell, the eminent American political portraitist.

In the summer, the [Phillips Collection](#), known for its world-class Impressionist holdings, will inaugurate a US touring exhibition about the photographer Frank Stewart, arguably the US's leading visual chronicler of jazz musicians, with the artist himself, now 72, in on the planning.

During the Obama years, Alma Thomas (1891-1978) became the first African-American woman artist to be added to the White House's art collection with *Resurrection* (1966). That work will be included in [Composing Colour: Paintings by Alma Thomas](#) (15 September-2 June 2024) at the [Smithsonian American Art Museum](#).

Full article at: <https://www.theartnewspaper.com/2023/01/03/planning-an-art-pilgrimage-in-2023-the-best-cities-to-visit-for-groundbreaking-exhibitions-this-year>