



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 7, 2016

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**Art Deco Automobiles, Ansel Adams Photographs, and Venetian Renaissance Masterworks:
Upcoming Exhibitions at the North Carolina Museum of Art**

Museum announces an exciting year of special exhibitions

Raleigh, N.C.—The North Carolina Museum of Art (NCMA) announces several special exhibitions taking place in the fall of 2016 and spring of 2017. Beginning October 1, 2016, the Museum presents *Rolling Sculpture: Art Deco Cars from the 1930s and '40s*, which features cars and motorcycles embodying the design characteristics of the art deco movement. On February 4, 2017, the Museum opens *Ansel Adams: Masterworks*, which includes 48 photographs of American landscapes. Finally on March 4, 2017, the Museum presents *Glory of Venice: Masterworks of the Renaissance*, highlighting paintings by such masters as Giorgione, Giovanni Bellini, Vittore Carpaccio, and more—many of which have never been seen outside of Venice.

"We are thrilled to be able to present such spectacular and varied collections to our visitors in the coming year," says NCMA Director Lawrence J. Wheeler. "With sleek automobiles designed during the glamorous art deco period, Ansel Adams's black-and-white portraits of the American landscape, and masterful paintings from the Venetian Renaissance, we will have something for everyone."

Rolling Sculpture: Art Deco Cars from the 1930s and '40s
October 1, 2016–January 15, 2017
East Building, Meymandi Exhibition Gallery
Ticketed



The art deco period—from the 1920s to 1940s—is known for blending modern decorative arts and industrial design and is today synonymous with luxury and glamour. The cars from this era are no exception. While today manufacturers strive for economy and efficiency, during the art deco period elegance reigned supreme. With bold, sensuous shapes, hand-crafted details, and luxurious finishes, the 14 cars and three motorcycles in *Rolling Sculpture: Art Deco Cars from the 1930s and '40s* provide stunning examples of car design at its peak.

The exhibition is guest curated by Ken Gross, renowned automotive journalist and former director of the Petersen Automotive Museum in Los Angeles.

"These exquisite cars—several of which are truly one-of-a-kind—show what can happen when an automaker's imagination takes the wheel," says Gross. "There were absolutely no limitations or constraints placed on design, and it shows beautifully. This exhibition is a perfect demonstration of the intersection of art and cars, and the title *Rolling Sculpture* could not be more accurate."

Ansel Adams: Masterworks
February 4–May 7, 2017
East Building, Gallery 2
Ticketed

In a career that spanned more than five decades, Ansel Adams (1902–84) became one of America's most renowned photographers. This exhibition focuses on a collection of 48 photographs by Adams, a selection he made late in his life to serve as a succinct representation of what he deemed the best work of his career.

(continued)

Included are many of his most iconic images of majestic American landscapes, such as El Capitan and Half Dome in Yosemite National Park; the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco; Monument Valley in Arizona; and the Snake River in Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming.

"Ansel Adams called this limited selection of photographs 'The Museum Set,' and we feel extremely fortunate to be able to present it to our visitors," explains Linda Dougherty, NCMA curator of contemporary art. "The featured photographs—breathtaking views of America's landscapes—reveal the importance Adams placed on the awe-inspiring power and beauty of the natural world."



Glory of Venice: Masterworks of the Renaissance
March 4–June 18, 2017
East Building, Meymandi Exhibition Gallery
Ticketed



Glory of Venice: Masterworks of the Renaissance highlights the development of Venice's distinct Renaissance style from the second half of the 15th century to the early 16th century. The exhibition features approximately 50 works, including major altarpieces, private secular and devotional paintings, and portraits, many which have never been on view to the public outside of Venice. Twenty paintings from Venice's Gallerie dell'Accademia, which houses the finest collection of Venetian Renaissance art in the world, form the core of the exhibition. They will be joined by masterpieces from other institutions in Italy and the United States, including the NCMA. *Glory of Venice* includes works by Giovanni Bellini, Carpaccio, Giorgione, Titian, and Jacopo de' Barbari.

"While many recent exhibitions of Venetian painting have focused on the golden era of the 16th century, *Glory of Venice* examines an earlier moment of transformation from a medieval to an early modern sensibility," says curator Lyle Humphrey. "The paintings in the exhibition document one of the most exciting and dynamic moments in the art and culture of Venice, a magical city that has fascinated visitors and artists for centuries."

About the Exhibitions

Rolling Sculpture: Art Deco Cars from the 1930s and '40s is organized by the North Carolina Museum of Art.

Ansel Adams: Masterworks is organized by the Turtle Bay Exploration Park, Redding, California. Exhibition tour management by Landau Traveling Exhibitions, Los Angeles, California.

Glory of Venice: Masterworks of the Renaissance is organized by the Denver Art Museum in collaboration with the North Carolina Museum of Art.

These exhibitions are made possible, in part, by the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources; the North Carolina Museum of Art Foundation, Inc.; and the William R. Kenan Jr. Endowment for Educational Exhibitions. Research for these exhibitions was made possible by Ann and Jim Goodnight/The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fund for Curatorial and Conservation Research and Travel.

- Participating sponsor: Quintiles

Image Captions (top to bottom)

Peugeot 402 Darl'mat, 1936, Jim Patterson/Patterson Collection, Photo © 2016 Michael Furman

Ansel Adams, *Half Dome, Merced River, Winter, Yosemite National Park, California*, circa 1938, gelatin-silver print, 14 3/4 x 19 1/4 in., © 2015 The Ansel Adams Publishing Rights Trust

Giovanni Bellini, *The Annunciation*, early 1500s, oil on canvas, each compartment 88 x 42 in., Venezia, Gallerie dell'Accademia. Photo: Foto Archivio fotografico, Polo museale del Veneto

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About the North Carolina Museum of Art

The North Carolina Museum of Art's permanent collection spans more than 5,000 years, from ancient Egypt to the present, making the institution one of the premier art museums in the South. The Museum's collection provides educational, aesthetic, intellectual, and cultural experiences for the citizens of North Carolina and beyond. The 164-acre Museum Park showcases the connection between art and nature through site-specific works of environmental art. The Museum offers changing national touring exhibitions, classes, lectures, family activities, films, and concerts.

The Museum opened West Building, home to the permanent collection, in 2010. The North Carolina Museum of Art, Lawrence J. Wheeler, director, is located at 2110 Blue Ridge Road in Raleigh. It is the art museum of the State of North Carolina, Pat McCrory, governor, and an agency of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Susan Kluttz, secretary.