

Art News



Francis Bacon's Relationship With Monaco and French Culture Explored In New Exhibition

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A major new exhibition, exploring Francis Bacon, Monaco and French Culture, opens at the Grimaldi Forum Monaco from 2 July – 4 September 2016, supported by The Estate of Francis Bacon and the Francis Bacon MB Art Foundation.

Martin Harrison, curator of the exhibition and editor of the forthcoming Francis Bacon Catalogue Raisonné, has included many works rarely if ever on public display. Considered one of Britain's greatest modern painters, Francis Bacon (1909–1992) was a great Francophile and spent many years living in both Monaco and France. Martin Harrison's exhibition – with more than sixty paintings by Francis Bacon alongside works by leading artists who inspired him, from Toulouse-Lautrec, Picasso and Giacometti, to Léger and Soutine – will demonstrate for the first time the major influence of French art on Bacon's early works – and will also highlight the little known transformative years that Bacon spent in Monaco that acted as a catalyst for the artist's oeuvre: it was in Monaco that he painted his first Pope and more.

The exhibition will include major loans from public and private collections around the world including Tate, the Arts Council England, the Van Abbemuseum, the Centre Pompidou, and the Art Gallery of New South Wales.