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"Mona Lisa Unveiled" Reveals Mysteries of That Crooked Smile

By Margaux Herrera Mon., Aug. 29 2011 at 10:00 AM Categories: Art

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We all know what she looks like, but the only way to see La Joconde (that's the Mona Lisa for those of you who are Italian or art impaired) is to take a trip to the Louvre in Paris. But naturally, the most famous painting in the world has been copied and reinterpreted over the centuries. It was this trail of reimagined portraits that led to "Mona Lisa Unveiled," an Italian exhibition that follows the history of da Vici's renowned portrait.

The exhibit is on loan from the Museo Ideale Leonardo da Vinci in Florence, Italy and is on display through October 7 at Miami Dade College's Freedom Tower.



Not exactly like you remember her from Art History 101.

"This exhibition is unique in that it brings together classic sixteenth century art with modern pieces, giving relevance of the old pieces to today's young audience, and anchoring new pieces with their classic heritage," said Gloria Porcella, director of Galleria Ca' d'Oro who has helped to bring "Mona Lisa Unveiled" to Miami.



Find out all about Mona's colorful past and crooked smile.

The exhibit is split into two parts. The historical portion features works and documents ranging from the 16th-19th century. The modern section however, follows the theft of La Gioconda from the Louvre in the early 20th century, and features later reinterpretations, ranging from Salvador Dali to Romero Britto.

"There are many beautiful pieces, including versions by famous artists and famous versions by unknown artists; even cartoons and newspaper coverage from when the Mona Lisa was stolen 100 years ago," said Porcella.

While many of the pieces are painting, drawings and clipping, some items in the exhibit are not even 2-D. "I personally love Seward Johnson's piece, "A Reason to Smile." It is an installation of bronze sculptures arranged as the scene one encounters when visiting the Mona Lisa in the Louvre," said Porcella.

The exhibit at the Freedom Tower (600 Biscayne Blvd., Miami) is open Tuesday to Sunday from 12pm-7pm. Entrance is free.

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Location Info



Freedom Tower 600 Biscayne Blvd, Miami, FL Category: General