Exhibition Overview

Marie Laurencin (1883–1956) was a French artist who made women the focus of her paintings, poetry, and design projects. She experimented with cubism early in her career in prewar Paris. She spent most of World War I in Spain, where she befriended dada artists and developed her own style of painting. In her work, which became popular in postwar Paris, she imagined ideal places populated by women and animals. Through her paintings and designs, Laurencin explored identity, both her own and that of the women who occupied her artistic world.

Glossary

**Cubism**: Art movement in the early 20th century. Artists such as Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque experimented with showing their subjects from different views at the same time. Cubist works are often very abstracted.

**Dadaism**: Art movement in the early 20th century. Artists such as Marcel Duchamp made absurd, satirical artworks in response to the violence of war.

**Sapphic**: Referring to relationships between women or to the ancient Greek poet Sappho, whose writings focused on women.