

J.M.W. TURNER

WATERCOLORS FROM TATE

OCTOBER 5-FEBRUARY 23, 2020

“Endlessly inventive”

– The Wall Street Journal

“a jaw-dropping collection of works”

– The Providence Journal

Editors' pick ArtNet News

**MYSTIC
SEAPORT
MUSEUM**

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www.mysticseaport.org



DON'T MISS THIS RARE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE MASTERWORKS BY ONE OF BRITAIN'S GREATEST PAINTERS.

In partnership with Tate, London, Mystic Seaport Museum is hosting a major monographic exhibition devoted to the watercolors of one of Britain's greatest painters, J.M.W. Turner (1775–1851) between October 5, 2019, and February 23, 2020 in the Thompson Exhibition Building. The Museum will be the only North American venue for the exhibition.

The exhibition, *J.M.W. Turner: Watercolors from Tate*, offers an exceptional opportunity to see key works spanning the entire career of Turner. A unique collection of more than 90 works, the selection provides a view into the evolution of the artist's vision and creative process. The works have been selected from the vast legacy that comprises more than 30,000 works on paper, 300 oil paintings, and 280 sketchbooks, known as the "Turner Bequest," donated to Great Britain after the artist's death in 1851 and mostly conserved at Tate Britain.

Turner was a lifelong watercolorist and fundamentally shaped what was understood to be possible within the medium during his lifetime and after. An inveterate traveler, Turner rarely left home without a rolled-up, loose-bound sketchbook, pencils, and a small traveling case of watercolors.

Memories of journeys, emotions, and fragments of landscapes seen during his long stays abroad illustrate the development of Turner's stylistic language focused on testing with the expressive potential of light and color. The artist devoted himself tirelessly to experimentation, particularly in watercolors, with a compositional and stylistic freedom and an innovative and surprising use of colors that led his peers to believe that Turner "appeared to paint with his eyes and nose as well as his hand."

Deemed to be an extraordinary artist even in his own time, Turner has had a profound influence on artists that continues to this day.

Mystic Seaport Museum Gratefully Acknowledges the Generous Support of the Following:

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Images courtesy Tate: Accepted by the nation as part of the Turner Bequest 1856 © Tate, London 2019

FRONT | Tate: Venice: Looking across the Lagoon at Sunset, Detail, 1840, J.M.W. Turner (1775–1851) ©Tate

