



**Media Contact**  
Gina Costa  
Phone: 574-631-4720  
Fax: 574-631-8501  
PO Box 368  
University of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, IN 46556  
gcosta@nd.edu

*University of* **NOTRE DAME**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Snite Museum of Art Presents Masters of Nineteenth-Century Lithography**

*Rock-Paper . . . Lithographs from the Permanent Collection, Part I*  
On view August 24 through November 16, 2014

**NOTRE DAME, IN—May 24, 2014**—The Snite Museum of Art continues its celebration of printmaking with a focus exhibition of ten lithographs, many of them new acquisitions or never before displayed, with the presentation of *Rock-Paper . . . Lithographs from the Permanent Collection* from August 24 through November 16, 2014.



Part one of this two-part series examines lithography from its invention in 1798 through its many technical and functional developments in the 1800s. Lithographs are prints made from a stone with a design drawn onto it with a greasy crayon. Unlike etchings and engravings, which are made from metal plates with the design incised into the surface, lithographs are more fluid and look like drawings. Its tonal range and the large quantity of impressions that can be pulled from a lithographic stone are two of the advantages it has over etchings and engravings.

“Following on the heels of exhibitions of woodcuts by Albrecht Dürer and engravings by Robert Nanteuil and Anton Würth last spring, this lithography show introduces visitors to even more artistic potential available to printmakers,” said Cheryl Snay, curator of European art at the Snite Museum.

Invented by German playwright Alois Senefelder, lithography was first used for reproducing sheet music. Artists soon recognized the new medium’s potential for making pictures. Combined with the

growing newspaper industry, lithography spurred the democratization of art. Illustrated news articles could be quickly and easily produced, and the genre of political and social satire surged. French artist Honoré Daumier, whose prints are featured in the exhibition, became one of the most prolific and brilliant caricaturists of the period. At the end of the century, the poster craze took a decidedly avant-garde turn with the work of Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec.

Other artists, such as the American ex-patriot James Abbott McNeill Whistler, pushed the medium beyond its popular applications and elevated it to the level of “fine” art.

Part two of the series scheduled for 2015 will feature modern and contemporary lithographs from the collection, including works by Jasper Johns and Robert Rauschenberg.

*Rock-Paper . . .* is organized by the Snite Museum of Art and is made possible by the Snite Museum General Endowment.

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#### **RELATED EVENTS**

Fall reception Sunday, September 14, 2:00-4:00 p.m. Free and open to the public.

**Photo Caption:** Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec (French, 1864–1901), *Bartet and Mounet-Sully, in Antigone*, 1893, crayon and brush lithograph on cream wove paper, 14.94 x 11.13 in (sheet). Gift of Dr. and Mrs. R. Stephen Lehman, 2012.105

For additional images, contact Gina Costa at [gcosta@nd.edu](mailto:gcosta@nd.edu) or 574-631-4720.

#### **The Snite Museum of Art, University of Notre Dame**

The Snite Museum of Art is located on the campus of the University of Notre Dame, near South Bend, Indiana. Museum hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.; and Saturdays and Sundays Noon–5:00 p.m. Admission is free. Museum information is available at 574-631-5466 or at the Museum’s website: [sniteartmuseum.nd.edu](http://sniteartmuseum.nd.edu). Driving directions and parking information are available at <http://nd.edu/visitors/directions/>. Find us at [inthebend.com](http://inthebend.com) and [facebook.com](http://facebook.com).

The Snite Museum of Art provides opportunities to enjoy, respond to, learn from, and be inspired by original works of art. As an integral unit of the University of Notre Dame, the museum supports teaching and research; furthers faith-based initiatives for greater campus diversity and service to the broader community; and reflects the traditions and values of the University.

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