



Treasures from the House of Alba: 500 years of art and collecting



Prints and drawings, sculptures, letters, illuminated manuscripts, decorative objects, and tapestries provide further insight into the role of the Alba family in world history.

Drawn from one of the oldest and most significant private collections in Europe, *Treasures from the House of Alba: 500 Years of Art and Collecting* features works by Goya, Murillo, Rubens, Titian, and more from the splendid palaces of the Alba dynasty in Spain. Co-organized by the Meadows Museum and the Casa de Alba Foundation, the exhibition brings together more than 130 works of art dating from antiquity to the twentieth century. This is the first major exhibition outside Spain of works from the collection of the House of Alba –a prominent Spanish noble family with ties to the monarchy since the fifteenth century.

Treasures from the House of Alba will be organized according to seven periods of Alba family history, collecting, and patronage from the 15th to the 20th century. The exhibition begins with the dynasty's origins in the mid-15th century and rising influence under the 3rd Duke of Alba, Don Fernando Alvarez de Toledo, a prominent courtier in the service of the Spanish monarchy in the 16th century.

This will be followed by an exploration of the family's close ties to the Marquis of Carpio, Europe's greatest art collector of the 17th century, from whom the Duchy of Alba received important holdings of Renaissance and Baroque paintings, and to the Duques of Veragua, from whom came the Christopher Columbus documents. The exhibition will also present a section devoted to Goya and his relationship with the Duchess Doña Teresa Cayetana, and will conclude with the extensive collecting activity of the current Duchess and her father since the beginning of the 20th century, which includes the acquisition of works by such artists as Peter Paul

VISUAL ARTS NASHVILLE

Fri, February 05–
Sun, May 01, 2016

Venue

The Frist Center, 919 Broadway,
Nashville, TN 37203

[View map](#)

Phone: 615-244-3340

Admission

[Tickets](#) (adults, \$12)

More information

[The Frist Center](#)

Credits

The exhibition is co-organized by the Meadows Museum and the Casa de Alba Foundation. A generous gift from The Meadows Foundation made this project possible. Image: *The Duchess of Alba in White*, Francisco de Goya y Lucientes (Spanish, 1746-1828), 1795, oil on canvas, Duques de Alba Collection.



Rubens, Joshua Reynolds, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, and Pablo Picasso, among others.

Treasures from the House of Alba will be accompanied by a fully-illustrated catalogue, which will include in-depth information about the collection and its history, and will lay groundwork for future research on the works included in the exhibition, as well as the collection as a whole. The catalogue will be edited by Fernando Checa Cremades and will include studies of the Alba family's three main palaces, as well as new photography of the buildings and their current décor and gardens.