

Tribune Chronicle

Cleveland Museum of Art acquires Cezanne art

A watercolor by Paul Cezanne is among the recent acquisitions of the Cleveland Museum of Art.

“Footpath in the Woods” depicts a forest trail at Jas de Bouffan, an estate Cezanne inherited from his father.

According to a news release from CMA, “(Cezanne) used selective strokes of watercolor from a limited palette to suggest light and shade, and allowed work in graphite in combination with the paper’s whiteness to construct the image. The result is a seemingly unfinished work that was in fact carefully rendered through a process that did not allow for revision.”

The museum owns three paintings and several drawing and prints from the post-Impressionist artist, this is the first watercolor by Cezanne in its collection, and it will be included in the exhibition and publication “Nineteenth-Century French Drawings at the Cleveland Museum of Art,” which opens today and will be on display through April 30, 2023.

Other additions to the permanent collection include: “Standing Broken Men” a mixed media work by Rashid Johnson and three sculptures from Melvin Edwards’ series “Lynch Fragments.” Both build upon the CMA’s commitment to diversifying its collections.

With a fractured figure staring wide-eyed at the center of a frenzied mosaic, “Standing Broken Men” can be interpreted as “a poignant reflection on the time when it was made, defined by a global pandemic and a heightened reckoning with racial inequality,” according to the museum.

“Long Term,” “A Lusaka” and “Miliki” are part of the ongoing series, “Lynch Fragments,” which Edwards started in 1963. The title of the series reflects Edwards’ desire to encourage consideration of the violence and destruction wrought by racism in and beyond American society.