

Artist Resources – Tiziano (Titian) Vecellio (Italian, ca. 1485 – 1576)

[Titian at the National Gallery](#)

[Titian at the Met](#)

[Titian at the National Gallery of Art](#)

[Titian at the National Galleries of Scotland](#)



Titian, *Self-Portrait*, ca. 1546-1547

In 1991, [Titian, Prince of Painters](#) was on display at the National Gallery of Art, showcasing 53 paintings in celebration of the artist's 500th birthday.

The [Museo del Prado](#) in Madrid launched the most extensive exhibition of Titian's work since 1935 in 2003.

[Titian and the Commander: A Renaissance Artist and His Patron](#) was on display at the Getty in 2005 commemorating the recent acquisition of *Portrait of Alfonso d'Avalos, Marquis of Vastro, in Armor with a Page*.

The Boston MFA installed [Titian, Tintoretto, Veronese: Rivals in Renaissance Venice](#) in 2009, the first major exhibition to examine the rivalry between these three master painters.

In 2011, *Titian and the Golden Age of Venetian Painting: Masterpieces from the National Galleries of Scotland* traveled to the [Museum of Fine Arts Houston](#) and the [Minneapolis Institute of Arts](#), showcasing works that had never been shown before in the United States.

The Portland Art Museum centered an exhibition on a [single painting](#), *La Bella (Woman in a Blue Dress)* in 2011-2012.



Titian, *Self-Portrait*, ca. 1567
Museo del Prado

Titian and the Renaissance in Venice was on display at the [Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum](#) in 2017, displaying over 100 masterpieces from the 16th century. In 2019, the exhibition traveled to the [Städel Museum](#).

In 2020-2021, a major exhibition was organized to re-center the women subjects prevalent in Titian's paintings. [Titian: Love, Desire, Death](#) was at the National Gallery in London before traveling to the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum as [Titian: Women, Myth & Power](#). The exhibition reunited all six paintings from Prince Philip of Spain's 1551 commission for the first time in over four centuries. Read a critic's review in the [New York Times](#) and the [Brooklyn Rail](#). Also watch an [episode](#) of "Open Studio with Jared Bowen" about the exhibition.

Titian's Vision of Women: Beauty – Love – Poetry was co-organized by the [Kunst Historisches Museum Wien](#) in Vienna and the [Palazzo Reale](#) in Madrid.

Galleria Borghese installed [Titian: Dialogues of Nature and Love](#) in 2022. Read a [review](#) of the exhibition in RFI.



Tiziano (Titian) Vecellio and workshop (Italian, ca. 1485-1576)

Venus and Adonis, n.d.

Oil on canvas

Private Collection; L2023:27.1

As one of the most renowned Italian Renaissance masters, Titian employed a vivid color palette and painted in loose brushstrokes that greatly influenced the subsequent development of Western European painting. The artist (and his workshop) was often commissioned by wealthy patrons from royalty to the Papacy, painting works with both mythological and religious subjects. **Venus and Adonis** is a dramatic depiction of the goddess Venus falling in love with the beautiful young man Adonis, begging him to stay with her instead of leaving for a dangerous hunt. However, as depicted in the top right, Adonis is tragically killed by a boar and Venus is unable to save him. The painting is one of several studies inspired by the “tales of the loves of the gods,” many of which were commissioned by Philip of Habsburg, Prince of Spain (1527-1598) in the 1550s.

On view August 16 – November 19, 2023