



Museum Access: The Bruce Museum

SEASON 2 - EPISODE 7

The Bruce Museum in Greenwich, CT hosted a special exhibition of portraits by Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec called 'In the Limelight'. It featured the performers of Parisian nightlife during the Belle Epoque.

We further explored his preferred medium for posters, color lithography.

Let's continue the learning with these questions and talking points.

Question 1

How would you describe Lautrec's artistic approach when creating portraits?

More Talking Points:

1. Why was he uniquely qualified to create these portraits?
2. Why were his posters so popular with the public?

Question 2

Lautrec would print the first 100 posters without any words. Does that impact the value of those posters today?

More Talking Points:

1. Why did this particular printing process appeal to Lautrec?
2. How do you think his work influenced the world of advertising?

Question 3

Where were Lautrec's posters generally placed?

More Talking Points:

1. What sort of regulations were in place in Paris regarding advertising placement at the time?
2. How important is advertisement placement today?

Question 4

How did Lautrec help create celebrities through his work?

More Talking Points:

1. How did the celebrities themselves help make his work more popular?
2. How are celebrities used in advertising and marketing today?

Question 5

Why do you think Aristide Bruant was so extremely popular during Lautrec's time?

More Talking Points:

1. Where do you think his flamboyant personality and biting sense of humor came from?
2. Can someone be entertaining and insulting at the same time?

