



# LINES FROM LIFE

FRENCH  
DRAWINGS  
FROM THE  
DIAMOND  
COLLECTION



## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Herbert and Carol Diamond have been friends of the Clark Art Institute for nearly fifty years. Since their first visit in the 1970s, the Diamonds have developed a strong relationship with the Clark, connecting with the museum through their mutual affection for the study, stewardship, and appreciation of art. In 2017, when the Diamonds pledged to donate to the Clark their entire collection of more than one hundred French drawings, as well as selections from their French sculpture collection, we were thrilled. Herb and Carol have described themselves as caretakers, rather than owners, of their collection, and the Clark is very proud to be entrusted with the care of these incredible artworks for years to come.

The drawings and sculptures in the Diamonds' gift are especially wonderful additions to the Clark's collection. Herb and Carol's particular interest in the preparatory role of drawing broadens the Clark's presentation of nineteenth-century French art—the cornerstone of the museum's founding gift—and introduces works by artists not previously represented in the collection. By trusting the Clark with the art they have sincerely treasured, the Diamonds have generously chosen to share this special collection with the museum's ever-growing audiences.

Furthermore, the Diamonds' gift carries on the spirit of generosity established by the museum founders, Sterling and Francine Clark, who also pursued collecting as a team. The core of the museum's holdings

came from the Clarks, so it is appropriate that significant donations from individuals continue to enrich and shape the collection. Herb and Carol have joined the ranks of like-minded collectors by donating their precious drawings and sculptures to the Clark, sharing them with the world into the future.

**Olivier Meslay**  
Hardymon Director





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## ABOUT THE DIAMONDS

When Herbert and Carol Diamond began buying art in 1964, they considered themselves novices in the art world. Living in New York, the newlyweds began to visit dealers and learn about artists, enjoying the sense of discovery and adventure imparted by the unfamiliar pursuit. According to Carol, “It was one area where neither knew more than the other.” Initially the Diamonds purchased primarily early twentieth-century American art, and as their knowledge and enthusiasm grew, their collecting habits expanded apace. By the 1980s the couple, then based in Pittsburgh—Herb, chair of medicine at Western Pennsylvania Hospital, and Carol, a speech pathologist—had set their sights on French art.

Comprising works from the late eighteenth through early twentieth centuries, the Diamonds’ collection of French drawings and sculptures traces transformations in both media during a period in which developing interests in Realism and contemporary life diverged from the idealism championed by public institutions. Their generous promised gift to the Clark includes works of exceptional quality and variety by Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres (1780–1867), Pierre Jean David d’Angers (1788–1856), Eugène Delacroix (1798–1863), Jean-Jacques Feuchère (1807–1852), Jean-Léon Gérôme (1824–1904), Edgar Degas (1834–1917), Odilon Redon (1840–1916), and Auguste Rodin (1840–1917), among other leading and lesser-known practitioners. Herb and Carol, who gave these works pride of place in their home for nearly a half-century,

eventually decided that future generations of students, scholars, and the public should benefit from their collection.

In 2012 the Diamonds relocated to the Berkshires, a region that for decades had been a summer retreat for their growing family, and thereupon became regular visitors to the Clark. Attending a variety of the museum’s educational programs and social and cultural events, the Diamonds appreciated the vision Sterling and Francine Clark had for this museum—as an idyllic place where beloved works of art are preserved for posterity—and found that the Clark would make an ideal public home for their French art collection. In 2017, after the first portion of this significant gift arrived, the Clark featured a display of bronze sculptures in its galleries.



*Lines from Life: French Drawings from the Diamond Collection*, on view summer and fall 2020, in the Eugene V. Thaw Gallery for Works on Paper, is the first exhibition at the Clark to highlight the Diamonds' drawings. This brochure, published on the occasion of the special exhibition, includes a selection of drawings from the Diamonds' recent and promised gifts to the museum, with a focus on how nineteenth-century French figure drawings embody a conceptual tension between academic methods of drawing the human form and freer approaches that challenged those conventions. Like all of the Clark's prints, drawings, and photographs, these too are available to the public by appointment, free of charge, in the Manton Study Center for Works on Paper.



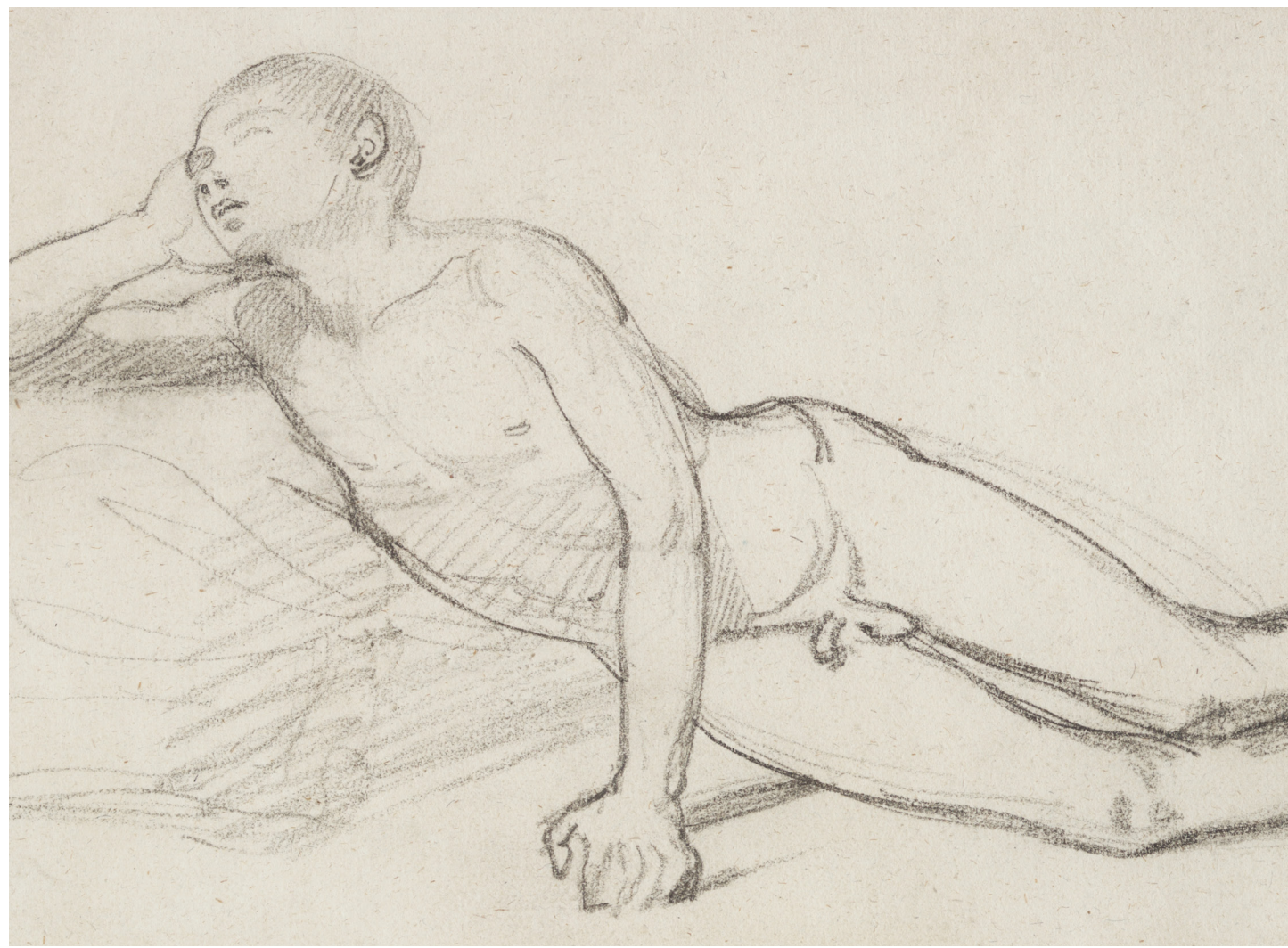




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PLATES

This brochure features a selection of drawings from Herbert and Carol Diamonds’ recent and promised gifts to the Clark. This illustrated checklist provides further information about the works reproduced as details throughout this publication.

1. Paul Flandrin  
French, 1811–1902  
*Portrait of a Woman*, 1843  
Graphite on paper  
17 1/4 x 4 1/2 in. (43.8 x 11.4 cm)  
Gift of Herbert and Carol Diamond  
2018.11.7



2. Charles Angrand  
French, 1854–1926  
*The Seamstresses*, c. 1880  
Black Conté crayon with white heightening on paper  
23 1/2 x 17 7/8 in. (59.7 x 45.4 cm)  
Collection of Herbert and Carol Diamond



3. Théodore Chassériau  
French, 1819–1856  
*Study for the Figure of Saint John*, 1841–42  
Black chalk on paper  
6 1/4 x 4 7/8 in. (15.9 x 12.4 cm)  
Gift of Herbert and Carol Diamond  
2017.10.2



4. Jean-François Raffaëlli  
French, 1850–1924  
*Man in the City’s Outskirts*, c. 1885  
Black chalk and pastel on paper  
24 1/2 x 14 1/2 in. (62.2 x 36.8 cm)  
Collection of Herbert and Carol Diamond



5. Eugène Fromentin  
French, 1820–1876  
*El Aouila*, 1853  
Pen and brown ink on paper  
6 1/4 x 9 7/8 in. (15.9 x 25.1 cm)  
Gift of Herbert and Carol Diamond  
2017.10.4



6. Nadar  
French, 1820–1910  
*Portrait of Dantan Jeune*, c. 1854  
Charcoal with stumping, heightened with gouache, on paper  
9 3/8 x 6 1/8 in. (23.8 x 15.6 cm)  
Gift of Herbert and Carol Diamond  
2018.11.12



7. Alexandre-Gabriel Decamps  
French, 1803–1860  
*The Sower*, c. 1850  
Graphite and white chalk on paper  
7 1/4 x 4 1/2 in. (18.4 x 11.4 cm)  
Collection of Herbert and Carol Diamond



8. Pierre Puvis de Chavannes  
French, 1824–1898  
*Reclining Nude Youth, Study for Orpheus*, c. 1883  
Black chalk on paper  
6 3/4 x 12 3/4 in. (17.2 x 32.4 cm)  
Collection of Herbert and Carol Diamond



9. François Bonvin  
French, 1817–1887  
*Interior of a Tavern*, 1866  
Charcoal on paper  
15 3/4 x 11 3/4 in. (40 x 29.9 cm)  
Gift of Herbert and Carol Diamond  
2018.11.2



10. Edgar Degas  
French, 1834–1917  
*Five Studies of a Hand*, 1856  
Graphite on paper  
5 1/8 x 6 in. (13 x 15.2 cm)  
Collection of Herbert and Carol Diamond



11. Eugène Delacroix  
French, 1798–1863  
*Study for The Battle of Poitiers*, c. 1829–30  
Graphite on paper  
10 x 7 in. (25.4 x 17.8 cm)  
Collection of Herbert and Carol Diamond



12. Émile Bernard  
French, 1868–1941  
*Frontispiece for "La fin de Satan,"* 1935  
Black ink and wash on paper  
13 1/2 x 9 3/4 in. (34.3 x 24.8 cm)  
Gift of Herbert and Carol Diamond  
2017.10.1



13. Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres  
French, 1780–1867  
*A Couple Embracing*, c. 1813–14  
Graphite on paper  
6 5/16 x 4 13/16 in. (16 x 12.2 cm)  
Collection of Herbert and Carol Diamond



14. Jean-Léon Gérôme  
French, 1824–1904  
*Study for Napoleon and His General Staff in Egypt*, 1867  
Black chalk on paper  
13 1/4 x 9 in. (33.7 x 22.9 cm)  
Gift of Herbert and Carol Diamond  
2019.4.4



15. Henri Lehmann  
French, 1814–1882  
*Study of Anna for The Arrival of Sarah at the Home of Young Tobias*, c. 1863  
Conté crayon on paper  
11 9/16 x 8 7/8 in. (29.4 x 22.5 cm)  
Gift of Herbert and Carol Diamond  
2018.11.10







**THE  
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