For the Love of Art
Art Discovery Guide
Looking for love in all the wrong places?

We can point you in the right direction. Spend some time with the artworks in this guide (alone or with someone you love, like, or tolerate), and you’ll adore the art in a whole new way.

Want to set the mood? Pull out your phone, share your earbuds, and play your favorite love songs as you move around the galleries.
Brotherly love

They say blood is thicker than water.

Winslow Homer was very close with his older brother, Charles. The story goes that Charles anonymously purchased Winslow’s first oil painting because Winslow said he’d make painting his career only if his first one sold. We can thank Charles for pushing Winslow in the right direction.

Art historians speculate that this painting is an homage to the artist’s older brother. Do you see aspects of brotherly love? Does this work remind you of feelings you have for a sibling or other family member? (If you’re reading this on a date, this is a good chance to learn about the other person’s family!)

Look for other representations of family love as you check out more works of art.
You might think it strange to love a statue, but have you met our Diana?

The elegant sculpture by Augustus Saint-Gaudens is considered an icon for a reason. This seven-foot-tall beauty was a gift from the artist to his friend, the architect Stanford White. In 1887, Saint-Gaudens was asked to create a sculpture to sit on top of White’s building. You may have heard of it: Madison Square Garden in New York. He created a bronze weathervane, which became (for a time) the tallest point in Manhattan. It was so beloved that White asked for a smaller cement version for his own backyard. Many years later, we adopted this gorgeous goddess, who graces our galleries every day.

If you are up for a challenge, find a friend and see who can hold Diana’s pose longer. The winner gets to pick which gallery you go to next.

**BONUS ROUND:** There’s a smaller, bronze Diana by the same artist on the second floor. If you’re looking for a rematch, head upstairs and find her.
It’s not you; it’s me

This artist was one to love ‘em and leave ‘em.

Severin Roesen left a wife in Germany to move to New York, then remarried, and then ditched his new wife and kids to move to Pennsylvania. Since Roesen painted over 300 floral still lifes, he might have sent an “I’m sorry” arrangement a time or two. These lush bouquets would help take the sting out of any breakup!

If you’re thinking, “these flowers don’t all grow in the same season,” you’re right. Roesen was more focused on the beauty of the flowers he painted than the accuracy of seasons in which they bloomed. Here are some stems he painted time and again. For those of you who have sent a bouquet, can you identify any other flowers in this painting?

Peony Poppy  Pincushion  Delphinium  Iris  Pansy

Primrose  Morning Glory  Lilac  Rose  Nasturtium

Severin Roesen
(1816–after 1872)
Still Life of Flowers and Fruit With a River Landscape in the Distance
1867
Oil on canvas
She may have been famously in love with everything floral, but her true passion was appreciating Mother Nature.

Georgia O’Keeffe (1887–1956)
Dark Mesa With Pink Sky
1930
Oil on canvas

Georgia O’Keeffe spent summers and falls at her house in Ghost Ranch, New Mexico, putting up with the region’s hottest, most stifling days in order to capture its most vivid colors. In the desert setting, she rigged up tents from tarps, contended with unrelenting downpours, and painted with gloves on when it got too cold at night. She went camping well into her 70s and enjoyed a well-documented rafting trip with photographer Todd Webb at age 74. (Some of these photos are in our collection!)

Though this painting features O’Keeffe’s direct view of the mesa, she also regularly painted abstracted versions of nature. And she wasn’t the only artist who loved the natural world enough to try to capture its beauty. Spend some time strolling through our galleries and try to find a landscape that would be an ideal setting for an Instagram-worthy getaway.