

**WORKS BY LEONARDO DA VINCI
ON VIEW AT THE MORGAN LIBRARY & MUSEUM THIS FALL**

*EXHIBITION INCLUDES LEONARDO'S CODEX ON THE FLIGHT OF BIRDS
AND THE HEAD OF A YOUNG WOMAN—NEVER SEEN IN NEW YORK*

*Leonardo da Vinci:
Treasures from the Biblioteca Reale, Turin*
October 25, 2013–February 2, 2014

****Press Preview: Friday, October 25, 2013, 9:30–10:30 a.m.****
RSVP: (212) 590-0393, media@themorgan.org



New York, NY, September 16, 2013—The genius of Leonardo da Vinci—draftsman, painter, scientist, inventor—continues to captivate us almost five hundred years after his death. This fall, the Morgan Library & Museum will present a unique opportunity to encounter this great Renaissance master.

The exhibition will feature a spectacular group of works by Leonardo from the Biblioteca Reale, Turin, including one of his most famous manuscripts, the Codex on the Flight of Birds, and his wonderful *Head of a Young*

Woman, both on view in New York for the first time. They will be presented together with a selection of other drawings by Leonardo, featuring the scientist as well as the artist. The exhibition will also include works by Leonardo's followers and the Morgan's Codex Huygens, a Renaissance manuscript recording lost notes by Leonardo.

Leonardo da Vinci: Treasures from the Biblioteca Reale, Turin will be on view October 25, 2013–February 2, 2014.

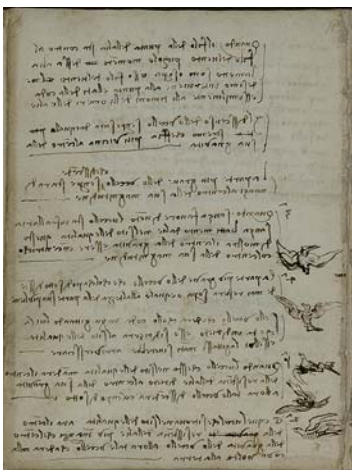
“We are delighted to offer New Yorkers the rare opportunity to see this selection of works by Leonardo,” said William M. Griswold, director of the Morgan Library & Museum. “The Morgan

is well known for its superb collection of Italian Renaissance drawings, so this exhibition is particularly apt. We would like to thank our colleagues at the Biblioteca Reale, Turin, for their assistance in organizing the show, and we are especially pleased that it coincides with the Year of Italian Culture in the United States.”

Exploring Nature:

Leonardo's Codex on the Flight of Birds

The exhibition will show two sides of Leonardo. The first section—*Exploring Nature*—will revolve around Leonardo's famous Codex on the Flight of Birds (ca. 1505/6), which demonstrates Leonardo's extraordinary ability to move seamlessly between art, science, and nature. In addition to architectural sketches, designs for machines, and various diagrams, most of the thirty-six pages of this notebook are devoted to detailed observations on the flight of birds. In both the text—written in Leonardo's characteristic mirror script—and the accompanying drawings, Leonardo carefully analyzed the movement of birds, how they keep their equilibrium, steer their flight, and manage to ascend, descend, and dive. Leonardo's interest in the flight of birds was largely motivated by his desire to build a machine that would allow man to fly. Presented alongside the Codex on the Flight of Birds will be additional works by Leonardo, including a charming sketch of insects, drawings on the anatomy of the horse, studies of the human body, as well as the Morgan's own drawing by Leonardo with two machine designs: a device for bending beams and a maritime assault mechanism.



Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519)
Codex on the Flight of Birds, ca. 1505/6
Pen and brown ink on paper
213 x 153 mm

© Biblioteca Reale, Turin (Cod. Varia 95)
All works, unless noted: On concession of the Ministero dei Beni e delle Attività Culturali e del Turismo, Direzione Regionale per i Beni Culturali e Paesaggistici del Piemonte – Biblioteca Reale di Torino

Making Art:

Leonardo's *Head of a Young Woman*

The second section of the exhibition—*Making Art*— features Leonardo's *Head of a Young Woman*, a drawing praised by the legendary connoisseur Bernard Berenson as “one of the finest achievements of all draughtsmanship.” The celebrated study, which served as the model for the angel in Leonardo's famous *Virgin of the Rocks* will be shown together with further drawings by Leonardo and his followers, the so-called Leonardeschi. Of particular note are works by Giovanni Antonio Boltraffio, Leonardo's most talented pupil, as well as Francesco Melzi and Cesare da Sesto.



Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519)
Head of a Young Woman (Study for the Angel in the 'Virgin of the Rocks'), 1480s
Metalpoint heightened with white on buff prepared paper
181 x 159 mm
© Biblioteca Reale, Turin (15572 D.C.)

Leonardo's Legacy: The Codex Huygens

Joining the works from the Biblioteca Reale will be the Morgan's Codex Huygens, a treatise on painting from the late sixteenth century, closely related to Leonardo. Some of the drawings in fact represent faithful copies of now-lost originals by Leonardo. The name of the codex refers to its former owner, Constantijn Huygens (1628–1697), secretary to King William III of England, who firmly believed it to be an autograph work by Leonardo. This exhibition marks the first time that a selection of sheets from the codex will be shown alongside related drawings by Leonardo.

The Morgan will make the entire Codex Huygens available online, with high-resolution images of all 128 sheets.

Leonardo da Vinci

Leonardo was born in 1452 in the small town of Vinci. Apprenticed in Florence, he moved to Milan around 1482, where he worked at the court of Ludovico Sforza. He returned to Florence around 1500, moved back to Milan a few years later and, on the invitation of King Francis I, eventually settled in France. He died in Amboise in 1519.

The Biblioteca Reale

The Biblioteca Reale, Turin, was founded by the Royal House of Savoy in the first half of the nineteenth century to house its magnificent collection of precious rare books, manuscripts, and works on paper, including an important corpus of drawings by Leonardo. A later addition to the collection, the celebrated Codex on the Flight of Birds was presented to the Library not until 1893 during the reign of Umberto I of Savoy as King of Italy. Thanks to the number of autograph drawings and the Codex on the Flight of Birds, the Biblioteca Reale is one of the world's major repositories of works by Leonardo.

WORKS ON VIEW

Exploring Nature



Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519)

Two Studies of Insects, ca. 1480 and ca. 1503–5

Pen and brown ink on paper, cut out and mounted on secondary sheet

129 x 118 mm

© Biblioteca Reale, Turin (15581 D.C.)



Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519)

Studies of a Horse, ca. 1480

Metalpoint on buff prepared paper

217 x 287 mm

© Biblioteca Reale, Turin (15579 D.C.)



Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519)

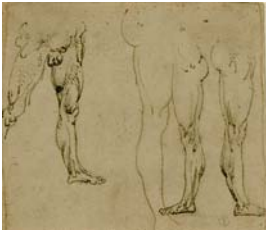
and **Francesco Melzi** (1491/3–ca. 1570)

Studies of the Hindquarters of a Horse, ca. 1508

Red chalk and traces of black chalk on paper

201 x 133 mm

© Biblioteca Reale, Turin (15582 D.C.)



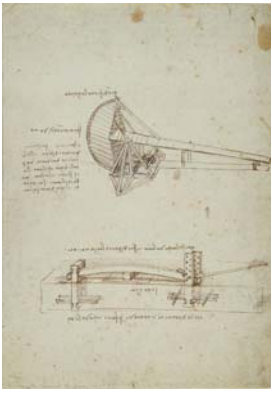
Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519)
Musculature of the Leg, ca. 1485–7
Pen and brown ink on paper
140 x 157 mm
© Biblioteca Reale, Turin (15578 D.C.)



Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519)
Figure Studies, ca. 1505
Pen and brown ink and traces of black chalk on paper
254 x 197 mm
© Biblioteca Reale, Turin (15577 D.C.)



Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519)
Hercules with the Nemean Lion, ca. 1505–8
Black chalk or charcoal on paper, incised for transfer
280 x 190 mm
© Biblioteca Reale, Turin (15630 D.C.)



Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519)

Designs for a Maritime Assault Mechanism and a Device for Bending Beams, ca. 1487–90

Pen and brown ink over black chalk on paper

284 x 201 mm

The Morgan Library & Museum, New York (1986.50)

Gift of Otto Manley



Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519)

Codex on the Flight of Birds, ca. 1505/6

Pen and brown ink on paper

213 x 153 mm

© Biblioteca Reale, Turin (Cod. Varia 95)

Making Art



Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519)

Head of a Young Woman (Study for the Angel in the 'Virgin of the Rocks'), 1480s

Metalpoint heightened with white on buff prepared paper

181 x 159 mm

© Biblioteca Reale, Turin (15572 D.C.)



Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519)
Three Views of a Bearded Man, ca. 1502
Red chalk on paper
111 x 284 mm
© Biblioteca Reale, Turin; (15573 D.C.)



Cesare da Sesto (1477–1523)
Study for the Blessing Christ Child, ca. 1510
Red chalk on red-ochre prepared paper
380 x 275 mm
© Biblioteca Reale, Turin (15987 D.C.)



Cesare da Sesto (1477–1523)
Study for the Christ Child, ca. 1510
Red chalk on red-ochre prepared paper
380 x 275 mm
© Biblioteca Reale, Turin (15988 D.C.)



Attributed to Leonardo da Vinci and Follower

Head of a Young Woman, ca. 1510

Red chalk heightened with white on red-ochre prepared paper

222 x 175 mm

© Biblioteca Reale, Turin (15586 D.C.)



Workshop of Andrea del Verrocchio

Study of the Angel in Verrocchio's 'Baptism of Christ', 1480s

Metalpoint heightened with white on buff prepared paper

231 x 271 mm

© Biblioteca Reale, Turin (15635 D.C.)



Giovanni Antonio Boltraffio (ca. 1467–1516)

Head of a Young Man, ca. 1495

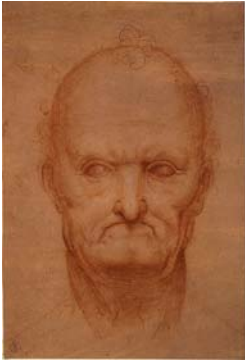
Metalpoint on blue prepared paper

305 x 220 mm

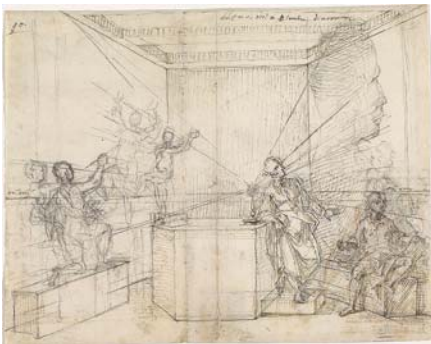
© Biblioteca Reale, Turin (15587 D.C.)



Francesco Melzi (1491/3–ca. 1570)
Old Man in Profile, ca. 1495
Red chalk on paper
180 x 130 mm
© Biblioteca Reale, Turin (15584 D.C.)



Attributed to Leonardo da Vinci
Head of an Old Man, ca. 1515
Red chalk on red-ochre prepared paper
190 x 130 mm
© Biblioteca Reale, Turin (15585 D.C.)



Carlo Urbino (ca. 1510/20–after 1585)
Codex Huygens, 1570s
Pen and brown ink and black chalk on paper
180 x 125 mm
The Morgan Library & Museum, New York (2006:14)
fols 6, 7, 24, 37, 39v, 40, 49, 77, 80, 88, 89, 90, 95, 108, 125

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

LECTURE

**Leonardo the Artist-Scientist and His Notebooks
With Carmen C. Bambach
Thursday, December 19, 6:30 pm**

Leonardo da Vinci (1552–1519) has been especially popularized as the universal genius of the Renaissance for his activity as artist and scientist. Carmen C. Bambach, Curator, Department of Drawings and Prints, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, will attempt to explain some of Leonardo's methods and innovations, based on an examination of his extant notebooks and practices, and how he was perceived historically. This lecture is co-organized by the Morgan Drawing Institute. *Leonardo da Vinci: Treasures from the Biblioteca Reale, Turin*, will be open at 5:30 pm for lecture attendees.

Tickets

\$15; \$10 for Members; Free for students and teachers with valid ID.
www.themorgan.org/programs; 212-685-0008 x560

GALLERY TALK

**Leonardo da Vinci: Treasures from the Biblioteca Reale, Turin
Friday, November 1, 6:30 pm**

An informal exhibition tour with curator Per Rumberg.

Free with museum admission

BETWEEN THE LINES

**Leonardo Da Vinci: Treasures from the Biblioteca Reale, Turin
Saturday, November 2, 11 am**

Written or drawn, lines are to be read and interpreted. In this interactive gallery talk, a museum educator will lead participants in an hour-long discussion on a selection of works from *Leonardo da Vinci: Treasures from the Biblioteca Reale, Turin*.

Free with museum admission. Space is limited on a first-come first-serve basis.

ORGANIZATION AND SPONSORSHIP

Leonardo da Vinci: Treasures from the Biblioteca Reale, Turin is organized by Per Rumberg, Associate Curator of Drawings at the Morgan.

The exhibition is organized by the Morgan Library & Museum and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Italian Cultural Heritage and Activities, the Embassy of Italy in Washington D.C., and the Biblioteca Reale in Turin in collaboration with the Italian Cultural Institute of New York and la Fondazione, New York. It was made possible with generous support from the estate of Alex Gordon, the T. Kimball Brooker Foundation, Jean-Marie and Elizabeth Eveillard, Diane A. Nixon, and Mr. and Mrs. Seymour R. Askin, Jr., and from Giunti, Finmeccanica, Fondazione Bracco and Tenaris. It is part of 2013—Year of Italian Culture in the United States, an initiative held under the auspices of the President of the Italian Republic, organized by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Embassy of Italy in Washington D.C. with the support of Corporate Ambassadors, Eni and Intesa Sanpaolo.



The programs of The Morgan Library & Museum are made possible with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, and by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

The Morgan Library & Museum

The Morgan Library & Museum began as the private library of financier Pierpont Morgan, one of the preeminent collectors and cultural benefactors in the United States. Today, more than a century after its founding in 1906, the Morgan serves as a museum, independent research library, musical venue, architectural landmark, and historic site. In October 2010, the Morgan completed the first-ever restoration of its original McKim building, Pierpont Morgan's private library, and the core of the institution. In tandem with the 2006 expansion project by architect Renzo Piano, the Morgan now provides visitors unprecedented access to its world-renowned collections of drawings, literary and historical manuscripts, musical scores, medieval and Renaissance manuscripts, printed books, and ancient Near Eastern seals and tablets.

General Information

The Morgan Library & Museum
225 Madison Avenue, at 36th Street, New York, NY 10016-3405
212.685.0008
www.themorgan.org

Just a short walk from Grand Central and Penn Station

Hours

Tuesday–Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; extended Friday hours, 10:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Mondays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day. The Morgan closes at 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.

Admission

\$18 for adults; \$12 for students, seniors (65 and over), and children (13–16); free to Members and children 12 and under accompanied by an adult. Admission is free on Fridays from 7 to 9 p.m. Admission is not required to visit the Morgan Shop and Café.