



Art News Now: MET Begins New Admission Policy, Picasso Draws \$69.4 Million & Breaks Record, New NYC Appointments and More News to Know

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by Pat Rogers

Have a minute? Get caught up with art news people are talking about this week. In this edition, the MET begins its new admission price policy, Picasso paintings made a splash (and draw around \$69.4 million) at auction, New York art museums and organizations announce new appointments for key positions and more art news to know.

The MET art museum launched its new admission policy on March 1, 2018 which excludes its “pay as you wish” policy for visitors living outside of New York State or for students studying in New York State, New Jersey and Connecticut. The “pay as you wish” policy continues for New York State residents and students in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. Visitors falling outside these exceptions must now pay mandatory admission fees of \$25 for adults, \$17 for seniors and \$12 for students. Admission for all children under 12 years old along with museum members and patrons are free. Full-priced admission tickets are good for three consecutive days at The Met Fifth Avenue, The Met Breuer and The Met Cloisters.

New York State residents and students from New Jersey, Connecticut and New York continue to have the option to “pay as you wish.” Proof of residency or student status must be presented. For details, visit www.metmuseum.org. The museum made the change to counteract a growing deficit and stabilize income streams needed to sustain the museum. Last year, The Met’s three museums drew seven million visitors with an average ticket donation of \$9 under the “pay as you wish” policy, [according to Fortune magazine](#).

Pablo Picasso’s painting *Femme au Béret et à la Robe Quadrillée (Marie-Thérèse Walter)*, 1937, broke an auction record when it sold at Sotheby’s in London on February 28, 2018 for £49.8 or around \$69.4 million with fees, reported Sotheby’s. The painting was purchased by a telephone bidder and well surpassed the estimated sale of at least **£35 (or \$48.3 million)** expected by Sotheby’s. The sale is the highest auction price ever sold in Europe in pounds and led the evening sale of Impressionist and Modern art. The painting depicts Picasso’s mistress and muse, Marie-Thérèse Walter, who is the mother of Maya Picasso and was then competing with Dora Maar for the artist’s attention during the time the painting was made.

Other noteworthy sales from the lot are Picasso’s [Le matador](#) (£16,521,500), André Derain’s [Bateaux à Collioure](#) (£10,876,500) and Umberto Boccioni’s [Testa + luce +](#)

[ambiente](#) (£9,070,100), according to Sotheby's. The [Surrealist Art Evening Sale](#) was led by Salvador Dalí's [Maison pour érotomane](#), which sold for £3,538,000, reported the auction house.



“Femme au Béret et à la Robe Quadrillée (Marie-Thérèse Walter)” by Pablo Picasso, 1937. Courtesy Sotheby's Credit 2018 Estate of Pablo Picasso /Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York; Sotheby's. Courtesy of Sotheby's.

The Art Dealers Association of America appointed Andrew L. Schoelkopf as its new president, announced the organization. Schoelkopf was a co-founder and was a president of ADAA in 2015. Schoelkopf is a cofounder and partner of Menconi + Schoelkopf in New York and was formerly the sales director and a partner of Cheim & Read gallery.

Former Artforum Editor in Chief Michelle Kuo has been appointed the Marlene Hess curator of paintings and sculpture at the Museum of Modern Art, announced the museum. [Kuo resigned in October 2017](#) when allegations of sexual harassment by one of the magazine's publishers, Knight Landesman, first began to surface. In December, Kuo defended her dissertation on the group Experiments in Art and Technology and receives her Ph.D. from Harvard this spring, [reported the New York Times](#). She begins her new position at MoMA on April 2, 2018.

David Platzker has resigned from his position as the curator of drawings and prints at the Museum of Modern Art, [reported Artforum](#). He has held the position since May 2013 and resigned earlier this month, according to *Artforum*. Most recently for the museum, he organized the upcoming “Adrian Piper: A Synthesis of Intuitions, 1965-2016” exhibition that opens on March 31, 2018. Platzker plans to devote his attentions to a series of projects including a book and curating exhibitions.

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