



Meet The Man, The Minotaur and The Muse

The themes reflect both the complexity of Picasso's personal life
and what was occurring in Europe at that period, namely, the build-up to the Second World War

– Sally Foster, Curator, National Gallery of Australia

Adelaide, Australia: The Art Gallery of South Australia presents *Picasso: The Vollard Suite* from 17 November 2018 to 3 February 2019. This National Gallery of Australia touring exhibition explores the inner musings of the most famous and influential artist of the twentieth century through 100 etchings produced over a 7-year period from 1930 to 1937.

The Vollard Suite is Pablo Picasso's most celebrated series of etchings. The suite takes its name from Modern art dealer and print publisher Ambroise Vollard, who gave Picasso his first Paris exhibition in 1901. Vollard commissioned Picasso to make the series of etchings in exchange for a selection of French Impressionist paintings from his private collection.

The Vollard Suite represents a critical point in Picasso's career and has been perceived by historians and critics alike as a summation of Picasso's life's work, providing insight into his ideas about art, life and mortality. Prevalent are the themes of history, creativity, ambition, desire, fear, male sexuality and obsession, as well as classically-derived subjects close to Picasso's heart – his self-representation as the minotaur (the man-beast) and Pygmalion (the artist obsessed with his model).

On loan from the National Gallery of Australia, one of the few cultural institutions in the world to hold the complete suite of 100 etchings, *Picasso: The Vollard Suite* will be on display at the Art Gallery of South Australia from Saturday 17 November to Sunday 3 February 2019.

The film *Blood of a Poet* (1930) by Picasso's friend and collaborator, Jean Cocteau, will be screened alongside the exhibition and for the aspiring 'mini-Picasso' Gallery 11 will be transformed into a free and accessible Drawing Room.

Admission is free. For further information, visit artgallery.sa.gov.au

A National Gallery of Australia exhibition.

KEY DATES

Exhibition Season | 17 November to 3 February 2019

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Image left: Brassai, Hungry/France 1899 – 1984, Picasso in his studio, Rue des Grandes Augustins [Picasso dans son atelier, Rue des Grands Augustins], 1939, gelatin silver photograph; Purchased 1980, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra. Image right: Brassai, Hungry/France 1899 – 1984, Picasso in his Paris studio, 1939, gelatin silver photograph; Purchased 1979, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra.