

# ARTDISTRICTS

## Intent to Deceive: Fakes and Forgeries in the Art World



Untitled (Landscape in the style of Paul Signac), by Mark Landis, Oklahoma City Museum of Art.

### The Ringling Museum of Art

On May 23, the Ringling Museum of Art presents the Florida debut of “Intent to Deceive: Fakes and Forgeries in the Art World.” Curated by Colette Coll, this show highlights five notorious art forgers from the 20th century to the present, bringing to light their despicable heritages and analyzing how their audacity, talent and charisma beguiled experts, art dealers, museums and cultural institutions.

Han van Meegeren, Elmyr de Hory, Eric Hebborn, John Myatt and Mark Landis are the con artists profiled in this interesting show, all of whom perpetrated some of the most infamous scandals of the last century. They were all unable to make their own authentic artistic career and instead found fakery as the path to recognition and commercial success. They were all masters of the art of deception, fooling the experts by mastering techniques of the artists they copied, constructing elaborate schemes to corrupt provenance documentation, creating false identities and background stories to build credibility, and going to great lengths to ensure their materials would pass forensic examination.

In order to help visitors make comparisons, the exhibition includes original works by many notable American and European artists, including Honoré Daumier, Henri Matisse, Amedeo Modigliani, Pablo Picasso, Paul Signac and Philip de László, whose paintings were imitated by these forgers. "Intent to Deceive" is on view through August 2, 2014.