



Oslo kommune  
**Kultoretaten**  
Munch-museet

**Press release 5 October 2009**

## **New exhibition opens at the Munch Museum 9 October**

### **JAMES McNEILL WHISTLER – PRINTS**

The Munch Museum has this autumn the pleasure of presenting an exhibition of prints, mostly etchings, by the American artist James McNeill Whistler.

The exhibition is a cooperation with The Hunterian Art Gallery of Glasgow, which holds the world's largest collection of Whistler's prints. The museum has this summer shown a large exhibition of prints by Edvard Munch, with works on loan from the Munch Museum.

James McNeil Whistler (1843-1903) is perhaps most famous for the painting *Whistler's Mother (Arrangement in Grey and Black: The Artist's Mother)*. But for both Whistler and Munch the graphic medium represented an artistic expression equal to that of painting, and they were both great innovators in that field. The exhibition shows a comprehensive collection of prints made by Whistler from 1857 to 1891. Whistler's international recognition as an artist is due to his graphic work as well as his paintings, and he greatly contributed to the so-called "graphic revival" from 1860 onwards.

Starting his graphic career in 1894, Munch benefitted from the increased esteem of the graphic medium, established by pioneers like Whistler. Whistler's prints are characterized by good craftsmanship and a swift and vigorous style. A Norwegian audience may for the first time experience a broad presentation – 53 works - of Whistler as a printmaker.

The exhibition is open to the public from 9 October until 3 January. The press is invited to a pre-view on **Wednesday 7 October at 1 p.m.**, or by special appointment. Press photos are available under "press" on [www.munch.museum.no](http://www.munch.museum.no)

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