



MANET

1632 Jan Vermeer

1732 Franz Joseph Haydn

1832 Edouard Manet

1932 Duane Michals



A Bar at the Folies-Bergère, 1882

On a blustery October Sunday afternoon in Paris in 1983, I was privileged to spend the afternoon with descendants of Edouard Manet, photographing their private collection of paintings, drawings and memorabilia.

ÉDOUARD MANET

JANUARY 23, 1832

APRIL 30, 1883



5, RUE BONAPARTE, WHERE THE MANET FAMILY LIVED



Self-Portrait with Palette, 1879



MANET'S STUDENT'S CUP

My great friend Philippe
Stoeckel, an immunologist
in Saint Martin-Aux-Bois,
arranged for the visit.

Everywhere there was something thrilling to see. One of my favorite paintings by him is of a little bouquet of violets with a ladies fan, and they owned it.



THE BUNCH OF VIOLETS, 1872

I could pick it up, look at the back of it, and feel its patina. It may not sound like much, but it was really wonderful. They also owned the great portrait of Berthe Morisot, now in the Musee d'Orsay.



PORTRAIT OF BERTHE MORISOT



Madame,

Mlle Berthé - m'adant
chargé d'acheter un
cendail qu'elle vous
destinait - je vous prie
de vouloir bien me faire
l'amitié de l'accepter
de ma main - je serais
certainement d'avoir trouvé
une occasion en vous être
agréable.

Je vous prie, Madame, d'accepter
mes amitiés à mon ami Ponsillou
et croire à ma respectueuse sympathie.

Edouard Manet

But a real treat awaited me when they presented the bracelet that Olympia wore on her right arm in the famous painting. How magical that this object was on the forearm of the redhead model, Victorine Meurent.





Olympia, 1865



Olympia, 1980

My oil painting of a photograph of students
at The Mattress Factory in Pittsburgh.

It's as if the bracelet were a witness to that afternoon when Manet labored in his studio, and when I touched it I shared the moment too.



PAINT BOX



Flower Piece with Iris, Laburnum, and Geranium, 1880



CIMETIERE DE PASSY