*

ORIENTALISM DELAGROIX TO KLEE

*

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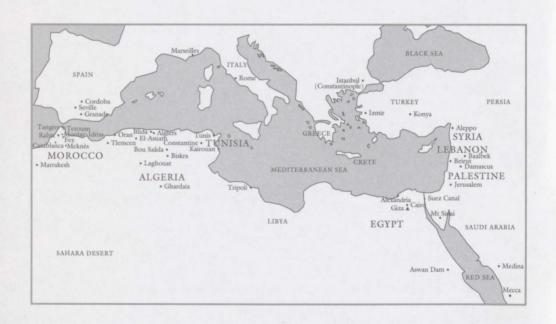






Throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries painters and photographers from many countries, including Australia and New Zealand, were attracted to the Islamic world of North Africa and the Middle East. They travelled to Egypt, Turkey, Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Syria and Palestine. Surveying different ways of seeing and representing Orientalist scenes, this is the first exhibition of Orientalist painting and photography to be held in this part of the world.





Please note

Works are not necessarily displayed in numerical sequence.

The numbers in this checklist do not match those in the exhibition catalogue.

Selected works have an audio commentary.

EUGENE DELACROIX travelled to Morocco in 1832, accompanying a French diplomatic mission to the Sultan. This voyage provided a lifetime of subjects for the great romantic master, who set the agenda for the movement that came to be known as Orientalism. Later painters such as Renoir and Matisse made their voyages to North Africa in deliberate emulation of Delacroix.

1 AUDIO 5 EUGENE DELACROIX Royal tiger 1829 Lithograph on chine appliqué (third state of four) The Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney. Purchased 1993

EUGENE DELACROIX Jewess of Algiers 1833 Etching on cream vergé paper (third of four states) The Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney. Purchased 1990

3 EUGENE DELACROIX Arabs of Oran c. 1833 Etching on cream vergé paper (fourth of six states) The Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney. Purchased 1990

4 AUDIO 6 EUGENE DELACROIX Collision of Arab horsemen 1843–44 Oil on canvas The Walters Art Gallery, Baltimore, Maryland, no. 37.6

This important canvas records an incident witnessed by Delacroix soon after the outset of his journey from Tangier to Meknès: a collision of horses in the course of a fantasia (from the Arabic fantaziya, or 'ostentation'), defined as an 'equestrian entertainment by Arab horsemen who execute various manoeuvres at the gallop, while firing off their arms and shouting out loud'. Delacroix's obsession with feats of horsemanship and the splendour of the Arab breed was something he shared with French romantic painters from Géricault to Fromentin.

EUGENE DELACROIX A Moroccan of the emperor's guard 1845 Oil on canvas

Musée des Beaux-Arts de Bordeaux

6 AUDIO 1 JEAN-AUGUSTE-DOMINIQUE INGRES Head of the grand odalisque c. 1814–18 Oil on canvas

Musée de Cambrai, Musée du Louvre, Paris

This exquisite bust of a young woman in a turban is based on the head of Ingres' 1814 masterpiece *The grand odalisque* (now held in the Musée du Louvre, Paris). Ingres has made of it an entirely satisfying painting in its own right by carefully matching its proportions to the circular canvas (or 'tondo') which sympathetically encloses its many rounded forms. The quintessential 'armchair Orientalist' Ingres never travelled East, yet the influence exerted by his odalisques was in no way lessened.

7 AUDIO 3 JEAN-AUGUSTE-DOMINIQUE INGRES (JEAN CORABOEUF, AFTER INGRES) The Turkish bath 1906 Colour etching on paper Département des Estampes, Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Paris

8 THEODORE CHASSERIAU Combat of Arab horsemen 1856 Oil on canvas Département des Peintures, Musée du Louvre, Paris

9 AUDIO 7 EUGENE FROMENTIN A street of Laghouat 1859 Oil on canvas Musée de la Chartreuse, Douai

10 AUDIO 8 EUGENE FROMENTIN Windstorm on the Esparto Plains 1864 Oil on canvas The Najd Collection, courtesy of the Mathaf Gallery, London

11 AUDIO 9

EUGENE FROMENTIN
The land of thirst 1869

Oil on canvas

Musées royaux des Beaux-Arts de Belgique,

Brussels, inv. 3424

In his travel book, written fifteen years before this painting was made, Fromentin had recounted a grim anecdote: the death from thirst of eight men and their animals who, in the summer of 1845, were surprised by the desert wind halfway between Laghouat and Ghardaia.

The painting's title recalls the last words of this book *Summer in the Sahara*: 'I will salute with a profound regret that menacing and desolate horizon which has been so rightly called—*land of thirst*'.

12

EUGENE FROMENTIN
Tailors in front of the mosque c. 1850s
Oil on canvas

Musée National des Arts d'Afrique et d'Océanie, Paris

13 AUDIO 10
LEON BELLY
Gazelle hunt 1857
Oil on canvas
Private collection

14 AUDIO 11

LEON BELLY

Waterbuffaloes bathing in the Nile 1861

The Najd Collection, courtesy of the Mathaf Gallery, London

15 AUDIO 12

JOHN FREDERICK LEWIS

The hhareem c. 1850

Watercolour and bodycolour

The Board of Trustees of the Victoria and Albert Museum

Audio 12 introduces the larger version of *The hhareem*, which could not be included in the Auckland showing of Orientalism. This smaller version shows the Turkish bey and his three wives, but excludes the object of their gaze: the Abyssinian slave unveiled by her black guardian.

16

JOHN FREDERICK LEWIS Study for 'The harem' c. 1850 Pencil and watercolour National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne. Bequeathed by Mrs Lewis 1908

17

JOHN FREDERICK LEWIS
An eastern beauty before 1851
Watercolour on paper
Peter Nahum at The Leicester Galleries, London

18

JOHN FREDERICK LEWIS
Life in the harem, Cairo 1858
Watercolour and body colour
The Board of Trustees of the Victoria and Albert Museum

19 AUDIO 14

JOHN FREDERICK LEWIS
The caravan at Edfou c. 1861
Watercolour
Pan Arabian Co., courtesy Peter Nahum at
The Leicester Galleries, London

20

JOHN FREDERICK LEWIS
Study for 'The hosh (courtyard) of the
Coptic Patriarch's house in Cairo' c. 1864
Oil on wood
Tate Gallery, London. Purchased 1900

21 AUDIO 13

JOHN FREDERICK LEWIS
Indoor gossip, Cairo 1873
Oil on panel

The Whitworth Art Gallery, The University of Manchester

Who is the woman listening to the women's conversation, visible in the slither of space on the left side of the painting? Will this eavesdropper report the gossip to the master of the harem?

22

EDWARD LEAR
Edfoo 12 February 1854
Pencil, ink and watercolour
Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki,
Mackelvie Trust Collection. Purchased 1953

WALTER CHARLES HORSLEY Great Britain in Egypt, 1886 1887 Oil on canvas The Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydne

The Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney. Purchased 1889

24 AUDIO 16 LAWRENCE ALMA-TADEMA Egyptians 3,000 years ago 1867–68 Oil on panel Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki. Mackelvie Trust Collection, purchased 1921

25

LAWRENCE ALMA-TADEMA Cleopatra 1875

Oil on canvas mounted on an oval panel The Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney. Gift of Sir Herbert Thompson (Egyptologist) 1920

26

LAWRENCE ALMA-TADEMA Cleopatra 1877 Oil on panel

Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki. Mackelvie Trust Collection, purchased 1916

27 AUDIO 17 EDWIN LONG An ancient custom 1876 Oil on canvas 101.6 x 142.2 cm Private collection, courtesy Peter Nahum at The Leicester Galleries, London

28

Mass., USA

WILLIAM STRUTT

The Nubian barber plies his simple trade when Egypt's haughty kings in splendour reigned 1881

Watercolour, pencil and gum on paper Thirty Victoria Street, Sydney

JEAN-LEON GEROME The snake charmer c. 1870 Oil on canvas Sterling and Francine Clark Institute, Williamstown,

Intense colour, seductive as a jewel, dominates in Gérôme's homage to the magnificence of Ottoman architecture and design. Yet the grand interior, deep and dream-like as a swimming pool, is in a state of gradual deterioration. It is the moral messages contained in such contrasts —of splendour and decay, past glories and present neglect—that have brought this beautiful painting to recent critical attention. The snake charmer has been held up as an exemplar of Orientalism by Edward Said (who used it for the cover of his seminal book on Orientalism). The magicweaving spell of the charmer is the quintessential stuff of an Arabian Nights fantasy.

30

JEAN-LEON GEROME Moorish bath (lady of Cairo bathing) 1870 Oil on canvas Courtesy Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Gift of Robert

Jordan from the Collection of Eben D. Jordan

31

JEAN-LEON GEROME
The almeh (with pipe) 1873
Oil on canvas
The Najd Collection, courtesy of the Mathaf Gallery,
London

JEAN-LEON GEROME
The bath c. 1880–85
Oil on canvas
Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco.
Mildred Anna Williams Collection 1961.29

33

JEAN-LEON GEROME Harem in the kiosk c. 1875–80 Oil on canvas The Najd Collection, courtesy of the Mathaf Gallery, London

JEAN-LEON GEROME
Bonaparte before the Sphinx c. 1867–68
Oil on canvas
Hearst Castle™/Hearst San Simeon State Historical
Monument™

JEAN-LEON GEROME

Arabs crossing the desert c. 1870

Oil on canvas

The Najd Collection, courtesy of the Mathaf Gallery, London

36 AUDIO 21

OSMAN HAMDY BEY

Koran instruction 1890

Oil on canvas

The Najd Collection, courtesy of the Mathaf

Gallery, London

The Turkish artist Hamdy Bey studied in Paris under Gérôme. The details of his religious paintings are faultless.

37

ALBERTO PASINI

Syrian horse market c. 1890

Oil on canvas

The Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney. Purchased 1894

38 AUDIO 22

EDOUARD DEBAT-PONSAN

Massage in the hammam 1883

Oil on canvas

Musée des Augustins, Toulouse

39

PAUL-DESIRE TROUILLEBERT

The harem servant 1874

Oil on canvas

Musée des Beaux-Arts, Nice. Fonds National d'Art Contemporain

40

LEON BONNAT

An Arab sheikh c. 1870s

Oil on canvas

The Walters Art Gallery, Baltimore, Maryland, no. 37, 173

41

EMILE GLOCKNER

A fine blade c. 1900

Oil on canvas

The Najd Collection, courtesy of the Mathaf Gallery, London

42

LUDWIG DEUTSCH

The tribute c. 1897

Oil on panel

The Najd Collection, courtesy of the Mathaf Gallery, London

43

LUDWIG DEUTSCH

The scribe 1904

Oil on panel

The Najd Collection, courtesy of the Mathaf Gallery, London

44

RUDOLF ERNST

Refreshment c. 1890s

Oil on panel

The Najd Collection, courtesy of the Mathaf Gallery, London

45

RUDOLF ERNST

The fortune teller c. 1890

Oil on panel

The Najd Collection, courtesy of the Mathaf Gallery, London

46

ALFRED DEHODENCQ

Jewish bride in Morocco

Oil on canvas

Musée des Beaux-Arts de la Ville de Reims

47 AUDIO 24

ALFRED DEHODENCO

Moroccan storyteller c. 1877

Oil on canvas

Musée National des Arts d'Afrique et d'Océanie, Paris

A seasoned itinerant entertainer offers his services, while a family of Jewish women and children consider his offer—the children with distinct nervousness, the women with degrees of anticipation and pleasure.

48 AUDIO 25

HENRI REGNAULT

Hassan and Namouna c. 1870

Watercolour, gouache and black pencil on paper

Collection Alain Lesieutre, Paris

GEORGES CLAIRIN
Entering the harem late 1870s
Oil on canvas
The Walters Art Gallery, Baltimore, Maryland,
no. 37,82

50 AUDIO 26
BENJAMIN-CONSTANT
The King of Morocco leaving to receive a European ambassador c. 1880
Oil on canvas
The Najd Collection, courtesy of the Mathaf
Gallery, London

51 AUDIO 27
GUSTAVE GUILLAUMET
The seguia, Biskra 1884
Oil on canvas
Musée d'Orsay, Paris. Acquired 1885

52GUSTAVE GUILLAUMET Woman of Bou Saâda 1880s Oil on canvas

AUDIO 28

53

Private collection, courtesy Galerie Jean-François Heim, Paris

ETIENNE DINET
The snake charmer 1889
Oil on canvas
The Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney.
Purchased 1890

Dinet's painting The snake charmer was purchased in Paris in July 1890; destined for the collection of the National Art Gallery of New South Wales, it was shipped to Sydney in its original frame. Painted in Laghouat in Algeria in 1889 and first exhibited at the Salon in Paris the following year, it received favourable comment from the French critics. George Lafenestre declared that 'Algeria is a good school for colourists' and Dinet 'among the first to express the extraordinary and unexpected effects of the sun on figures in the open air'. The realism of Dinet's painting of dazzling sunlight and heat was to prove important for generations of Australian painters who came to admire this work at the Sydney gallery.

ETIENNE DINET
Slave of love and light of the eyes:
Abd-el-Gheram and Nouriel Ain,
an Arab legend 1900
Oil on canvas

Musée d'Orsay, Paris. Acquired 1901

Another work demonstrating Dinet's knowledge and sympathy for Arab culture.

AUGUSTE RENOIR
Arab festival, Algiers. The kasbah 1881
Oil on canvas
Musée d'Orsay, Paris. Gift of the Biddle Foundation

in memory of Mrs Margaret Biddle 1957

Traditionally considered the most important of the dozen canvases brought back from Renoir's visits to Algiers in the springs of 1881 and 1882, *Arab festival* was purchased by Claude Monet in 1900 and included in the retrospective of Orientalism at the Colonial Exposition of 1906. The occasion painted by Renoir has never been firmly identified; it may have been a religious celebration or, as seems more likely, a performance by itinerant North African musicians of the kind painted by Delacroix and Dehodencq. In the centre of the canvas a ring of five dancers play tambourines and flutes before a large crowd.

AUGUSTE RENOIR
Algerian girl 1881
Oil on canvas
Courtesy Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.
Juliana Cheney Edwards Collection

TOM ROBERTS
Untitled (Seated Arab) c. 1884
Oil on canvas

Private collection, courtesy Thirty Victoria Street, Sydney

58 AUDIO 32
ARTHUR STREETON

Fatima Habibe 1897
Oil on canvas on paperboard
Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide.
Gift of Mr and Mrs Douglas Mullins 1997

ARTHUR STREETON
Egyptian drink vendor 1897
Oil on canvas on paperboard
Collection National Gallery of Australia, Canberra.
Bequest of Henriette von Dallwitz and of Richard Paul in honour of his father, Dr Oscar Paul 1965

ARTHUR STREETON
A seller of drinks, Cairo 1897
Oil on canvas on wood panel
Private collection

61

ARTHUR STREETON
Cairo street 1897
Oil on canvas on paperboard
Collection National Gallery of Australia, Canberra.
Bequest of Henriette von Dallwitz and of Richard Paul in honour of his father, Dr Oscar Paul 1965

Cairo was not only a city of impressive

buildings and busy commerce to Streeton, it was also a vivid poem of colour and light, scents and sensations that he wanted to capture in his work. He wrote:

There is an unusual brilliance in the morning air of Cairo and a distinctive pleasant fragrance, perhaps resulting from mignonette, clover piled on camels' backs, coffee, incense and other flavours of the Orient... and tall minarets of pink and white

tower into the blue air, while below tourists swarm

62 AUDIO 34
HILDA RIX NICHOLAS
Arab marketplace, Morocco 1914
Oil on board
Collection Ballarat Fine Art Gallery. Purchased 1977

with their brilliant dragomen.

63

HILDA RIX NICHOLAS
The mottled crowd, Tangier 1912–14
Coloured pastel on paper
Private collection

Rix Nicholas was entranced by Tangier and its marketplace, where she completed a large number of her jewel-like drawings. She was frequently greeted by whispers of 'Katsouer', the 'maker of pictures.'

64 AUDIO 35
HILDA RIX NICHOLAS
Negro boy 1914
Coloured pastel
Collection Rix Wright

65

HILDA RIX NICHOLAS Arab sheep market 1914 Oil on canvas Private collection

66

EMANUEL PHILLIPS FOX Moslems in procession c. 1911 Oil on canvas

Collection Manly Art Gallery and Museum, Sydney
Probably painted on the spot at Blida in
Algeria near the cemetery of Oued-El-Kebir,
Fox's impressionist rendition of veiled, whiterobed women shows his mastery of the bright,
North African light. Fox considered these
works among the, 'very best I have painted.'

67 AUDIO 36
ETHEL CARRICK
The mosque at Tangier c. 1911
Oil on canvas on board
Collection Philip Bacon, Brisbane

68

ETHEL CARRICK
Arab women washing clothes in
a stream c. 1911
Oil on canvas
Private collection, courtesy Rex Irvin Art Dealer

69

ETHEL CARRICK
North African street scene c. 1921
Oil on panel
Collection Ballarat Fine Art Gallery. Gift to the State of
Victoria from Major Basil R.F. McNay of Argyll,
Scotland, nephew of the artist 1983

70

ETHEL CARRICK
North African market c. 1921
Oil on canvas
Private collection, Thirty Victoria Street, Sydney

GEORGE LAMBERT The road to Jericho c. 1918 Oil on canvas

The Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney. Purchased 1941

72

JOHN WEEKS
Animeter Valley, Morocco c. 1927
Pastel on tinted paper
Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki. Purchased 1970

73

JOHN WEEKS Marrakesh, Morocco c. 1927 Pastel on tinted paper Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki. Purchased 1970

74

JOHN WEEKS
Morroccan rooftops c. 1927
Pastel on tinted paper
Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki. Purchased 1970

75

JOHN WEEKS Moroccan village c. 1927 Pastel on tinted paper Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki. Purchased 1970

76

PETER MCINTYRE
Egyptian boy, Cairo 1941
Pencil
Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki. Purchased 1994

77

LOUISE HENDERSON Amman 30 September 1956 Coloured pencil Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki. Purchased 1991

78 AUDIO 37
GUSTAVE MOREAU
Salome (dancing before Herod) 1876
Oil on canvas
The Armand Hammer Collection, UCLA at the Armand

Hammer Museum of Art and Cultural Center, Los Angeles, CA

The best known version of the artist's best known subject, *Salome* introduced the phase of Moreau's art which saw his interest shift from figures to their elaborate costuming and décor. The work's fantastic jewelled surfaces, arranged around the biblical *femme fatale*, imparted a belated Romanticism to the Salon of 1876. Herod's palace is imagined as a complex of arches watched over by a statue of Diana of Ephesus and emitting a dull phosphorescence. Even this cavernous architecture does not subvert the flatness of Salome's figure, made progressively more stiff and angular in preparatory drawings, which dances en pointe with unnatural stillness.

79

EMILE BERNARD Arab festival 1894 Oil on canvas Musée National des Arts d'Afrique et d'Océanie, Paris

80 AUDIO 38
EMILE BERNARD
The hashish smoker 1900
Oil on canvas
Musée d'Orsay, Paris. Acquired 1902

81

HENRI EVENEPOEL Orange market at Blida 1898 Oil on canvas Musées royaux des Beaux-Arts de Belgique, Brussels, inv. 6171

82

CHARLES CONDER
Flowers in a vase against a background of
the coastline of Mustapha, Algiers 1891
Oil on canvas
The Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney.
Purchased with assistance from Katies 1982

83 AUDIO 39
CHARLES CONDER
Moonlight at Mustapha 1892
Oil on canvas
Courtesy Savill Galleries, Sydney

HENRY OSSAWA TANNER Palace of Justice, Tangier c. 1908

Oil on canvas

National Museum of American Art, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC. Gift of Mr and Mrs John Baxter

85

LUCIEN LEVY-DHURMER The Moroccan c. 1900

Oil on canvas

Musée National des Arts d'Afrique et d'Océanie, Paris

86 AUDIO 40
LUCIEN LEVY-DHURMER
Evening promenade Morocco c. 1930
Oil on canvas
Private collection

87 AUDIO 41 ALBERT BESNARD

The port of Algiers at dusk c. 1893–94
Oil on canvas

Conseil Internationale de la Langue Française, Paris

88 AUDIO 42 ALBERT BESNARD Fruit merchant at Madura 1911 Oil on canvas Musée d'Orsay, Paris. Acquired 1912

89

ALBERT BESNARD Study for the Delhi ballerina c. 1910 Watercolour on paper Collection Galerie Jean-François Heim, Paris

90

LEON BAKST

Indo-Persian dance (Marchesa Casati) 1912 Gouache on paper

Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide.

Special Picture Fund 1934

The greatest stage designer of all time, Bakst is best known for his set and costume designs for Diaghilev's Ballets Russes. This Indo-Persian design may have been a fancy dress or stage costume for Bakst's friend the Marchesa Casati.

91

RUPERT BUNNY The harem c. 1913

Oil on canvas

Lionel Lindsay Collection, Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery. Courtesy of the Lionel Lindsay Art Gallery and Library Trust

92 AUDIO 43 RUPERT BUNNY Salome c. 1919

Oil on canvas

The Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney. Purchased 1968

93

ANDRE SUREDA Berber woman (Moroccan Atlas) Tempera on board Musée Lambinet, Versailles

94

ANDRE SUREDA
Caids' encampment (Morocco) c. 1922
Oil on canvas
Musée d'Orsay, Paris. Acquired 1923

95

AZOUAOU MAMMERI View of Fez c. 1920 Oil on canvas Musée d'Orsay, Paris. Acquired 1921

96

AZOUAOU MAMMERI
Interior of the Kairouiine Mosque, Fez
c. 1927
Oil on canvas

Institut du Monde Arabe, Paris

97 AUDIO 45 AZOUAOU MAMMERI View of Moulay-Idriss c. 1930 Oil on canvas

Private collection, courtesy Lynne Thornton, Paris

Mammeri was one of the first North African artists to break with the tradition of non-representation of the human figure, proscribed by Islam. *View of Moulay-Idriss* takes the vantage point favoured by professional photographers. He has framed the view with dark angular rocks and silhouetted cactus plants while, in the shadows, two heavily draped figures stand immobile, as if mysterious guardians of the holy city, which was (and remains) closed to non-believers. The hardwood frame he selected has been inlaid with patterns based on Berber tattoos.

98 AUDIO 46 MOHAMMED RACIM Dancer c. 1922

1

Gouache heightened with gold Private collection, courtesy Lynne Thornton, Paris

99

MOHAMMED RACIM The Rais c. 1931 Gouache heightened with gold

Private collection, courtesy Lynne Thornton, Paris

100 AUDIO 47 MOHAMMED RACIM Galleys fleeing the storm c. 1937 Gouache heightened with gold Private collection, courtesy Lynne Thornton, Paris

101 AUDIO 48
CHARLES DUFRESNE
Exotic composition c. 1912–14
Watercolour and ink
Musée des Années 30 de Boulogne-Billancourt

102

CHARLES DUFRESNE Algerian oasis c. 1912 Gouache, pastel, Chinese ink, pencil on cream paper Musée des Beaux-Arts de Bordeaux

103

CHARLES DUFRESNE Impression of Bou Saâda c. 1912 Watercolour on pen and pencil drawing Musée des Beaux-Arts de Bordeaux

104

CHARLES DUFRESNE Landscape at Bou Saâda c. 1912 Watercolour on pencil drawing Musée des Beaux-Arts de Bordeaux PAUL KLEE
St Germain near Tunis (midday, with the young palm in the foreground) 1914
Watercolour on paper

106 AUDIO 50
PAUL KLEE
Two Oriental watercolours 1914
Watercolour on paper
Collection A. Rosengart

Collection A. Rosengart

107 LOUIS MOILLIET Coffeeshop in Tunis 1920 Watercolour Kunstmuseum Basel

108 ALBERT MARQUET The souks c. 1913 Pen and Chinese ink Musée des Beaux-Arts de Bordeaux

ALBERT MARQUET The port of Algiers in the mist 1943 Oil on canvas Musée des Beaux-Arts de Bordeaux

110 HENRI MATISSE Seated Moroccan, hand on chin 1912–13 Pen and ink on paper Collection James Fairfax

111 AUDIO 51
HENRI MATISSE
Odalisque in red culottes, with ewer and round table 1924
Oil on canvas
Musée National de l'Orangerie. Collection Jean Walter et Paul Guillaume

Matisse's famous series of odalisques of the 1920s were painted in Nice, his Mediterranean home from 1918. They are studio constructions based on memories of masters like Renoir and Ingres, but also on his own experiences in Morocco a decade before: 'I do Odalisques in order to do nudes. But how does one do the nude without it being artificial? And then, because I know that they exist. I was in Morocco. I have seen them'. Matisse's Nice 'odalisques' were, on the contrary, French women feigning the Oriental, like his favourite model Henriette Darricarrère, seen here posed in red harem pants, to suggest a life of cloistered opulence in the East.



PHOTOGRAPHY

AUDIO 52

112

HENRI BECHARD
Interior of the Amrou mosque (Old Cairo)
c. 1870
Albumen print

Collection Claude Philip, Orange

113

ERME DESIRE Arab tailors, Cairo c. 1870 Albumen print Collection Claude Philip, Orange

114

FELIX BONFILS
Dragoman tour guide, Lebanon c. 1865
Albumen print

Collection Claude Philip, Orange

This famous photograph by Bonfils represents a *dragoman* in a Syro-Lebanese costume, proud of his elegance and displaying a sabre and a rifle against a backdrop of ruins. He sits as if on a halt. *Dragoman* comes from the Arabic *torjoman* and signifies a translator and interpreter.

115

LEHNERT & LANDROCK View of the desert c. 1910 Sepia print Collection Jacques Py, France

116

LEHNERT & LANDROCK Arab artisan c. 1910 Sepia print Collection Jacques Py, France

117

PEDRA A TLEMCEN
Detail of a door, Algiers c. 1890
Albumen print
Collection Jean-Pierre Evrard, Maurepas

118

PEDRA A TLEMCEN
Tlemcen, the Tower c. 1890
Albumen print
Collection Jean-Pierre Evrard, Maurepas

119

FELIX BONFILS Caravan in the desert, Egypt c. 1880 Albumen print Collection Jean-Pierre Evrard, Maurepas

120

ANONYMOUS Studio portrait of a Moorish woman c. 1880 Albumen print Collection Jean-Pierre Evrard, Maurepas

121

CAVILLA & MOLINARI Woman in her interior, Tangier, Morocco c. 1890 Albumen print

Collection Jean-Pierre Evrard, Maurepas

This is one of those photographs in which the composition appears true to life, and is a rare image of Morocco, the sherifian kingdom long closed to photographers. The costume, the pose, the coiffure and the straw matting all denote the modest status of the model.

122

GARRIGUES
Mosque of the Sabres at Kairouan
Photograph
Collection Angela Tromellini, Bologna

J. P. SEBAH

Bedouin c. 1885

Albumen print

Collection Claude Philip, Orange

124

ANONYMOUS

Moorish women in a street of the kasbah, Algiers c. 1880

Albumen print

Bibliothèque des Arts Décoratifs, Paris

Photographers of different types found rich material for study in the streets of the kasbah, where light and shade are accentuated by the depth of field. The kasbah of Algiers, with its stairs and covering arches in the Arab style, lodged 'between walls', is a world of its own. It offered photographers a multitude of scenes, such as the famous yaouleds or shoe-shine boys of the postcards.

125

ANONYMOUS

Rue de la gazelle, Algiers c. 1870

Albumen print

Bibliothèque des Arts Décoratifs, Paris

126

WILHELM HAMMERSCHMIDT

Karnak, Temple of Amon c. 1870

Albumen print

Bibliothèque des Arts Décoratifs, Paris

127

HENRI BECHARD

Great Pyramid, eastern view c. 1875

Albumen print

Bibliothèque des Arts Décoratifs, Paris

128

HIPPOLYTE ARNOUX

Tomb of the caliphs (Cairo), Egypt c. 1880

Albumen print

Collection Jean-Pierre Evrard, Maurepas

129

J. P. SEBAH

Ascent of the Great Pyramid c. 1885

Albumen print

Collection Claude Philip, Orange

The Ascent and Descent of the Great Pyramid are images from the advent of tourism that came with the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869. They record scenes that are self-conscious and at times *risqué*. The hand placed on the posterior here was retouched in other prints.

130

FELIX BONFILS

Dance of the almehs, Egypt c. 1870

Albumen print

Collection Nabil Jumbert, Boulogne

131

CHARLES NAUDET

Study for the painters

Photograph

Collection Gérard Lévy, Paris

132

FELIX BONFILS

Cemetery of the Meydan containing members of the family of Mohammed

(Syria) c. 1878

Albumen print

Bibliothèque des Arts Décoratifs, Paris

133

ANONYMOUS

(PROBABLY ABDULLAH FRÈRES)

Zeibecks of Smyrna c. 1880

Albumen print

Collection Pierre de Gigord, Paris

134

ANONYMOUS

Negress at the fountain c. 1880

Albumen print

Bibliothèque des Arts Décoratifs, Paris

135

ANONYMOUS

Turkish cemetery c. 1860

Albumen print

Bibliothèque des Arts Décoratifs, Paris

Pierre Loti, in mourning for a loved one, was wont to haunt sites such as depicted in

this image. He wrote in Disenchanted (1906): The gravestones in Turkey are like landmarks; crowned with a turban or with flowers they acquire, from a distance, a vaguely human aspect, seeming to have a head and shoulders; at first they hold themselves erect, but the centuries, the movements of the earth and the rains come to dislodge them; then they collapse in every direction, falling on each other like mourners and finishing on the grass where they rest, immobile. And those very ancient cemeteries that André passed bore the sad disarray of a battlefield on the day after a defeat.

136

J.B. GREENE

Old street in Cairo 1854

Salt paper photograph

Collection Gérard Lévy, Paris

The mashrabiyyas of Cairo—a kind of enclosed fretwork balcony (or lattice window)—are an architectural feature that fascinated many photographers and travellers. While J. B. Greene was primarily an archaeological photographer, he was not impervious to the charm of these windows. This type of ornamented woodwork façade is characteristic of Cairo.

137

HENRI BECHARD

Cairo, mashrabiyya c. 1875

Albumen print

Bibliothèque des Arts Décoratifs, Paris

138

JAMES ROBERTSON

Fountain of the Sultan Ahmet III c. 1855

Albumen print

Collection Pierre de Gigord, Paris

139

ABDULLAH FRERES

Sheikh reading the Koran c. 1880

Albumen print

Collection Pierre de Gigord, Paris

Although a studio portrait, the sobriety of the the painted décor indicates the care taken the Abdullah brothers, themselves converts to Islam, to create a convincing image of Islamic religious practice.

140

ABDULLAH FRERES

Steed of the Sultan Abdul Hamid II,

Istanbul c. 1885

Albumen print

Collection Pierre de Gigord, Paris

141

RUBELLIN

Turkish lady and the zeibeck 1875

Albumen print

Collection Pierre de Gigord, Paris

142

ANONYMOUS

Turkish café, Istanbul c. 1870

Albumen print

Collection Pierre de Gigord, Paris

Images of popular outdoor spots offering the *chibouk* and the hookah, with straw seats for the customers, were exploited and popularised by 19th-century photography. Seemingly taken from life, such picturesque genre scenes by certain photographers were reconstructed in the studio. This type of café can still be found near the Grand Bazaar in Istanbul.

143

ABDULLAH FRERES

Turkish lady c. 1880

Albumen print

Collection Pierre de Gigord, Paris

A divan, an inlaid table and a hookah were the indispensable props for the Orientalist image *par excellence*. This one is redolent of all the others devoted to Woman, the Odalisque, the Lady of the Harem, and illustrates the vision of a world seen in the light of the *Arabian Nights*.

144

ABDULLAH FRERES

A Turkish family outing, Istanbul c. 1870 Albumen print

Collection Pierre de Gigord, Paris

A picnic on the banks of the Bosphorus, evoking the 'sweet waters' at the confluence of Asia and Europe, this prescient snapshot would have charmed the Impressionists with its tree, its cart, its sails, its little girl and its dog. Such an image, posed in the open air, is rare.

145

PASCAL SEBAH

Fellahin (women and children), Cairo c. 1870

Albumen print

Collection Claude Philip, Orange

A painted backdrop, a balanced composition, a disruptive glance from the little girl, and a child carried in the Egyptian manner are brought together in this studio photograph. The *borguoug*, a piece of metal used to hold the veil in place, produced (and still produces) many women who squint.

146

SEBAH & JOAILLIER Baths of Yéni Kaplidja c. 1885

Albumen print

Collection Pierre de Gigord, Paris

This scene of a Turkish bath bears no direct relation to the bath scenes of Gérôme or Ingres. Taken in the interior of a real Turkish bath during the men's session, it is a very rare photograph in the history of 19th-century photography. The panoramic view of the location, with its distribution of standing and seated, front and back poses, accentuates the genuine character of the shot, yet most eyes are turned to the camera in curiosity.

147

HIPPOLYTE ARNOUX Portrait of a woman, Egypt c. 1880 Albumen print Collection Jean-Pierre Evrard, Maurepas

148

HIPPOLYTE ARNOUX Odalisque, Egypt c. 1880

Albumen print

Collection Jean-Pierre Evrard, Maurepas

In this photograph the background is painted and the attitude wholly dependent on the great painters who immortalised this archetype. The pearls are more the jewels of a courtesan than those of a native Egyptian.

149

ANONYMOUS Dancer, Egypt c. 1870 Albumen print Collection Nabil Jumbert, Boulogne

150

EMILE FRECHON
Dancer of the Ouled-Nail tribe c. 1898
Photograph

Collection Gérard Lévy, Paris

Palms and *ksours* form the background in this photograph of an Algerian Berber woman in authentic traditional costume. The performance of the dance is caught in profile by the photographer, who seems to have been fascinated by the dance steps and the rhythm—an effect of flight transcending the frozen gesture.

151

LEHNERT & LANDROCK Couple, Algeria c. 1911 Photograph

Collection Angela Tromellini, Bologna

There may be a relationship between this photograph and Dinet's painting *Slave of love and light of the eyes* (number 54).

152

ANONYMOUS The santon, Egypt c. 1880 Albumen print Collection Nabil Jumbert, Boulogne

153

FELIX BONFILS Group of running sais in Egypt c. 1870 Albumen print

Collection Nabil Jumbert, Boulogne

A group of sais such as these can be seen running in the first film shot by the Lumière brothers in Cairo. Sais were men who would run in front of carriages to announce the arrival of an important person—a peculiarly Egyptian tradition that has long since vanished. In height these men are reminiscent of Nubians. The elaborate costumes are in odd contrast to their bare feet, especially as the sais are here posing for the studio.

PASCAL SEBAH

Whirling dervishes c. 1870

Albumen print

Collection Pierre de Gigord, Paris

The mystic religious order of whirling dervishes was founded by Jalal Eddine Errumi in Konya, still known today as the city of whirling dervishes. Their dance involved a turning which, like their music, could inspire a mystic ecstasy. This is still one of the emblematic images of Turkey today.

155

EMILE FRECHON

'Bassour' for the new bride c. 1898 Photograph

Collection Gérard Lévy, Paris

This shows the preparation for the bridal procession in the jehfa, a kind of litter affixed to a dromedary. The litter serves to transport the bride in concealment to her new home on her wedding night.

156

EMILE FRECHON Bride dancing c. 1898 Photograph Collection Gérard Lévy, Paris

Collection Claude Philip, Orange

157

FELIX IACQUES MOULIN Moorish women on a visit. Interior dress, Algiers 1857 Albumen print

158

ABDULLAH FRERES Interior of the kiosk of Baghdad c. 1869 Albumen print Bibliothèque des Arts Décoratifs, Paris

159

ANONYMOUS Cairo. Two hetaerae c. 1850-52 Photograph

Collection Gérard Lévy, Paris

The sobriety of these two courtesans is in contrast to images conjured by written

reports and to pictures of the women of the Ouled-Nail tribe in Algeria. The historical record is shaped by personal reminiscences such as this one from a nostalgic French officer:

My memories always lead me back there; to the poetry of the oasis and to the caresses of beautiful girls... for they are beautiful, those daughters of the desert, with their heavy silver bracelets and their clothes of dazzling colour, their bare feet shod in golden sandals; and when their burning eyes light up to the sound of the derbouka, there is a thrill of admiration in the room.

160

MOHAMMED SADIC BEY The Kaaba, Mecca 1880

Albumen print

Collection François Lepage, Paris

Mohammed Sadic Bey was the first to photograph Mecca and Medina, to approach this symbol of holiness and to carry away its image. The Kaaba is covered with black velvet, encrusted with gold calligraphy. A place of fascination and of mystery for non-Muslims, its inviolability by outsiders did not prevent certain curious admirers from penetrating it in disguise.

161

MOHAMMED SADIC BEY Sheikh of the Medina Mosque and the eunuch servants of the tomb of the Prophet 1880

Original albumen print Collection François Lepage, Paris

162

GAETAN GATIAN CLERAMBAULT Untitled (drapery) Photographs Collection Musée de l'Homme, Paris

AUCKLAND

GALLERY TOI O TĀMAKI