
ART

MUSEUMS AND LIBRARIES

METROPOLITAN MUSEUM

Fifth Ave. at 82nd St. (212-535-7710)—“Impressionism, Fashion, and Modernity.” Through May 27. ♦ “African Art, New York, and the Avant-Garde.” Through Sept. 2. ♦ “The Path of Nature: French Paintings from the Wheelock Whitney Collection.” Through April 21. ♦ “Sleeping Eros.” Through June 23. ♦ “At War with the Obvious: Photographs by William Eggleston.” Through July 28. ♦ “Cambodian Rattan: The Sculptures of Sopheap Pich.” Born in 1971, the Cambodian sculptor spent his childhood living under the brutal regime of Pol Pot, helping his parents make fish traps in order to survive. Using the same materials—rattan and bamboo—he now makes sinuous mesh sculptures. The serpentine “Morning Glory” culminates in a trumpeting blossom, paying tribute to the flower that was a staple of many diets during the famine of the Khmer Rouge years. The works are seen to their best advantage when juxtaposed with ancient artifacts, like the ethereal floating Buddha, suspended from the ceiling by two thin wires, its body unravelling into slender strips of rattan as if caught mid-reincarnation, surrounded by bronze and stone deities from the Angkor period. Through July 7. (Open Tuesdays through Sundays, 9:30 to 5:30, and Friday and Saturday evenings until 9.)