

The Senn

a family of art collectors and patrons

16 November 2024
16 February 2025

In 2004, H el ene Senn-Foulds donated the collection she had inherited from her grandfather, Olivier Senn, to Le Havre's Museum of Modern Art. Senn, a Le Havre-based cotton dealer, was fascinated by the art of his time. He amassed a huge collection of modern art that reflected his sensitive, discerning taste. The Senn-Foulds donation added 205 mainly Impressionist and post-impressionist artworks including major works by **Courbet, Delacroix, Boudin, Monet, Sisley, Pissarro, Renoir, Degas, S erusier, Vallotton, Marquet and Cross** to MuMa's collections, making the museum the holder of one of the biggest collections of Impressionist art in France. In 2009, H el ene Senn-Foulds again did the museum a great honour by donating her father  douard Senn's collection of 67 art works, including a watercolour by **Pablo Picasso** and a superlative painting by **Nicolas de Sta el**. In 2014, seventeen more artworks that had belonged to Olivier Senn joined MuMa's collections through the generosity of Senn's granddaughter's husband Pierre-Maurice Mathey.

MuMa will be holding an exhibition entitled "The Senns, a family of art collectors and patrons" from 16 November 2024 to 16 February 2025 to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the first of these donations. The exhibition will display the masterpieces in MuMa's keeping alongside artworks from Olivier Senn's first collection. Like all collections, Olivier Senn's evolved over time. Some artworks were donated, exchanged or sold by the collector or his descendents. Loans of artworks from public-sector museums (in particular the Centre Pompidou, the Mus e d'Orsay and the Mus e des Impressionnismes Giverny) and private collections (including a rare **Giorgio De Chirico, La Tour rouge**, now in the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice) have made it possible to reunite masterpieces from the original collection, which was divided between Olivier Senn's two surviving children, Alice and  douard, when he died in 1959. In the course of preparatory

work for the exhibition, almost 250 additional artworks were identified, many of them by artists not currently featured in MuMa's collections. Most of these artworks correspond to the share of the collection inherited by Senn's daughter Alice, but some were sold, donated or given as presents by the family. As a result of these discoveries, works by **Henri Manguin, Diego Rivera, Paul-Alex Deschmacker** and **Alfred Stevens** will grace the walls of the museum for the duration of the exhibition.

The exhibition will bring together nearly 280 artworks, providing an overview of more than a century of art history. The itinerary will show the relationships between the Siegfried, Senn and Rufenacht families via a complete gallery of portraits and will invite visitors into the Senns' home. With the aid of old photographs of their large and small sitting rooms that show the artworks loaned for the exhibition, the original hangs will be recreated, giving the unique sensation of being in the indoor setting of a great collector of modern art. The exhibition will shed light on the fascinating process by which artworks migrate from a private sphere to a public space and will allow visitors to experience a way of seeing that goes beyond time and place by juxtaposing paintings, drawings and sculptures from different periods seen through the eyes of three generations of discerning nineteenth- and twentieth-century art-lovers. Highlights of the exhibition will include artworks from American private collections that have never previously been displayed to the public.

Exhibition curators

Dr G eraldine Lefebvre, Director of MuMa, PhD and **Micha el Debris**, Assistant Curator at MuMa.

Exhibition designers

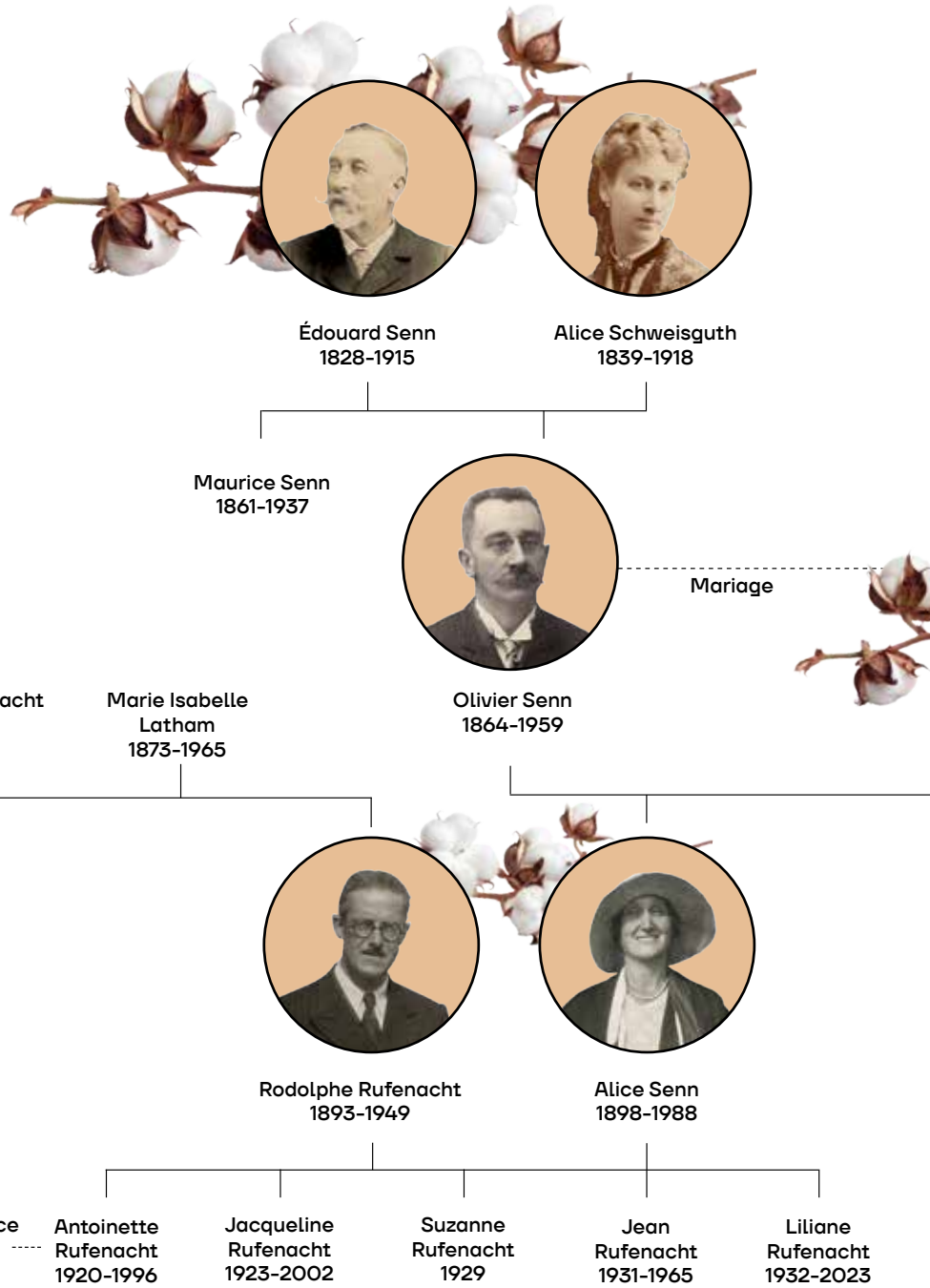
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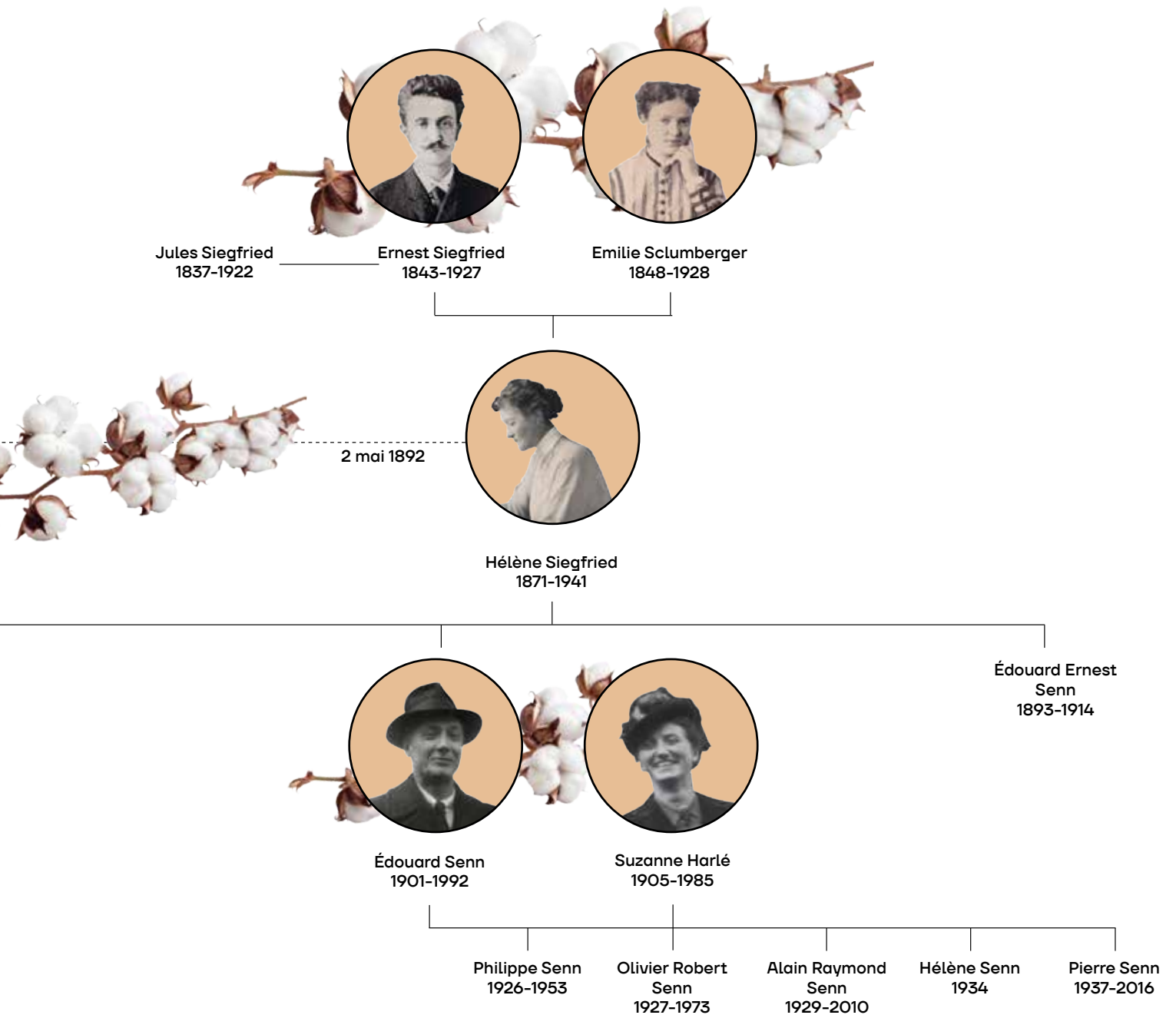


Alfred Stevens
Douloureuse certitude, 1861

Huile sur toile, 33, 5 x 25 cm
Collection particulière

FAMILY TREE







Claude Monet
La Seine à Vétheuil, 1878
Huile sur toile, 50,5 x 61,5 cm
Le Havre, MuMa
Collection Olivier Senn
Donation Hélène Senn-Foulds, 2004

Anonyme
*Portrait d'Olivier Senn dans son
appartement parisien avenue d'Iéna*

Photographie
Le Havre, MuMa

On the wall, from top to bottom :
Claude Monet, *La Seine à Vétheuil*
Camille Pissarro, *La Gardeuse de vache*,
resold after 1936.





Anonyme
La fratrie Senn, juin 1908

Photographie, 10,8 x 7,9 cm
Collection particulière

Ernest, 15 years old, Alice 10, Edouard 7



Anonyme
Édouard et Suzanne Senn devant
la résidence d'Alice et Rodolphe
Rufenacht à New York, vers 1945

Photographie, collection particulière

Henri-Edmond Cross
Étude pour *La Plage de Baigne-Cul*,
vers 1891-1892

Huile sur toile, 23 x 34 cm
Collection Christophe Karvelis-Senn



Anonyme
Alice Rufenacht à bord
du paquebot *Ascania* (Liverpool),
vers 1930

Photographie, Collection particulière



Albert Marquet

La Femme blonde, 1919

Huile sur toile, 98,5 x 98,5 cm
Paris, Centre Pompidou, MNAM/CCI,
don Olivier Senn, 1939

Albert Marquet
Faubourg Saint-Jean-de-Luz, 1907

Huile sur toile, 32 x 39 cm
Collection particulière



Giorgio De Chirico
La Tour Rouge, 1913

Huile sur toile 73,5 x 100,5 cm
Venise, Peggy Guggenheim collection
© Adagp, Paris 2024



Nicolas de Staël

Paysage, Antibes, 1955

Huile sur toile, 116 x 89 cm

Le Havre, MuMa

Collection Édouard Senn

Donation Hélène Senn-Foulds, 2009

© Adagp, Paris 2024



Geneviève Asse
Sans titre, vers 1990-2000

Huile sur toile
Collection particulière
© Adagp, Paris 2024

VISITOR INFORMATION AND PRESS ENQUIRIES

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Exhibition from 16 November 2024 to 16 February 2025

Cultural programming "Around the exhibition"
to be found on muma-lehavre.fr

Open Tuesdays to Fridays from 11 a.m to 6 p.m,
Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m to 7 p.m
Closed on Mondays, December 25 and January 1st

Admission free on the first Saturday of every month
For ticket prices, visit <https://www.muma-lehavre.fr/en/practical/informations/getting-to-museum/admission>

Accessible to all visitors
Book and gift shop, restaurant and café facilities in the museum

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LE FIGARO

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LE
QUOTIDIEN
DE L'ART

PARIS
NORMANDIE

On the cover image

Giorgio De Chirico
La Tour Rouge, 1913
Huile sur toile, 73,5 x 100,5 cm
Venise, Peggy Guggenheim collection,
© Adagp, Paris 2024

Pierre-Auguste Renoir
Portrait de Nini Lopez, 1876
Huile sur toile, 54 x 39 cm, Le Havre,
musée d'art moderne André Malraux
Collection Olivier Senn,
donation Hélène Senn-Foulds, 2004

Félix Vallotton
Le Rayon, 1909,
Huile sur toile, 73 x 100 cm
Collection particulière