

John Singer Sargent *Fashion & Swagger*

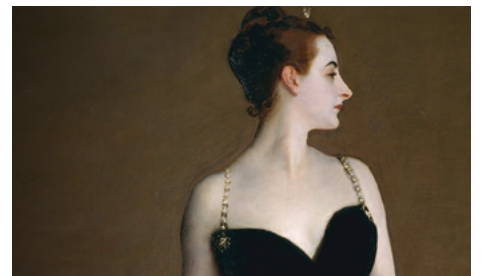
PRODUCERS **PHIL GRABSKY** AND **AMANDA WILKIE** | DIRECTOR **DAVID BICKERSTAFF**

From the Producer:

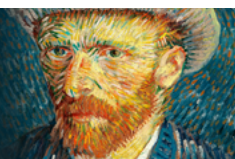
It always intrigues me how some artists are so well-known and some seem to have flown under the radar. John Singer Sargent, despite being the most famous portrait artist of the late 19th century, is no longer a household name. Exhibition on Screen, however, has always had the intention of making films not only about the great names – Da Vinci, Michelangelo, Van Gogh, Raphael, Vermeer – but also those who are deserving of more attention. I'm thinking of our recent films about the impressionist Mary Cassatt and also *Tokyo Stories*, which looked at the last 400 years of Tokyo-focussed art & artists.

As filmmakers, both director David Bickerstaff and I have been thrilled to make this film about Sargent, someone I consider a truly astounding artist. We have wanted to focus on him for a while but the prompt for this particular film was an exhibition that began at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and then travelled to Tate Britain. The exhibition emphasised Sargent's relationship with fashion, showing the stunning garments he and his sitters decided upon in his beautifully crafted portraits. The film examines how together they worked to present a specific look or personality – much like how so many of us today use social media. It's a remarkable tale. I hope by the end of the film you'll agree.

Phil Grabsky



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[EX37]

