

## RECENT ACQUISITION

**The Rollins Museum of Art acquires a significant early 20th century painting by British artist Roger Fry for its permanent collection.**



The Rollins Museum of Art owns a collection of superb examples of works by members of the Bloomsbury Group, a group of associated English writers, intellectuals, philosophers, and artists in the early 20th century, most based in London. Among them are Vanessa Bell, Roger Fry, Duncan Grant, and Walter Richard Sickert. Together, the group was key in the development of modern art.

The Rollins Museum of Art looks forward to staging an exhibition curated around this group, slated for Summer 2025, where it will debut the recently (November 2024) acquired painting, *Summer in the Garden* (1911) by Roger Fry. Acquired from Philip Mould & Company, based in London, the painting has never before exhibited in the U.S.

**Image: Roger Fry** (British, 1866-1934), *Summer in the Garden*, 1911, Signed 'Roger Fry' lower left, Oil on panel, 17 ½ x 22 in. Museum purchase from the Michel Roux Acquisition Fund. 2024.50

The painting functions as documentation of Fry's relationship with Bell and as a beautiful study of color, pattern and form. The significance of this painting is enhanced by a work currently in the collection of the Rollins Museum of Art. In 2000, the museum received *Study of Vanessa Bell Reading*, painted by Fry in 1912. This unfinished study shows Bell wearing the same blue dress and orange coat. Although in the museum's piece it is hard to decipher the background, there are some suggestions that the figure could be outdoors with areas of blue and green around the figure's head. In the study, Bell appears to be reading whereas in the painting it seems she is sewing.

The acquisition of this work significantly expands the Bloomsbury collection and the 20<sup>th</sup> century holdings, one of the museum's collecting priorities. It provides entry points for discussions about relationships, love, mental health, artistic movements, women's roles in society, and modernism. In the context of the exhibition, this new addition will activate dialogues with portraits of other members of the Bloomsbury group and will highlight the significance of the group's artistic legacy.

## **THE ROLLINS MUSEUM OF ART**

The Rollins Museum of Art features rotating exhibitions, ongoing programs, and an extensive permanent collection of over 6,000 objects that spans centuries, from examples of ancient art and artifacts to contemporary art. Open to the public year-round, its holdings include the only European Old Master paintings in the Orlando area, a sizeable American art collection, and a forward-thinking contemporary collection on view both at the Museum and The Alford Inn at Rollins. Located a few blocks from campus, The Alford Inn is a visionary philanthropic boutique hotel whose proceeds help fund student scholarships. In 1981, the museum became Florida's first accredited college museum by the American Association of Museums (currently the American Alliance of Museums) and continues today as one of only four AAM-accredited museums in greater Orlando. For additional information, call 407.646.2526 or visit [www.rollins.edu/rma](http://www.rollins.edu/rma). "Like" the RMA on Facebook and follow on Instagram@rollinsmuseum.

## **ROLLINS COLLEGE**

Founded in 1885, Rollins College is Florida's oldest recognized college. Located in Winter Park, near Orlando, Rollins is consistently ranked as one of the top regional universities in the South by U.S. News & World Report. In addition to full-time undergraduate programs in the College of Liberal Arts, Rollins offers undergraduate and graduate degree programs for working adults through its evening program at the Hamilton Holt School and graduate business degree programs through its Crummer Graduate School of Business, which has been ranked a top MBA program by Forbes and Bloomberg BusinessWeek. Rollins serves approximately 3,127 degree-seeking students annually. For more information, visit [www.rollins.edu](http://www.rollins.edu). "Like" Rollins on Facebook and follow on Twitter @RollinsCollege.

### **Press Contact**

Lindsay DeSantis | Publicist

[lindsay@lindsaydesantis.com](mailto:lindsay@lindsaydesantis.com) | 814-460-3365

### **Museum Contact**

Jamie Donmoyer | Digital Initiatives Coordinator

[jfriedmandonmoyer@rollins.edu](mailto:jfriedmandonmoyer@rollins.edu)