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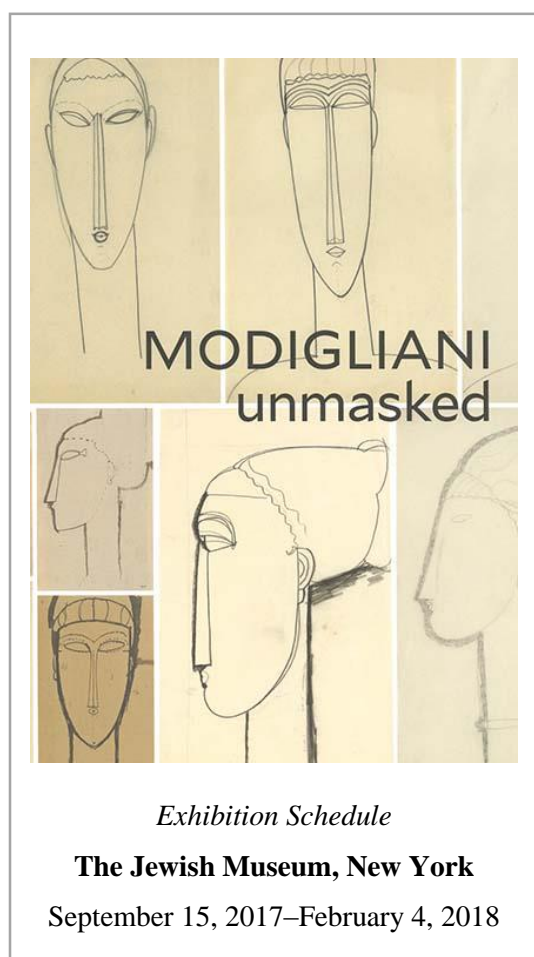
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A revealing look at the artist's extraordinary early drawings and his revolutionary reconceptualization of the modern portrait



YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS
is pleased to announce the publication of

Modigliani Unmasked

by Mason Klein

With an afterword by Richard Nathanson

One of the great artists of the 20th century, Amedeo Modigliani (1884–1920) is celebrated for revolutionizing modern portraiture, particularly in his later paintings and sculpture. After his arrival in Paris in 1906, the artist embraced his identity as an Italian Sephardic Jew, and his early drawings show a marked awareness of the role of ethnicity and race within society. As an outsider, Modigliani was uniquely equipped to respond to the social realities and tensions facing France at the time, as the negative effects of the Dreyfus Affair lingered and waves of foreign emigres resettled within the nation's borders.

Modigliani Unmasked examines the artist's rarely seen early works on paper, offering insights into his artistic sensibilities and concerns as he developed his signature style of graceful, elongated figures. Placing these drawings within the context of the artist's larger oeuvre, Mason Klein reveals how Modigliani's preoccupation with identity spurred the artist to reconceive the modern portrait, and argues that he ultimately came to think of identity as beyond national or cultural boundaries. Lavishly illustrated with over one hundred drawings

collected by Dr. Paul Alexandre, Modigliani's close friend and first patron, and a select number of paintings, this book provides an engaging and long overdue analysis of this early body of work on paper.

Mason Klein is a curator at the Jewish Museum, New York. **Richard Nathanson** is an independent art adviser and an expert on Impressionism and 20th-century art.

Published in association with the Jewish Museum, New York

Modigliani Unmasked * Mason Klein

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