



At the Beach: Mariano Fortuny y Marsal and William Merritt Chase



The Meadows Museum presents a focused summer exhibition pairing its recent acquisition “Beach at Portici” (1874), by Mariano Fortuny y Marsal, with a loan from the Amon Carter Museum of American Art, “Idle Hours” (1894), by William Merritt Chase.

The painters Mariano Fortuny y Marsal (1838–1874) and William Merritt Chase (1849–1916) were separated by more than ten years of age, the Atlantic Ocean, and different backgrounds. This focused exhibition, however, highlights a modern subject popular among international circles in the nineteenth century, and one that both painters treated with remarkable skill: people at the beach.

Recently acquired by the Meadows Museum, Fortuny’s very last painting *Beach at Portici* (1874) depicts the artist’s family enjoying leisure time at the beach while residing in Italy. Painted around two decades later, Chase’s canvas *Idle Hours* (c. 1894) similarly portrays the artist’s family dressed in billowing and fashionable white garments lounging in a lush green landscape near a curving coastline.

This is the first time these two works have been displayed together, and together the two paintings represent a single case study that elucidates the larger affinity Chase had for his Spanish predecessor. Chase and Fortuny were truly cosmopolitan painters and the dialogue between *Beach at Portici* and *Idle Hours* speaks eloquently to that fact.

VISUAL ARTS
DALLAS

Sun, June 24–
Sun, September 16, 2018

Venue

Meadows Museum, 5900 Bishop Blvd.,
Dallas, TX 75205

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Phone: 214-768-2516

Admission

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Credits

Organized by the Meadows Museum with the support of Amon Carter Museum of American Art in Fort Worth. Image: *Beach at Portici*, 1874, by Mariano Fortuny y Marsal (Spanish, 1838–1874), courtesy of the Meadows Museum