

UNIPOL MAIN SPONSOR OF
"MATISSE. THE WORLD IN A ROOM"

An original exhibition on the relationship between Matisse and non-European cultures at the MUDEC in Milan from 8 October 2026

Milan, 7 October 2026

From 8 October 2026 to 21 February 2027, MUDEC - the Culture Museum of Milan - will host an exhibition entitled *'Matisse. The world in a room'* which explores, for the first time, the relationship between Henri Matisse and the cultures he encountered as he studied and travelled outside Europe, highlighting the crucial role played in the development of his artistic research by cultural relations and his experience of non-Western traditions.

Produced by 24 ORE Cultura - Gruppo Il Sole 24 ORE and promoted by the Municipality of Milan - Culture, the exhibition is held in association with the Musée Matisse of Nice. Unipol is the main sponsor.

Curated by Ellen McBreen and Chiara Gatti, the exhibition comprises 8 sections spanning Matisse's entire career; there are about 100 works including paintings, prints, sculptures and photographs hailing from prestigious international institutions like the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the New York MoMA, the Musée de l'Orangerie, the Musée Picasso of Paris, the National Gallery of Prague and the Columbus Museum of Art.

In addition to Matisse's masterpieces, a rare set of articles and fabrics loaned by institutions including the Musée Matisse of Nice, the Musée du Quai Branly, the Museum of Civilizations of Rome and the National Bargello Museum of Florence recreate the storyline of the dialogues that he interwove with the art and design of far-off places, reproducing the multi-sensorial atmosphere of his art studios. Large decorative projects also given the spotlight, including the diptych *Océanie, le ciel* and *Océanie, la mer*, the Jazz figures, and draft plans for the Chapelle du Rosaire de Vence, along with a selection of period photos and previously unpublished shots taken by Matisse in Morocco.

A reference point in the critical reassessment of concepts of diversity, primitivism and orientalism, *'Matisse. The world in a room'* was conceived on the basis of recent, partially original research, and slots neatly into contemporary debate on the relationship between modern art, nationalism and colonial culture, giving a rigorous philological reading of Matisse's thoughts on the role of art and artists in society.

Gianmaria Restelli, External Communication and Corporate Image Manager of the Unipol Group said “through its support of *‘Matisse. The world in a room’*, Unipol confirms its commitment towards promoting culture as a tool to understand the world and social development. We are proud to help bring a project of such international stature to Milan to show how dialogue among cultures can regenerate and redefine art and foster opportunities for meetings and growth”.

Unipol Group

It is one of the leading insurance groups in Europe as well as being leader in Italy in the non-life insurance business (especially MV and health), with total premiums of €17.4bn that include €9.6bn in non-life income and €7.8bn in life income (2025 figures). Its integrated approach covers the entire range of insurance products and services, mainly operating through the parent company Unipol Assicurazioni, UniSalute (the leading health insurer in Italy), Linear (direct MV insurance), Arca Vita and Arca Assicurazioni (life and non-life bancassurance through BPER branches), SIAT (transport insurance) and DDOR (insurance company operating in Serbia). It also operates in the real estate, hotel (UNA Italian Hospitality), medical-healthcare (Santagostino) and viticultural (Tenute del Cerro) sectors. The ordinary shares of Unipol Assicurazioni S.p.A. have been listed on the Italian Stock Exchange since 1990, and are also on the FTSE MIB® and MIB® ESG indexes.

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