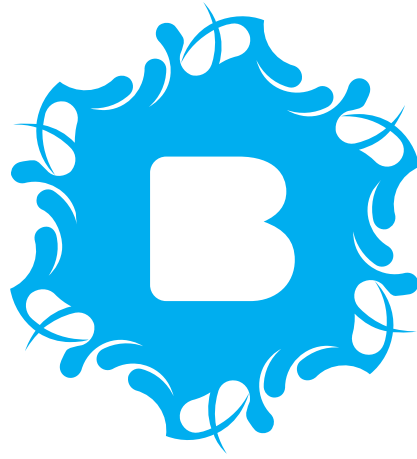


Press Release



May 2009

Brooklyn Museum Offers Free Family Programs in June with Events Ranging from Art-Making Classes to June's *Target First Saturday*

Arty Facts

Arty Facts invites children ages four to seven and their adult friends to explore works of art, enjoy a family gallery activity, and make art in a ninety-minute session. In June, participants will work with repeating visual elements including lines, colors, shapes, and materials. During a special *Yinka Shonibare* weekend on June 27 and 28, families will celebrate the opening of the *Yinka Shonibare MBE* exhibition by creating a wearable fabric costume. Participants will then pose and be photographed wearing the costume. *Arty Facts* takes place every Saturday and Sunday at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. and offers a different program each day. *Arty Facts* is free with Museum admission. Meet in the Rubin Lobby, 1st floor

Target First Saturday: Illuminating Islam

On Saturday, June 6, from 5 to 11 p.m., the Brooklyn Museum presents a free night of music, dance, and art-making classes that celebrate the vibrant art and culture of the Islamic world. Highlights include a Sufi-inspired musical performance by Brooklyn Qawwali Party; a presentation of whirling dervishes; an art-making class where participants will create lanterns inscribed with Sufi poetry; and a dance party.

Family-Friendly Special Exhibitions

Light of the Sufis: The Mystical Arts of Islam

June 5–September 6, 2009. This exhibition features twenty-four objects from the Brooklyn Museum, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and private collections that are related to a mystical form of Islam known as Sufism. *Light of the Sufis* focuses on some of the most important Sufi ideas and practices that found expression through the arts of the Islamic world beginning with light, which symbolizes both God and enlightenment. The range of cultures and media represented in the exhibition reflects the wide appeal and impact of Sufism on the arts from the early period to the present day.

Yinka Shonibare MBE

June 26–September 20, 2009. This exhibition is a major midcareer survey of work by the British based, Nigerian artist Yinka Shonibare MBE. Shonibare's artwork explores contemporary African identity and its relationship to European colonialism through painting, sculpture, installation, and moving image. Shonibare is best known for his work with visual symbols, especially the richly patterned Dutch wax fabric produced

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in Europe for a West African market that he uses in a wide range of applications. His tableaux of headless mannequins costumed in this fabric evoke themes of history and its legacy for future generations.

Gustave Caillebotte: Impressionist Paintings from Paris to the Sea

March 27–July 5, 2009. *Gustave Caillebotte: Impressionist Paintings from Paris to the Sea* is the first major showing of the artist's oeuvre in New York in more than thirty years. In addition to the well-known Parisian cityscapes that have traditionally marked him as the "Urban Impressionist," Caillebotte painted scenes of outdoor life away from the city on the coast of Normandy and in the villages of Yerres and Petit Gennevilliers. The approximately forty paintings included in this focused thematic exhibition reveal Caillebotte's extraordinary passion for subjects in which water plays a central role.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Admission:

Contribution \$10; students with valid I.D. and older adults \$6. Free to Members and children under 12 accompanied by an adult. Group tours or visits must be arranged in advance by calling extension 234.

Directions:

Subway: Seventh Avenue express (2 or 3) to Eastern Parkway/Brooklyn Museum stop; Lexington Avenue express (4 or 5) to Nevins Street, cross platform and transfer to the 2 or 3. Bus: B71, B41, B69, B48.

On-site parking available.

Museum Hours:

Wednesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; First Saturday of each month, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; all other Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.