

## **The Metropolitan Museum of Art Reviews from Different Perspectives**

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A: Perspective From A Eight Year Girl OF Bilingual Decent With her parents:

I was really excited to visit my aunt Carlita in New York with my mommy and daddy. The best part of visiting her was that she would take us to all these different places with dinosaurs, mummies and paintings in them.

On Sunday my aunty took us to a very large place that had a lot of stuff she told me about before we came from Santo Domingo. I was really excited because she told me that I would be able to see even more mummies and even have some more ice cream in the park next to the big building.

We took the train from my auntie's house and we walked a bit to the place called the MET and it was so huge. Before we went inside I was running around near the fountain and splashed mommy with some of the water before she told me to stop. I also looked at the paintings some people were selling on the street and then we went inside.

Once we went inside Auntie gave us some papers in Spanish that she got from the big desk in the middle. These papers told us where to go and what to see. I looked up at the huge ceiling and there were so many people around that I kept very close to mommy because I didn't want to get lost.

Since Mommy and Daddy do not speak English very well, Auntie put us into a Spanish speaking tour with nice lady named Angelina. Angelina explained to us that there were several tours of the museum and that she was going to show us the paintings by famous people. We walked to the huge elevator and got off on the second floor to see the paintings.

I was really surprised that there were so many people walking around this big place that I do not know how they all fit into the elevator. I was even more surprised to see how big the painting was. I asked Angelina how such huge these huge paintings and statues were made and she explained that it often took years for them to be made and that the painter would have help from his assistants.

As we walked around and saw painting and sculptures by Picasso, Van Gogh, I had a hard time reading the information next to the painting, one because they were too small and because they were in English, so Angelina had to tell us all the information about each one. I do not know how she remembers so much information but it must be hard work.

Mommy made sure I was next to her at all times because she was nervous that I would get lost since it's so big. Daddy was taking our pictures and then when we were finished we went downstairs to see the mummies that Mommy had told me about.

We saw art stuff and real mummies behind a glass box from a country very far away called Egypt. I had a hard time seeing the mummies and all the jewelry so Daddy had to lift me up to see it. I really wanted to touch them but Mommy told me that I would not get ice cream if I did it and I would get in trouble so I was really unhappy about that.

We then went inside a huge place with a real lake and by that time my tummy was aching because I was so hungry. I asked Mommy and Daddy to get some food and they told me to just wait until the tour guide was over.

Once the tour guide was over, we thanked Angelina and she gave me a special mummy button which I really like. We then went downstairs to the cafeteria where Auntie told us what type of selection they had. Auntie and Mommy had salad, while Daddy had a hamburger while I had pasta and for dessert I had a nice big cone of ice cream.

When we left the museum I was surprised to see people selling their stuff on the sidewalk, after that we took the train back to Auntie's house and I'll never forget my visit to the big house with the mummies I couldn't touch.

B: Perspective From A Couple (in their 50's or so), the man is in a wheelchair, accompanied by his wife.

We left around Noon on Sunday after having lunch because we wanted to see the new exhibition at the MET for Ambroise Vollard. Ambroise Vollard was a successful and progress art dealer who helped the career of such greats such as Picasso, Van Gogh, Cezanne and any other exhibitions that Harry and I might enjoy admiring.

Since we left only a few blocks from the MET, we always make it a point to take a nice casual stroll near the park and also look at some of the beautiful paintings that some of the artist are trying to sell near the fountain.

We entered the museum through the wheelchair accessible side entrance and a young guard was polite enough to help push Harry to the elevator while I got information for us to find out what new exhibitions they have that I did not read about. I grabbed one of the large print events pamphlets and processed on to get Harry who was casually taking to the guard about the new exhibits. We decided after much discussion that we would visit the Arts of Ancient Egypt exhibition first. We then took the elevator to the first second floor made our way through the crowd of school children who were running so happy and excited at being at the MET. Thankfully due to the large spacious entrance and exhibition area of the MET, I can always maneuver Harry's wheelchair very comfortably without worry of hitting anyone or any of the priceless artifacts.

As we maneuvered through the beautiful mummies and artifacts within the Ancient Egyptian exhibition, Harry and I discussed how we wished the text information on the titles were a bit larger for those like us whose eyesight is slowly fading away. Harry had to try to adjust himself to see some of the artifacts because they designed for eye level viewing for people but overall he enjoyed the exhibition especially the Colossi of Amenhotp III. We usually spend upwards to 20 minutes just looking at the beautiful colossi and admiring the open sunny environment of that part of the Egyptian exhibition.

As we continued on our stroll through the MET, we decided that it would be better for us to take a audio tour through the Ambroise Vollard exhibition since it would get so crowded that I would not be able to read the information about the painting and tell them to Harry. We went downstairs and rented two pairs of audio tours and as clunky as they were, they did the job. Once we got to the exhibition we slowly admired the painting and when Harry was ready to move on he would just let me know by touching my hand. We admired the beautiful painting by such greats as Picasso, Cezanne, and Van Gogh and were quite surprised to see other elderly couple that was also using audio tours guides as well. It seemed to me that they were listening very intently to the audio as they were deeply admiring the beauty and brushstroke of the paintings.

After our extensive tours of the two exhibits we decided to call it a day and headed downstairs to the newly remodeled cafeteria for a nice quite lunch. The lines were not so long and the food was quite delicious. It was a wonderful way to end a wonderful day at the MET.

C: Perspective From A High School class.

My class trip with Mrs. Collins and the rest of my art class to the MET was very exciting. I expected that she would take us to all the different museums but I didn't expect her to actually make us sit down and draw over and over for almost five hours.

We left school early in the morning and arrived at the MET around 10:30am. Once we got inside the MET, I can say we were all a bit surprised that it was so huge. Mrs. Collins walked over to the school tours guide section and came back with a tour guide by the name of Alice who showed us around. Before the guide started we waited and paid to get into the museum and that kind of upset me. After all I'm just in high school and I paid nearly ten dollars to get inside...that a movie ticket for crying out loud. I think personally that high school students should not have to pay to get into the MET.

Well anyway Alice our tour guide gave each one of us a student pamphlets that has all the information about the history of the museum and all of the current exhibitions they were having.

We then were lead by Alice lead to the Ambriose Vollard exhibition and I was quite surprised to see so many people vesting the museum on such a rainy Tuesday morning.. I guess some people truly love seeing their painting by some of the great even on rainy days...if I had a choice I would be home playing on my psp.

After the tour Mrs. Collins split us into four groups and told us to draw our own interpretations of the works of any artist within the exhibition. I chose one of Van Gogh's paintings because I love the way he uses his paintbrushes to express his own version of reality. I spent at least what seemed a few hours drawing over and over anything that came to mind and showing it and getting advice from Mrs. Collins.

The exhibition space was very large so even with all of my classmates and I sitting on the floor drawing, we did not block the path for any people entering the exhibition. After spending a few hours at the exhibition we went to get some lunch at the new cafeteria and then we spent an hour talking to some of the painters who were selling their painting outside the MET. Overall I had a great time but just wish that they did not have to charge me for getting into the museum.