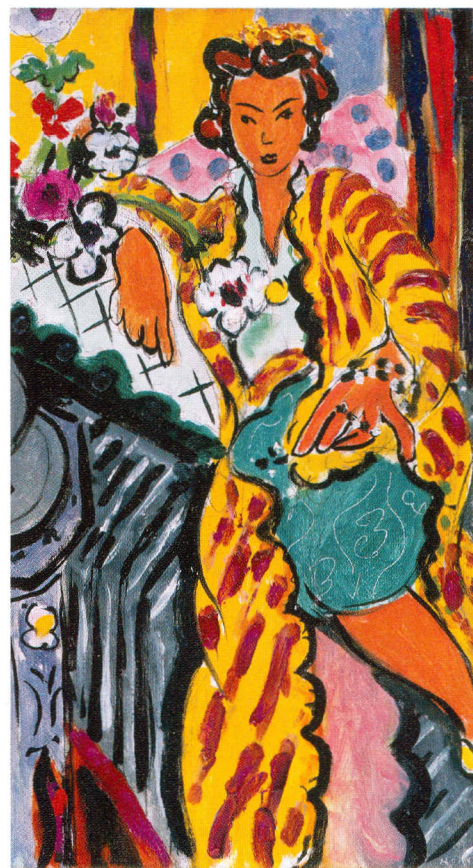


sky rocket

STROLLING THE MARBLE HALLS OF THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART, A HOUSTON SON KEEPS HIS HEADS IN THE CLOUDS AS THE CULTURAL BEHEMOTH'S EXHIBITION IMPRESARIO.

STORY
CAROLYN FARB

PHOTOGRAPHY
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IMAGES FROM MATISSE: THE FABRIC OF DREAMS EXHIBITION

Seventeen curatorial departments. 1,800 full-time employees. 900 volunteers. And 5.2 million visitors, who each year trek to Fifth Avenue to experience more than two million works of art spanning 5,000 years of world culture. And within these stats works Gary Tinterow, a Houstonian with a creative legacy.

Commencing this June, Tinterow's curatorial thumbprints will be seen in *Matisse: The Fabric of Dreams – His Art and His Textiles*, the first exhibition to take on Matisse's fascination with fabrics, carpets, Parisian gowns and Turkish robes, currently on view at the Royal Academy in London. The exhibition marks the first public

unveiling of Matisse's textile collection – referred to by the artist as his “working library” – which has been packed away in family trunks since Matisse's death in 1954.

Already honored by France with the Legion of Honor award, Tinterow is the new curator of 19th-Century Modern and Contemporary Art and a Met vet in the making.

Your dad Bobby Tinterow was a Houston legend, whose band played at the Shamrock Hotel. Coming from a musical family, was there cacophony in the house? It was actually hard for my father to listen to us play. My brother Chaya and I wanted to follow in our father's footsteps, so we both learned

to play instruments. Daddy was so innately musical he didn't need to practice.

Did you and Chaya enjoy hanging out with your dad? It was always an adventure. I got to meet all these fascinating people. As a child, I remember being very comfortable talking to adults. Not that I had anything particularly interesting to say, but I wasn't intimidated.

Perhaps the entrepreneurship you inherited from your mother Dariece helped you launch the Met's blockbusters? Yes, in terms of my modus operandi, organizing and orchestrating big events.

