

Artist Resources – Artemisia Gentileschi (Italian, 1593 – 1653)

[Gentileschi at the National Gallery](#)

[Gentileschi at the Getty](#)

[Gentileschi at the Royal Collection Trust](#)



Artemisia Gentileschi, *Self Portrait as the Allegory of Painting*, 1638-39

In 2002, [Orazio and Artemisia Gentileschi: Father and Daughter Baroque Painters in Italy](#) was on display at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the first full-scale exhibition juxtaposing both artists' work.

[Violence and Virtue: Artemisia Gentileschi's "Judith Slaying Holofernes"](#) was at the Art Institute of Chicago in 2013. Read a [review](#) in New City Art.

Museo di Roma installed [Artemisia Gentileschi and Her Times](#) in 2016, an exhibition that covered the entire span of the artist's career and featured over 100 works of art.

Also in 2016, [Beyond Caravaggio](#) at the National Gallery in London featured examples of Gentileschi's work. Read an article in [The Guardian](#) by Jonathan Jones about Gentileschi's contributions to the exhibition and how she "took revenge" in oil paint.

Read a 2020 article in [The New Yorker](#) by Rebecca Mead, "A Fuller Picture of Artemisia Gentileschi," that illustrates how scholars are now looking at the artist's oeuvre through motherhood, passion, and ambition rather than solely her rape survival and trial.

[Artemisia](#) was on display at the National Gallery in London in 2021, the first major exhibition of the artist's work in the United Kingdom. Read an article in [Smithsonian Magazine](#) about the significance of this installation and reviews in [The Guardian](#) and [The Art Newspaper](#).

The [Wadsworth Atheneum](#) and the [Detroit Institute of Arts](#) opened *By Her Hand: Artemisia Gentileschi and Women Artists in Italy, 1500-1800* in 2021-2022. Watch a [trailer](#) produced by the DIA about the exhibition and read reviews published in the [Detroit Art Review](#) and [CAA](#).

In 2022, the Gallerie d'Italia in Naples installed [Artemisia Gentileschi a Napoli](#). Read a review in [The Art Newspaper](#) and [Apollo Magazine](#).

[Fierce Women: Artemisia Gentileschi and the Women Worthies](#) was at the Nelson–Atkins Museum of Art in 2023, focusing on the "women worthies," or tales of fierce women in myth and history that were popular in Europe from the 1400s.

Gentileschi/Wiley: Two Paintings of Judith 400 Years Apart was first organized by the [North Carolina Museum of Art](#), comparing two paintings depicting the Old Testament story of Judith slaying Holofernes. The exhibition traveled as *Portrait of Courage: Gentileschi, Wiley, and the Story of Judith* to the [Museum of Fine Arts Houston](#) and as *SLAY: Artemisia Gentileschi & Kehinde Wiley* at the [Kimbell Art Museum](#).

The [Royal Collection Trust](#) installed a special display of Gentileschi's work at Windsor Castle in 2024 featuring *Susanna and the Elders*, a painting that was re-discovered in the collection after being misattributed for two centuries.



Artemisia Gentileschi, *Self Portrait as a Lute Player*, 1615-1617



Artemisia Gentileschi (Italian, 1593-1653)

Susanna and the Elders, n.d.

Oil on canvas

Private Collection; L2023:59.2

Italian painter Artemisia Gentileschi is one of very few women artists to gain widespread recognition in seventeenth-century Europe. Raised by her father, who was also an artist, Gentileschi began painting at a young age and later became the first female member of the Accademia di Arte del Disegno (the Academy of the Arts of Drawing) in Florence. She is best known for her history paintings of female protagonists, often featuring heroines such as Cleopatra, Danae, Judith, Sisera, and other historical and allegorical figures.

The artist started depicting the subject of Susanna from a young age, which is often interpreted through the lens of her struggle against abuse and misogyny. **Susanna and the Elders** was likely painted in the 1630s. The biblical figure of Susanna is pictured bathing in a garden where two elderly men spy on her and demand sexual favors, which Susanna refuses. In the biblical story, the men accuse her of adultery and demand punishment by death, but their stories are proven false, and Susanna is heralded for her fidelity.

On view March 6 – June 9, 2024