James Ensor: Scènes de la vie du Christ and other works
Curated by Dan Mills
Synergy Space

Exhibition Brief:
James Ensor’s (Belgian, 1860 – 1949) Scènes de la vie du Christ (Scenes from the Life of Christ), 1921, is a portfolio of thirty-two lithographs executed after drawings in colored pencil Ensor made between 1911 and 1920. Considered as perhaps his most all-encompassing graphic project, the portfolio is inspired by the late-medieval combination of religious themes and carnival humor. Like many works in Ensor’s œuvre, Scènes de la vie du Christ contrasts beauty with monsterly figures, and delicate rendering with bold and bizarre passages. This exhibition may include additional prints by the artist.

Curricular Connections: (Depts.) Art and Visual Culture; Classical and Medieval Studies; French; History; Philosophy; Religious Studies; Theater & Rhetoric; (GECs) Beauty and Desire; Color: Sight and Perception; Culture and Meaning; Early Modern World; French and Francophone Studies; Material Culture; Medieval Worlds; Post/Colonial Issues in French and Spanish; Premodern History; Producing Culture; Religious Studies; Renaissance: Arts and Letters; The Translated World; and courses that include the study of caricature, fantasy, humor, satire, and story-telling, among many other topics, may find the exhibition a useful resource.

Selected images