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Opening: 'La Velata' at the Portland Art Museum

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D.K. Row, The Oregonian
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Soon, she will be unveiled.

We're talking about **Raphael's** "La Velata (The Woman with the Veil)," the Renaissance masterpiece that is coming to Portland for a special show opening on Saturday.

The **Portland Art Museum** has been negotiating with the Italian government for more than a year to bring the painting to Portland. This portrait of a ravishing young woman -- painted by the lesser-known contemporary of Michelangelo -- is on loan from the Medici Collection of the Palatine Gallery, Palazzo Pitti, Florence, Italy.

The show is something of a novelty. Rare is the one-painting show. But the museum is counting on the work's pedigree and the fact that it has rarely left its home country.

There is also the mystery of the subject. The young woman may be Margherita Luti, a baker's daughter who many believed was Raphael's lover.

There will be special considerations for the show. No more than 25 people at a time will be allowed to see the work. As



"La Velata" by Raphael. Will a one painting show bring people into the Portland Art Museum?

well, the show will cost more than others. For adults, it's \$17 to see this single painting. But that includes general admission and also a chance to see the museum's other big show, "China Design Now." Seniors and students will pay

\$14.

Portland Art Museum, 1219 S.W. Park Ave. Opens Oct. 24. www.pam.org. 503-226-2811

-- **D.K. Row**

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