



EWA JUSZKIEWICZ

26 May to 6 September 2026

Curator: Guillermo Solana

As part of the Blanca and Borja Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection exhibition programme, the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza presents a monographic exhibition devoted to Ewa Juskiewicz (Gdańsk, Poland, 1984), marking the artist's first solo museum presentation. Curated by Guillermo Solana in close collaboration with the artist, the exhibition brings together over twenty paintings spanning from 2013 to the present, with a particular emphasis on recent works, including a significant group of paintings created with this exhibition in mind.

For over a decade, Ewa Juskiewicz has reinterpreted the traditions of European portrait painting, exploring how distortion and transformation can challenge familiar visual conventions. Since 2011, she has developed a distinctive series of paintings inspired by female portraiture, particularly from the 18th and 19th centuries. In these works, her most recognisable artistic device is the obscuring of her subjects' faces with elaborate arrangements of fabric, hair, flowers, fruit or organic forms. Drawing on both the visual language of historical painting and the disruptive sensibility of Surrealism, Juskiewicz transforms traditional portraits into complex contemporary reimaginations. Through these interventions, she questions long-established ideals of feminine beauty, social expectations and the historical construction of women's representation.

Through a sophisticated technique and a visual language that echoes the aesthetic of her source material, Juskiewicz combines a classical painterly approach with subversive gestures. Deeply rooted in the traditions of historical painting, her works introduce a more vibrant and saturated palette alongside a distinctly contemporary painterly treatment.

Images, from left to right: Ewa Juskiewicz, *Girl in Blue (after Johannes Cornelisz. Verspronck)*, 2013. Jen Rubio and Stewart Butterfield Collection; *Gloriosa*, 2025. Private Collection; *Lady with a Mirror (after Élisabeth Vigée Le Brun)*, 2026. Blanca y Borja Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection. © Ewa Juskiewicz

More information: Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza. Press Office. Tel. +34 91 360 02 36 / +34 91 420 39 44
prensa@museothyssen.org

<https://www.museothyssen.org/en/private-area/press/dossiers/ewa-juskiewicz>



THYSSEN-
BORNEMISZA
MUSEO NACIONAL

By transforming historical portraiture, Juskiewicz expands and redefines the boundaries of the genre itself. Her works raise broader questions about what portraiture can represent today, challenging conventional understandings of identity, likeness and presence. Moving between the human and the non-human, her paintings open new possibilities for interpreting portraiture within both historical and contemporary contexts.

Within the traditions of 18th- and 19th-century European portraiture, not only clothing, pose and setting, but also the face itself often functioned as a carrier of social expectations and cultural norms. Many female portraits from this period, while visually captivating, were shaped by highly codified ideals of beauty that reflected broader structures of decorum and limitation. It is precisely this tension between beauty and constraint that lies at the core of Juskiewicz's practice. By obscuring the face, she shifts attention toward visual elements such as fabric, flowers and fruit, many of which draw on the visual language of still life and decorative traditions. In doing so, Juskiewicz highlights how female subjects were often aestheticized within historical portraiture, while giving these decorative elements renewed meaning. Through these interventions, the figures in her paintings elude fixed interpretations, opening each image to multiple readings.



Ewa Juskiewicz, *Untitled (after Élisabeth Vigée Le Brun)*, 2021. Glori Cohen Collection



Ewa Juskiewicz, *Silk and Musa Leaf*, 2025. Private Collection.

Ewa Juskiewicz's work has been exhibited at leading international museums, including the Brooklyn Museum in New York, the Centre Pompidou-Metz, the Musée d'Art Moderne in Paris, the Museo Picasso Málaga, and the National Museum of China in Beijing, among others. Her work is represented in major museum collections, including the Musée d'Art Moderne in Paris, the Brooklyn Museum in New York, the Albertina in Vienna, the Long Museum in Shanghai, and the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego.

EXHIBITION DETAILS

Title: *Ewa Juskiewicz*

Organiser: Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza. With the support of Almine Rech.

Venue and dates: Madrid, Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza, 26 May to 6 September 2026. Post-Pop galleries.

Curator: Guillermo Solana, artistic director of the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza.

Coordinator: Elena Rodríguez, Temporary Exhibitions Department, Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza.

Number of works: 24

VISITOR INFORMATION

Address: Paseo del Prado, 8. 28014, Madrid.

Opening times: Mastercard Mondays, 12 noon to 4 pm (free entry); Tuesdays to Sundays, 10 am to 7 pm.

Ticket prices: Combined ticket: Permanent Collection and temporary exhibitions. Standard ticket: €14; reduced-price ticket: €10 for senior citizens (65+), pensioners, and students (with valid ID); groups (7 or more): €12 per person; free entry: visitors aged under 18, officially unemployed visitors, visitors with disabilities, Large Families, active teaching staff, and holders of the Youth Card and European Youth Card. Advance tickets available at the ticket desks, from the museum's website, and on tel: (+34) 91 791 13 70.

More information: <https://www.museothyssen.org/en>

PRESS INFORMATION

<https://www.museothyssen.org/en/private-area/press/dossiers/ewa-juszkiewicz>