

Washington

**THE PHILLIPS COLLECTION | Man Ray,
African Art and the Modernist Lens.**
www.phillipscollection.org

If the influence of art nègre on the visual arts is well documented, the impact of photography on the comprehension of African art is rarely considered. Alfred Stieglitz was one of the first to exhibit art from Africa in his New York gallery in 1914 — it was a revelation for Man Ray and his contemporaries. After moving to France in 1921,



Man Ray was able to photograph African artifacts that French colonials were bringing back to Paris. The exhibition assembles more than 100 photographs by Man Ray, Cecil Beaton, Kertész, Walker Evans and Stieglitz, as well as 24 objects that they immortalized in their work. Paying no attention to the role of these objects in their African context, the artists used them for purely aesthetic reasons.

Through Jan. 10

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