

WEISMAN ART MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Erin Lauderman, 612.625.9685, elauderm@umn.edu

**Arthur P. Sloan Foundation Grant
Spreads Awareness of the Father of Neuroscience**



MINNEAPOLIS – The Weisman Art Museum at the University of Minnesota spreads awareness about Santiago Ramón y Cajal’s (1852-1934) work through a traveling exhibition of his original drawings and a book published by ABRAMS about the impact of his work on modern science. Support from Arthur P. Sloan Foundation’s Public Understanding of Science, Technology and

Economics program allows WAM, in partnership with The Cajal Institute and the four partner university museums, to build bridges between science and the humanities by distributing books free of charge to university libraries and students and teachers in local high-schools. The presence of these books in schools, made possible by the Arthur P. Sloan Foundation, creates a broader understanding of Cajal’s contributions to science in each of the five university communities.

The Weisman Art Museum presents the exhibition *The Beautiful Brain: The Drawings of Santiago Ramón y Cajal* (January 28, 2017 - May 21, 2017) with an accompanying book published by ABRAMS. The exhibition and book are the first to exhibit and contextualize neuroscientist Santiago Ramón y Cajal’s drawings of the brain and brain cells.

Cajal the father of modern neuroscience and a Nobel Laureate (1906), was an exceptional artist whose legacy of almost three thousand drawings is unprecedented in modern science. He devoted his life to the study of the micro-anatomy of the brain.

After the debut at WAM, the exhibition curated by Lyndel King, Director and Chief Curator of the University of Minnesota’s Weisman Art Museum and three neuroscientists from the University of Minnesota travels to university galleries and museums throughout the United States and Canada.

THE BEAUTIFUL BRAIN TOUR SCHEDULE

JANUARY 28 – MAY 21, 2017 | Weisman Art Museum, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis MN, USA

SEPTEMBER 5 – DECEMBER 3, 2017 | Morris and Helen Belkin Art Gallery,
University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

JANUARY 9 – MARCH 31, 2018 | Grey Art Gallery, New York University
New York City, New York, USA

MAY 2, 2018 – JANUARY 1, 2019 | MIT Museum, Massachusetts Institute of
Technology Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA

JANUARY 27 – APRIL 7, 2019 | Ackland Art Museum, University of North Carolina at
Chapel Hill Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA

SLOAN FOUNDATION

The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation is a philanthropic, not-for-profit grant making institution based in New York City. Established in 1934 by Alfred Pritchard Sloan Jr., then-President and Chief Executive Officer of the General Motors Corporation, the Foundation makes grants in support of original research and education in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and economics. <https://sloan.org>

THE BOOK

ABRAMS published the book *The Beautiful Brain* to accompany the exhibition. It contains full color reproductions of all eighty of the exhibition drawings, commentary on each of the drawings, and essays on Cajal's life and scientific contributions, his artistic roots and achievements, and contemporary neuroscience imaging techniques.

ABOUT WAM

Since its origin in 1934, the Weisman Art Museum has been a teaching museum for the University of Minnesota. Today, education remains central to the museum's mission to create art experiences that spark discovery, critical thinking, and transformation, linking the University and the community. The Weisman Art Museum is located at 333 East River Road, Minneapolis, on the University of Minnesota campus. Admission to exhibition galleries is always free.

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