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MUSEUM SHOWS 'MADAME X.'

Sargent's Portrait of a French Beauty Was Bought from Heard Fund.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art laced on exhibition yesterday the "Porrait of Madame X," by John Singer Sargent, which was shown at the Panama-Pacific Exposition and which was recently bought by the museum out of the Arthur Hoppock Heard Fund.

The portrait was painted in 1884, and is said to have been the picture of a noted French beauty. It was painted on commission, and she refused to accept it because, it was said, it looked so much like her. During the same year Mr. Sargent exhibited it in Paris, where it attracted wide comment and was many times reproduced. Although the artist received many offers for the painting he refused to sell it, and did not part with it until it was returned from the

California Exposition.

The picture is 821/2 inches high by 431/4 inches wide, and is that of a French woman with a remarkable profile. She is wearing a low-cut black gown, and stands with one hand resting on a small table, while in the other she holds a fan.

Although it is some of the artist's earliest work, it is regarded as one of the best examples of his style, and has

always been admired when exhibited.