

## Preserving the Stories of Women Artists on Wikipedia

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March 5, 2018

On Sunday, March 11, the Jewish Museum presents its first Wikipedia Edit-a-thon featuring artist talks with Jewish Museum collection artists Joan Semmel and Arlene Shechet.

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### Joan Semmel

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Joan Semmel, *Sunlight*, 1978. Oil on canvas. 60 × 96 in. (152.4 × 243.8 cm). Jewish Museum, New York. Purchase: Fine Arts Acquisition Fund. 2010–35

Joan Semmel's *Sunlight* (1978) is prominently featured in our Personas gallery, currently dedicated to an array of artist self-portraits. Monumental in scale, yet intimate in nature, this photorealist painting defiantly subverts the misogynist trope of the passive female nude. Semmel will talk about how she came to develop her now iconic, self-reflective style of painting naked bodies, her pioneering activism in the fight against censorship of sexually explicit work by women artists in the 1970s, and what excites her about the feminist art world today.