Exhibition: Bawdy Bodies: Satires of Unruly Women

July 24, 2015

24 September 2015 through 26 February 2016

Characterized by comically grotesque figures performing lewd and vulgar actions, bawdy humor provided a poignant vehicle to target a variety of political and social issues in eighteenth-century Britain. Bawdy Bodies: Satires of Unruly Women explores the deployment of this humorous but derisive strategy towards the regulation of female behavior. The exhibition presents satirical images of women from a range of subject categories, including the royal family, aging members of fashionable society, disparaged mothers, political activists, gamblers, medical wonders, artists, performers, and intellectuals.

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