



Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec
Parodie du *Bois sacré* de Pierre Puvis de Chavannes, 1884

” « Dating from Lautrec's student days, this parody of Pierre Puvis de Chavannes's *The Sacred Grove* mimics the style and subject of the latter's allegorical composition celebrating the Arts and Muses but makes important alterations. A clock-face appears on the ancient portico, a giant tube of paint is held aloft by one of the Arts, and a circular loaf of bread in the hands of a kneeling youth is a substitute for a crown of laurel. A group of men in modern dress advances from the right. They have been identified as Louis Anquetin, a fellow student ; Édouard Dujardin, Symbolist critic and founder of the *Revue Wagnérienne* ; Maurice Barrès, Symbolist author ; and Lautrec's first teacher, Léon Bonnat. Lautrec himself stands with his back to the viewer, urinating on the ground, while a police officer tries to keep the intruders in line. »

Catalogue du Art Museum, Princeton University, [consulté en 2021]