States the first-ever showing of these 2003 New York's Museum of Modern Art opened the Matisse Picasso exhibit Thursday, bringing to the United States the first-ever showing of these modern art giants. Henri Matisse and Pablo Picasso, two of the most influential artists of the 20th century, had a long and complex relationship that is explored in the Matisse Picasso exhibit. The exhibit, which opened at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City on Thursday, brings together works by the two artists in celebration of their 100th death anniversaries.

The exhibit, which opens to the public on Friday, is the first major New York show to focus on the two artists since the 1945 Matisse Picasso exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art. The Matisse Picasso exhibit, which ran from November 11 to December 27, 2002, attracted more than 1.3 million visitors.

The Matisse Picasso exhibit features more than 200 works by the two artists, including paintings, drawings, prints, and sculptures. The exhibit is divided into four sections, each focusing on a different aspect of the relationship between Matisse and Picasso.

The first section, "The Birth of Modern Art," explores the relationship between Matisse and Picasso in the early 20th century, when they were both part of the Parisian avant-garde movement. The second section, "The School of Paris," focuses on the artists' time in Paris and their role in shaping the modernist movement. The third section, "The End of Picasso," examines the work of Picasso in the 1950s and 1960s, when he was one of the most influential artists in the world. The fourth and final section, "The Return of Matisse," explores the work of Matisse in the years leading up to his death in 1954.

The exhibit is accompanied by a catalogue, which includes essays by leading experts on the subject. The catalogue is available at the Museum of Modern Art gift shop and online.

The Matisse Picasso exhibit is part of the Museum of Modern Art's ongoing commitment to celebrating the work of modernist artists. The museum has previously featured major exhibitions on artists such as Jackson Pollock, Willem de Kooning, and Robert Motherwell.

The Matisse Picasso exhibit is open to the public from February 11 to May 2, 2004. It is closed on Mondays and holidays. For more information, please visit the Museum of Modern Art website.