

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

WASHINGTON, D.C.

The following paintings from the Harris Whittemore Collection have been placed on loan for an indefinite period at the National Gallery:

The White Girl, by J. A. McNeill Whistler

The Sea, by J. A. McNeill Whistler

L'Andalusienne, by J. A. McNeill Whistler

Girl with a Cat, by Auguste Renoir

Nude in a Landscape, by Auguste Renoir

Rehearsal, by Edgar Degas

Three Ballet Girls Behind the Scenes, by Edgar Degas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Girl with a Cat, by Auguste Renoir (1841-1919).

Painted in 1881, or early in 1882, this is a vivid example of Renoir's brilliant color. The artist's young wife posed for the picture shortly after their marriage. A well-known version, without the cat, is in the Toledo Museum of Art.

This painting, with others from the Harris Whittemore Collection, is on loan for an indefinite period at the National Gallery of Art, Washington.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

WASHINGTON, D.C.

The White Girl, by James McNeill Whistler (1834-1903).

Finished in 1862, this is one of the most famous of Whistler's portraits and has been shown in many important exhibitions devoted either to Whistler or to American painting. The model who posed for the picture was "Jo" - Joanna Hefferman, an Irish woman of striking beauty and keen intelligence, who is portrayed in many of Whistler's early works. She also posed for Courbet. The painting was first exhibited in 1863 in a place of honor at the revolutionary Salon des Refusés along with Manet's Déjeuner sur l'Herbe and other early Impressionist paintings. Zola writes that the portrait was ridiculed by the crowd, but it was well received by many art critics, one of whom termed it a "Symphony in White". This phrase Whistler subsequently used as a title for a number of his compositions in which white predominates. "The White Girl" is the first important expression of Whistler's characteristic interest in tonal harmonies; and in the choice and handling of white as the dominant note, it is an extraordinary achievement.

This painting, with others from the Harris Whittemore Collection, is on loan for an indefinite period at the National Gallery of Art, Washington.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

WASHINGTON, D.C.

The Rehearsal, by Edgar Degas (1834-1917).

This canvas is one of the finest of a series of pictures painted by Degas about 1880 showing ballet dancers practising in the rehearsal room. It is unsurpassed among his works in its rendering of light and movement. It was once in the Manzi Collection, Paris.

This painting, with others from the Harris Whittemore Collection, is on loan for an indefinite period at the National Gallery of Art, Washington.