

NEWS RELEASE

National Gallery of Art
Washington, D. C.

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RELEASE: Immediately

WASHINGTON: April 29: The National Gallery's first exhibition of Rembrandt prints and drawings, a comprehensive survey of the work of the great Dutch master, will be opened at the Gallery on April 30, it was announced today by David E. Finley, Director. The exhibition will continue through June 25.

This exhibition illustrates the range and variety of Rembrandt's graphic art and is rich in fine examples of his work. It was assembled from various sources, including several of the most distinguished collections in this country. Many of the prints in the exhibition are from the Lessing J. Rosenwald Collection, recently given to the National Gallery of Art. Others have come as loans from various collections and include a number of fine impressions from the Collection of Mr. Gordon Nowell-Usticke of New York.

The exhibition is arranged by subject, and the chronology of Rembrandt's work has been followed, so that it is possible for the visitor to trace the artist's development. There are a number of the rare early portraits done in the artist's youth, and later themes taken from the Old and New Testaments, showing his pre-occupation with Biblical subjects. From the middle period, between the years 1641 and 1652, there are included nineteen landscape etchings, with examples of the famous "Three Trees", "Goldweilger's Field", and "Six's Bridge".

His later years are represented by a number of sensitive, revealing portraits, such as "Old Haaring", "Jan Lutma", "Asselyn" and the "Clement de Jonghe". From his last period the outstanding prints of the "Crucifixion", and the "Christ Presented to the People", are to be seen in superb impressions.

The central section of the exhibition is devoted to a display of twenty-seven original drawings by Rembrandt. This unusual representation was made possible by a loan by Dr. A. Hamilton Rice, of New York, and others from the Widener and Rosenwald Collections of the National Gallery of Art.

Outstanding among them is a brilliant pen sketch called the "Idyll of Theocritus", studies for the "Crucifixion", and a serene landscape entitled, "The Rest on the Flight into Egypt", all from the Rice Collection. The marvelous small studies of "Abraham Dismissing Hagar", and "Eliezer and Rebecca" are from the Widener group, and an impressionistic view of "Market Day at Diemerdeich", done in the artist's last years, is from the Rosenwald Collection.