

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

News Release

For immediate release

WASHINGTON, December 11, 1952 -- David E. Finley, Director of the National Gallery of Art, announces that the Exhibition of Japanese Painting and Sculpture sent to the United States by the Government of Japan will open at the National Gallery on January 25. Following the initial showing in Washington, which will be for one month, it will be exhibited in the following museums in this country: The Metropolitan Museum of Art, ^{New York} The Art Institute of Chicago, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and the Seattle Art Museum. Six Japanese art museum curators and technicians will accompany the exhibition during its tour. Two of these Japanese officials arrived yesterday in Washington. They are: Mr. Masao Ishizawa, Chief Curator, and Mr. Yasuo Kamon, Curator of Painting. They represent the Commission for Protection of Cultural Properties of the Government of Japan, Tokyo. They conferred yesterday with officers of the National Gallery on preparations for the exhibition.

The exhibition has been organized by the Government of Japan and the participating American museums as a gesture of good will between the two nations. It includes a total of 91 celebrated works of Japanese painting and sculpture, dating from the sixth century A. D. to the nineteenth century. The exhibition is especially rich in early Buddhist paintings as well as gilt-bronze, wood, and lacquer sculptures. There is also a magnificent group of screens, and a collection of illustrated books.

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