

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART
Washington 25, D. C.

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FOR RELEASE: Sunday,
November 6, 1955

AN EXHIBITION
OF A COLLECTION OF CONTEMPORARY GERMAN PRINTS
November 9th - December 11th
PRESENTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

WASHINGTON, November 5: David E. Finley, Director, announces the opening on November 9th, at the National Gallery of Art, of a special exhibition of contemporary German graphic art. The modern German prints included in the exhibition are a gift to the American people from the people of the Federal Republic of Germany. They were sent to Washington during the summer with an expression of gratitude by Theodore Heuss, President of the Federal Republic of Germany. He wrote that "the money for the purchase of these works of art was raised by millions of Germans, some of whom themselves have experienced the active help of unknown men and women of other nations, and all of whom are deeply aware of the great debt of gratitude which the German people owe to men and women all over the world."

In general the exhibition reflects the universal trend of modern graphic art. There is a wide diversity in technique and subject matter. Woodcuts, lithographs, etchings, linoleum blocks, and monotypes, printed both in color and in black and white, are included. The prints are well constructed in very large bold compositions. One striking feature of all the pictures is the high quality of craftsmanship that is shown throughout the collection. As in contemporary graphic work of most other countries, there is evident in the exhibition a fresh approach to old problems.

May 16, 1955

Memo to: Mr. Finley
Mr. Walker

The three large boxes containing prints by German artists arrived in the National Gallery of Art today. They were made as a gift from the German people to the American people. According to Theodore Heuss, Federal President, "Our gratitude is expressed through works of art which were created by contemporary German artists, many of whom are themselves living in distressed circumstances. The money for the purchase of these works of art was raised by millions of Germans, some of whom have themselves experienced the active help of unknown men and women of other nations, and all of whom are deeply aware of the great debt of gratitude which the German people owe to men and women all over the world."

The three portfolios contain 64 prints. There is a wide diversity of technique and subject matter. Woodcuts, lithographs, etchings, linoleum blocks and monotypes, printed both in color and black and white, are included. One striking thing in all these prints is the very high quality of craftsmanship. The prints are well designed in bold large compositions. As in the contemporary graphic work of most other countries, there is evident a freshness of approach which breaks away from older conventional traditions.

I would highly recommend that the National Gallery of Art accept this gift for the Print Department.

Elizabeth Mongan
Curator of Graphic Arts

EM:edb
cc:Mr. Richards

May 12, 1955

OK
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Memorandum to Mr. Feidler ✓
Mr. Walker
Mr. Rieth *JR*

Mr. Strauss ✓ E.M.
Mr. Strauss in the Office of German Affairs, Department of State, telephoned this morning that three large boxes of prints by German artists had arrived as a gift from the German people to the American people, paid for by popular collection of funds in Germany. The Department would like the National Gallery to call for the boxes and to accept them for our collection.

Will Mr. Rieth arrange to go with two assistants to the Office of Protocol, Room 2166, new State Department Building, Virginia Avenue and 21st Street, on Monday morning the 16th, between ten and eleven o'clock and bring the boxes to the National Gallery.

On Miss Mongan's next visit she should inspect them and make a report for the Acquisitions Committee as regards the desirability of accepting the prints for the collection here. They must be accepted by the Government but not necessarily for the collection of the National Gallery.

DEF

David E. Finley
Director

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

Washington 25, D. C.

May 16, 1955

The Federal Republic of Germany

64 Prints as follows:

B-21610	Hans Achenbach	Der grobe Vogel
B-21611	Rudolf Werner Ackermann	Geteiltes Brot
B-21612	Rudolf Werner Ackermann	Die Gabe
B-21613	Magda Felicitas Auer	Tannen
B-21614	Gerda Beck-Kleist	Dünen auf Sylt
B-21615	Gerth Biese	Frieden
B-21616	Gerth Biese	Hilfe
B-21617	Gertraud Doelter-Evers	Blumenstraub
B-21618	Gertraud Doelter-Evers	Madchen mit Gelzweig
B-21619	Gunther Bamschuh	St. Martin
B-21620	Gunther Bamschuh	Kotzutter
B-21621	Gottfried Diehl	Komposition
B-21622	Otto Dix	Zwei Kinder
B-21623	Otto Eglau	Freie Welt
B-21624	Otto Eglau	Festliche Zeichen
B-21625	Gerda Engelke	Kind
B-21626	Fath-Winter	Im Groben Raume
B-21627	Wolfgang Prager	Mechtild
B-21628	Willi Geiger	Vorboden der Freude
B-21629	Willem Griens	Winter 1946
B-21630	Willem Griens	Musikanten
B-21631	Erich Heckel	Excentric-Clown
B-21632	Gunther Heinsmann	St. Martin
B-21633	Wolf Hoffmann	Blumenvase
B-21634	Peter Kleinschmidt	Mich Durstet
B-21635	Hubert Klessen	Nachtliches Standchen
B-21636	Karl-Heinz Klienmann	Vegetation I
B-21637	Karl-Heinz Klienmann	Vegetation III
B-21638	Erich Kohout	Kirschblute
B-21639	Wolfgang Kreutter	Samariter
B-21640	Wolfgang Kreutter	Taube
B-21641	Rudolf Kugler	Dankaus Berlin
B-21642	Rudolf Kugler	Bluhend und Wachsend

RECEIPT No. 1528

Chief Curator.

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Washington 25, D. C.

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Dietmar Lemcke
 Gerhard Marcks
 Georg Meistermann
 Erhart Mitzlaff
 Hildegard Mossel
 Rolf Müller-Landau
 E. W. Nay
 Franz Neundlinger
 Heinz Nickel
 Walter Nikusch

Emil Nolde
 Ernst Oberhoff
 Willi Probst
 Rudolf Pudlich
 Rudolf Pudlich
 Erich Rhein
 Erich Rhein
 Dieter Hitzert
 Karl Rossing
 Karl Rossing
 Karin Schepers
 Grete Schodes
 Johanna Schütz-Wolff
 Hermann Sprauer
 Marg. v. Stockhausen-Lahusen
 Willi Titze
 Max Unold
 Rudolf Weipauer
 Konrad Westfahl
 Konrad Westfahl
 Paul Wunderlich

Berliner Stadtbild
 Pflinger und Vogelschwarm
 Feuertaube
 Auf Blau-Braunem Grund
 Deutsche Madonna
 Und Danke ihm
 Komposition
 Jugendfreude
 Birnen
 Portrat einer dankbaren
 Deutschen
 Nachbarn
 Frieden
 Samariter
 Spielendes Kind
 Stilleben
 Kleine Holländerin mit Puppe
 Hl. Martin
 Komposition
 Freundliche Gaben
 Früchte und Frieden
 Stilleben mit Kanne
 Landschaft aus Ostdeutschland
 Denk
 Hilfe in Not
 Freude
 Der Hl. Martin
 Kinderdank
 Dankspende
 Wiederkehr von Amor und Psyche
 Im Netz des Hephaistos
 Drachensteigen

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