

NEWS RELEASE

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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FOR RELEASE: Sunday Papers  
February 19, 1956

WASHINGTON, February 18: In connection with the celebration on March 17, 1956, of the Fifteenth Anniversary of the opening of the National Gallery of Art, David E. Finley, Director, has made public the following partial lists of gifts which the National Gallery has received since its Tenth Anniversary Celebration in 1951:

Paintings

Degas - Mme. Dietz-Monin - Gift of Mrs. Albert J. Beveridge  
Drouais - Marquis d'Ossun - Gift of Mrs. Albert J. Beveridge  
Corot - Gypsy Girl with Mandolin - Gift of Count Pecci-Blunt  
Corot - L'Etang de Ville d'Avray - Gift of Count Pecci-Blunt  
Homer - Right and Left - Gift of the Avalon Foundation  
through the generosity of Ailsa Mellon Bruce  
J. W. Audubon - John James Audubon - Gift of the Avalon  
Foundation through the generosity of Ailsa Mellon  
Bruce  
Trumbull - Portrait of Alexander Hamilton - Gift of the  
Avalon Foundation through the generosity of  
Ailsa Mellon Bruce  
Corot - The Italian Girl - Gift of the Avalon Foundation  
through the generosity of Ailsa Mellon Bruce  
Luks - The Miner - Gift of Chester Dale  
Weir - Moonlight - Gift of Chester Dale  
Blakelock - The Artist's Garden - Gift of Chester Dale  
Henri - New York Street in Winter - Gift of Chester Dale  
Steinlen - The Laundresses - Gift of Chester Dale  
Gauguin - The Bathers - Gift of Sam A. Lewisohn  
Renoir - Oarsmen at Chatou - Gift of Sam A. Lewisohn  
Sargent - Mrs. William C. Endicott - Gift of Louise Thoron  
Endicott  
Turner - The Rape of Proserpine - Gift of Mrs. Watson B.  
Dickerman

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Paintings (Continued)

School of Parmigianino - Allegorical Landscape - Gift of  
Duncan Phillips  
Hogarth - The Singing Party - Gift of Duncan Phillips  
Morisot - The Sisters - Gift of Mrs. Charles S. Carstairs  
Kensett - Newport Harbor, 1857 - Gift of Frederick Sturges, Jr.  
Eakins - The Biglen Brothers Racing - Gift of Mr. and Mrs.  
Cornelius V. Whitney  
Fuller - Portrait of a Lady - Gift of Mrs. Augustus V. Tack  
A group of American portraits by Lambdin, Courter, Benbridge,  
Earl, Eichholz, Morse, Pelham, and Gilbert Stuart -  
Gift of The A. W. Mellon Educational and Charitable  
Trust  
A group of 166 American primitive paintings - Gift of Edgar  
William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch  
Gilbert Stuart - Portrait of John Adams - Gift of Mrs.  
Robert Homans  
Gilbert Stuart - Portrait of Mrs. John Adams - Gift of Mrs.  
Robert Homans  
Renoir - The Vintagers - Gift of Margaret Seligman Lewisohn  
Goya, attributed to - The Bullfight - Gift of Arthur Sachs  
Raeburn - Jean Christie - Gift of Mrs. Charles D. Draper  
Stuart - George Washington - Gift of Mrs. Charles D. Draper  
Stuart - Ann Barry - Gift of Mrs. Charles D. Draper  
Stuart - Mary Barry - Gift of Mrs. Charles D. Draper  
Romney - Mr. Forbes - Gift of Pauline Sabin Davis  
Pater - The Terrace - Gift of Mr. and Mrs. William D. Vogel  
Rembrandt Peale - Thomas Sully - Gift of Leland Harrison  
Healy - John Cardinal McCloskey - Gift of Miss Elizabeth  
McCloskey Cleary

The National Gallery has received gifts of sculpture,  
including the following:

Florentine School - Portrait of an Old Man - Gift of the  
children of Mr. and Mrs. Otto H. Kahn  
A group of bronze sculpture by Daumier - Gift of Lessing J.  
Rosenwald  
Renoir - Coco - Gift of Margaret Seligman Lewisohn  
Benin - Rooster - Gift of Winston Guest

The Gallery has also received the gift of important and  
rare prints from Lessing J. Rosenwald, numbering 2,628, in  
the last five years; also prints from other donors, includ-  
ing 300 prints and drawings by Legros given by George Matthew  
Adams.

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There have been other gifts, such as the fund provided by the Old Dominion Foundation and the Avalon Foundation to establish the A. W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts given annually at the National Gallery of Art and subsequently published in book form. The Old Dominion Foundation has also made possible beneficial research into new materials and techniques in the fine arts, such as paints and varnish.

Several large bequests have also been received, notably one from Mr. William Nelson Cromwell, which has provided funds for loan exhibitions and concerts held in the National Gallery of Art.

In addition to the above gifts, the National Gallery has received since 1951 the gift of 112 paintings and 22 pieces of sculpture from Mr. Samuel H. Kress, Mr. Rush H. Kress, and the Samuel H. Kress Foundation. These gifts are described in a separate release issued on February 19th.

The gifts referred to above are in addition to those received at the time the National Gallery was first opened in 1941, and during the period 1941 to 1951. When the National Gallery was opened on March 17, 1941, the Collection consisted largely of paintings and sculpture by great masters from the thirteenth to the nineteenth century given by Mr. Andrew W. Mellon; also the large and important collection of Italian paintings and sculpture given by Mr. Samuel H. Kress; and a fine group of American paintings from the collection of

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Mr. Chester Dale. Subsequently, the Gallery received the gift of the Widener Collection with its Rembrandts, Vermeers, Bellinis, Van Dycks, etc. Mr. Chester Dale gave an important group of paintings by old masters, such as Rubens, El Greco, Boucher, etc. He also sent from his home in New York his superb collection of paintings by nineteenth century artists such as Manet, Cézanne, Renoir, van Gogh, etc.; and later sent to the National Gallery his famous collection of paintings by twentieth century artists of the School of Paris. The Gallery was given many rare prints and drawings by Mr. Lessing Rosenwald, who has continued to add to his collection. Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Harmon Booth gave a group of paintings by such well-known artists as Bellini, Boltraffio, Cranach, etc.; and the Gallery has also received many gifts from other donors.

The Collection of the National Gallery has more than doubled since 1941, when the Gallery owned 501 paintings and 41 pieces of sculpture, as compared today with 1108 paintings and 327 pieces of sculpture. In addition, there are over 650 paintings on loan. Today, the National Gallery of Art, in the scope and quality of its collections of paintings, sculpture, and the graphic arts, ranks with the greatest art galleries in the world.

Great effort has been made to provide the National Gallery with distinguished works by American artists. It now contains

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fine examples of the work of such artists as Copley, Stuart, West, Ralph Earl, Sully, Morse, Inness, Eakins, Homer, Ryder, Whistler, Sargent, Mary Cassatt, and Bellows. The Gallery has been given an outstanding group of Primitive American Paintings from the Collection of Colonel and Mrs. Edgar William Garbisch. Also, the United States Government has entrusted to the Gallery the Index of American Design, which comprises 22,000 drawings and water colors made under the auspices of the United States Government as a pictorial record of American source material in design and craftsmanship from early Colonial days to the close of the nineteenth century. These original designs are circulated in loan exhibitions to other museums and are available to artists, manufacturers, and others in the field of design and craftsmanship.

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NOTE:-Photographs of any works of art mentioned in this release, desired for reproduction, are available on request.