

*Mr. Cairns*

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NEWS RELEASE

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART  
Washington 25, D. C.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D. C. - September 20 - John Walker, Director of the National Gallery of Art announced today that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has graciously consented to come to the Gallery at 10 a.m. on October 18. She will view the collections, and also visit the exhibition of the Art of William Blake, which has been arranged at the National Gallery in her honor to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of William Blake. This exhibition will be open by invitation at 3 p.m. on October 18, and will be open to the public on October 19. The Gallery will be closed to the public during the visit of the Queen.

A news release regarding the Blake Exhibition will be sent to you shortly.

END

Mr. Cairns  
(to complete release file)

Information on the painting in front of which the Queen will be photographed in Gallery 4.

FRA ANGELICO, The Adoration of the Magi. Florentine School.  
Painted about 1445. Kress Collection.

One of the most important paintings left by the artist-monk Fra Angelico. Done with the assistance of his pupil Fra Filippo Lippi, who was also a monk. It was at one time in the collection of the Medici family in Florence. It was given to the Gallery by the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, the largest single contributor of works of art to the Gallery's collection.

Information on the painting in front of which the Queen will be photographed in Gallery 58.

JOHN CONSTABLE, Wivenhoe Park, Essex. British School. Painted in 1816. Widener Collection.

A scene of rural English landscape by England's greatest landscape painter. Wivenhoe Park was the country estate of one of Constable's earliest patrons, Major General Rebow. This painting is part of the great Widener Collection, one of the most distinguished private collections ever formed in this country.

Information on the painting in front of which the Queen will be photographed in Gallery 67.

GILBERT STUART, George Washington, Vaughan Portrait. American School. Painted in 1795. Mellon Collection.

One of the best of the many portraits Stuart made of the first president of the United States, and one of the two or three which were probably painted directly from life. Stuart himself made a number of replicas of this painting. It was part of the original gift to the Gallery from Andrew W. Mellon, who established the Gallery and provided the funds for its construction.

Information on the painting in front of which the Queen will be photographed in Gallery 70.

WILLIAM BLAKE, The Assumption of Our Lady. British School. Painted in 1806. Lent by Her Majesty the Queen, Elizabeth II, Windsor Castle.

A well-known water color by Blake, one of a series of Bible illustrations done between 1803-1806. Belonged to R. Fisher, formerly Keeper of Prints at the British Museum, who willed it to the Royal Collection. The pale blue and rose washes are particularly delicate. This is the first time the water color has been exhibited in America.

Information on the painting in front of which the Queen will be photographed in Gallery 88.

EDOUARD MANET, The Old Musician. French School. Painted in 1862. Chester Dale Collection.

One of Manet's most ambitious undertakings and one of the most important works by this master in the world. This picture is part of the Chester Dale Collection, which ranks among the greatest collections of French XIXth and XXth century paintings ever brought together.