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FOR RELEASE: Sunday Papers February 8, 1959

WASHINGTON, D. C. February 8, 1959: "MASTERPIECES OF IMPRESSIONIST AND POST-IMPRESSIONIST PAINTING," an important loan exhibition of French 19th century paintings from private collections, will be held at the National Gallery of Art from April 25 through May 24, 1959, John Walker, Director, announced today.

The exhibition celebrates the 50th anniversary of the founding of the American Federation of Arts, which will hold its annual convention in Washington at the time the exhibition opens. It also honors the meetings of the International Chamber of Commerce in Washington.

The exhibition will consist of 50 paintings by 17 different artists, including works by Monet, Renoir, Degas, Toulouse-Lautrec, Cézanne, Gauguin, and Van Gogh. A number of wellknown pictures will be included, but there will also be a number of paintings which are less familiar to the public.

The paintings will come from 32 private collections in the United States. It is the first time the National Gallery has assembled a loan exhibition of privately owned European art.

The exhibition will not be shown elsewhere after it closes at the National Gallery of Art.