

# NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

SIXTH STREET AT CONSTITUTION AVENUE NW WASHINGTON DC 20565 • REpublic 7-4215 extension 248

Washington, D. C. May 12, 1968. The Albright-Knox Art Gallery, a leading museum of contemporary art, has agreed to lend a major portion of its collection to the National Gallery of Art.

On Sunday (May 19) a selection of 167 paintings and prints from the avant-garde gallery in Buffalo, New York, will go on view for two months in Washington, D. C. The exhibition will include such landmarks of the past hundred years as The Spirit of the Dead Watching by Gauguin and 100 Cans (Campbell Soup cans) by pop artist Andy Warhol.

"There is general agreement that the Albright-Knox collection ranks with that of the Museum of Modern Art in New York City," said John Walker, Director of the National Gallery. "For this loan, we are deeply indebted to President Seymour H. Knox and to Director Gordon M. Smith who have worked to make Buffalo a pilgrimage site for all those interested in the painting and sculpture of our time."

The pictures will be on view in 11 exhibition rooms of the National Gallery every day and evening through July 21 from

10 a.m. to 9 p.m. weekdays and 12 noon to 10 p.m. on Sundays. There is never a charge for National Gallery exhibitions.

Among the well-known Impressionist and Post-Impressionist pictures in the collection are: Self Portrait by Degas; Little Blue Nude by Renoir; The Yellow Christ by Gauguin; Flowers of the Field by van Gogh; and Morning in Provence by Cézanne.

Paintings by Picasso include the famous La Toilette of the artist's early Rose Period and The Artist and His Model of 1964. Matisse is represented by La Musique and A Glimpse of Notre Dame in Late Afternoon.

Other easily recognizable cornerstones of modern art are: Elegy to the Spanish Republic XXXIV by Robert Motherwell; The Liver is the Cock's Comb by Arshile Gorky; Gotham News by Willem de Kooning; and Convergence by Jackson Pollock.

The Albright-Knox Art Gallery was the sixth museum established in the United States, and the first public institution of its size to focus attention on the work of living artists.

Director Walker notes: "In the 1920's artistic innovators in this country were met with something of the derision accorded the early Impressionists in Paris. That Buffalo should show sympathetic understanding of the modern movement in those years was due to A. Conger Goodyear, who established the museum's early position on avant-garde painting. Mr. Goodyear later helped found the Museum of Modern Art in New York City."

The collection in Buffalo has won world-wide recognition. In 1962, at opening ceremonies for a new museum building given

by Seymour H. Knox, the Albright-Knox collection was described by a leading critic as "a dazzling affirmation of western art during the last hundred years."

A fully illustrated catalogue with 21 color plates is available at \$4.00. There will be a series of free lectures at the National Gallery on subjects related to the exhibition, beginning with a talk in the auditorium by Gordon Smith on Sunday, May 12.

---

Catalogues, black-and-white photographs and color transparencies on loan for purposes of publication are available from William W. Morrison, Assistant to the Director, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C. 20565, Area Code 202, 737-4215, ext. 225.