

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

SIXTH STREET AT CONSTITUTION AVENUE NW WASHINGTON DC 20565 • 737-4215 extension 224

Washington, D. C. June 13, 1969. David W. Scott, the former Director of the National Collection of Fine Arts, will join the National Gallery of Art on July 1 as consultant for its new building, it was announced today.

Dr. Scott will supervise programming and coordination of planning for the east building which is being designed by I. M. Pei & Partners to house a Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, extension services, and additional exhibition facilities.

John Walker, Director of the National Gallery, said: "Dr. Scott's experience for this assignment is ideal. As Director of the National Collection of Fine Arts, he supervised the planning for the Collection's expansion into its new facility in the reconstructed Old Patent Office Building last year. Conversant with every aspect of museum function, he brings, in addition, the trained eye of an architectural historian."

The National Gallery's new building will be constructed at the junction of Pennsylvania Avenue and the Mall, on the

Capitol side of the present building. Funds for the project were donated by Mr. Paul Mellon and Mrs. Ailsa Mellon Bruce.

Dr. Scott was born in Fall River, Massachusetts in 1916. He received the A.B. degree from Harvard University, M.A. and M.F.A. degrees from the Claremont Graduate School, and the Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley. From 1958 to 1963 Dr. Scott was Chairman of the Art Faculty of Scripps College in Claremont, California. His principal areas of research before coming to Washington were in Latin American art and Medieval art and architecture.

He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, the Association of Art Museum Directors, and the College Art Association. An editor of The Art Quarterly, Dr. Scott also serves on the executive committee of the Art-in-the-Embassies Program, as an advisor to the National Endowment for the Arts and Humanities, and on the Advisory Board for Environmental Planning of the Bureau of Reclamation.

Military service during World War II took him to the European and Mediterranean theatres where he received a field commission and attained the rank of captain in the Air Force.

Dr. Scott is married and the father of two daughters.

For further information, contact William W. Morrison, Assistant to the Director, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C., Area code 202, 737-4215, ext. 225.

David Winfield Scott, Director of the National Collection of Fine Arts, was born in Fall River, Massachusetts, on July 10, 1916. He received his B.A. from Harvard (1938), his M.A. (1940) and M.F.A. (1951) from the Claremont Graduate School, and his Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley (1959). He was the recipient of Tiffany and Del Amo study grants and a Danforth Fellowship. At the Art Students League of New York he studied under John Sloan, Jean Charlot, and Alexander Abels (1937 and 1938-39).

His military service during the Second World War took him to the European and Mediterranean theaters, where he received a field commission and rose to the rank of captain in the Air Force.

Subsequent to the war, Dr. Scott served on the faculties of Scripps College and the Claremont Graduate School (1946-63), lecturing in art history and the humanities. He was Professor of Art and Chairman of the Art Faculty of Scripps College (1958-63), and Director of the Claremont College's Summer Art Institute (1961-62). In addition, he served as Chairman of Sophomore Humanities (required double course) and directed degree programs for the M.A. (art history), M.F.A. (practice of art) and M.A. in Art Education. A widely exhibited painter, Dr. Scott has also held positions in numerous art organizations, including that of President of the California Watercolor Society (1951-52). While in California, he acted as art advisor on several church building projects and was a member of the Architectural Review Board of the City of Claremont. He designed the 50' main reredos of the Claremont Community Church and coordinated all decorative projects for the church complex.

Dr. Scott's principal areas of research before coming to Washington were in Latin American and Medieval art. His doctoral dissertation was on the subject of the Miègeville Portal of the Basilica of St. Sernin of Toulouse. His publications include "Orozco's Prometheus," College Art Journal (1957); "Miguel Covarrubias," Encyclopedia Britannica (1958); "A Restoration of the West Portal Decoration of Saint-Sernin of Toulouse," Art Bulletin and numerous articles and catalogues on American art published in connection with his activities at the National Collection. His articles have appeared in the Claremont Quarterly, Country Beautiful, Art Gallery, Art Education, Curator, Americas, and Antiques, among other publications.

Joining the staff of the Smithsonian Institution in 1963, Dr. Scott became director of the National Collection of Fine Arts in July, 1964. In the spring of 1966 he arranged the exhibition "American Landscape: A Changing Frontier," and in the summer of 1967 the Stanton Macdonald-Wright Retrospective Exhibition. He supervised all aspects of planning and design leading to the opening of the Collection's new gallery building in May, 1968, at the same time greatly strengthening the collections and inaugurating a number of new programs.

Dr. Scott is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, the Association of Art Museums Directors, and the College Art Association. He is an editor of the Art Quarterly and serves on the Executive Committee of the Art-in-the-Embassies Program, the Fine Arts Subcommittee of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, as well as on advisory committees for the Bureau of Reclamation, the American Federation of Arts, the National Endowment on the Arts and Humanities and the Library of Congress.

Dr. Scott is married to Panama-born Tirsa Saavedra, a specialist in the teaching of foreign languages and author of several textbooks and audio-visual materials. He is the father of two daughters, Tirsa Margaret, 16, a junior at the National Cathedral School and Edith Elizabeth, 10, in the fifth grade at the Maret School.

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