

# NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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RAYMOND S. STITES RETIRES

FROM NATIONAL GALLERY

Washington, D. C. June 28, 1969. Raymond S. Stites, 70, Curator of Education at the National Gallery of Art from 1948 to 1965 and Assistant to the Director for educational services for the past four years, will retire July 1.

Dr. Stites is the author of the well known art history text The Arts and Man. An early leader in the development of new techniques for teaching, he was among the first to realize the potential of motion pictures in the instruction of art. During the past 35 years his films, essays, and articles have ranged through a wide variety of subjects, from early cave drawings to the work of Matisse.

Born in Passaic, New Jersey, Dr. Stites received the A.B. and M.A. degrees from Brown University, and the Ph.D. from Vienna University. Before joining Antioch College in 1930, where he served for 18 years as Professor of Art and Aesthetics and Chairman of the Art Department, he taught at the University of Iowa and the University of Colorado.

A life-long admirer of Leonardo da Vinci, he has endeavored to extend the knowledge of this artist through a series of

psychological studies of his art and writings. The book he is currently preparing for publication is The Sublimations of Leonardo da Vinci.

During World War I, Dr. Stites served with the 385th Infantry of the U.S. Army as a 2nd Lieutenant.

Retirement plans include completing the Leonardo book and conducting art classes and a studio at Wesley Theological Seminary here in Washington.

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