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WITTKOWER NAMED KRESS PROFESSOR

Washington, D. C. September 23, 1969. Professor Rudolf Wittkower, former Chairman of the Department of Art History and Archaeology at Columbia University, has been named Kress Professor in Residence for the 1969-70 academic year at the National Gallery of Art.

"The Kress professorship bestows upon a leading art scholar the precious gift of time," said J. Carter Brown, Director of the National Gallery. "It affords opportunity for reflection and independent study apart from the pressures and requirements of an academic career."

One of Professor Wittkower's books, Art and Architecture in Italy, 1600-1750, has been described as "a landmark in the study and knowledge of Italian Baroque art." Among his other publications are: Born under Saturn: The Character and Conduct of Artists; British Art and the Mediterranean; The Divine Michelangelo; and Gian Lorenzo Bernini.

"Professor Wittkower is expected to use his year in Washington to enlarge an already prodigious body of scholarly work," Mr. Brown said. "His is one of the truly impressive records of achievement in the field."

Since the establishment of the Kress professorship at the National Gallery in 1965, the post has been held by Jakob Rosenberg, Professor Emeritus at Harvard University; René Huyghe, former Chief Curator of the Louvre; and Egbert Haverkamp-Begemann, Professor of Art History at Yale University.

Professor Wittkower, who has been interested in Italian architecture from his early youth, began his career in Rome as a member of the Biblioteca Hertziana, the art history library. In 1932-33 he was a lecturer at Cologne University. He then joined the staff of the Warburg Institute, London, and later became a member of the faculty of the University of London. He assumed his post at Columbia University in 1956.