

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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

NATIONAL GALLERY ANNOUNCES STAFF APPOINTMENTS

FOR CONSTRUCTION AND VISUAL INFORMATION

WASHINGTON, D.C., September 4, 1970. Robert C. Engle has joined the National Gallery of Art as its Construction Manager. J. Carter Brown, Director of the Gallery, in announcing Mr. Engle's appointment, also named Chris Karras to the post of Visual Information Specialist.

Mr. Engle assumes responsibility for supervision of all remodeling and new construction, including the erection of the Gallery's new addition. He was formerly Engineering Assistant at the Smithsonian Institution, where he was involved in the renovation of the original Corcoran Gallery (the future Renwick Gallery), the Old Patent Office Building (the present home of the National Portrait Gallery and the National Collection of Fine Arts) and construction, through ground-breaking, of the Hirshhorn Gallery on the Mall.

Prior to this Mr. Engle served as chief of the office of program planning for the District of Columbia. He is a professional civil engineer with a bachelor of science degree from the Indiana Institute of Technology.

Mr. Karras will supervise work on Gallery modifications, especially the development and improvement of exhibition space and display installations. He has worked under contract as a Design

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Consultant at the Gallery for the past six months on such projects as the planning and design of exterior lighting and the renovation of the cafeteria exhibition corridor. He has also designed exhibition installations for the American Institute of Architects, the Smithsonian Institution Natural History Building, the National Collection of Fine Arts, and the Gallery of Modern Art (now the Corcoran Gallery's Dupont Circle center).

Mr. Karras, an artist in his own right, took his bachelor's and master's degrees in painting at the University of Illinois. He has taught art classes at the University of Colorado at Boulder, the Heights school in Washington, and privately.

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For further information contact Katherine Warwick, Assistant to the Director, or Alison Luchs, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. 20565. Area Code 202, 737-4215, ext. 224.