

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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

ADVANCE FACT SHEET: DURER IN AMERICA: HIS GRAPHIC WORK
April 25 - June 6, 1971
(release to follow)

Exhibition Title: Dürer in America: His Graphic Work

Dates: April 25 - June 6, 1971

Purpose: To commemorate in America the 500th anniversary of the artist's birth.

Contents: The largest Dürer graphic exhibition ever held in the United States, this exhibition will consist of 36 Dürer drawings from public and private American and Canadian collections, and a selection of 207 of the finest prints from public collections in the United States, chosen on the basis of quality from among tens of thousands of Dürer impressions in America. Ten books with woodcut illustrations and six bound volumes of prints will also be on exhibition.

This will be the first time that all of the Dürer drawings in America (with two exceptions) have been brought together. After exhibition at the National Gallery, three of the drawings (Young Woman in Netherlandish Dress from the National Gallery's Widener Collection, Adam and Eve from the Pierpont Morgan Library in New York, and Nude Woman with Herald's Wand from the E.B. Crocker Museum in Sacramento) will be sent on to Nuremburg, Germany, for that city's major exhibition, which is part of a year-long salute to the artist.

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Also among the drawings in the National Gallery exhibition are the Self-Portrait of 1493, one of Dürer's most important early drawings, and Kneeling Donor, which is a study for the Feast of the Rose Garlands altarpiece, commissioned by the German merchants in Venice and now in Prague.

Prints in the exhibition, chiefly engravings and woodcuts, include all but one of Dürer's six etchings and two of the three drypoints he made. Several series, such as The Apocalypse, The Large Passion, The Small Passion and The Engraved Passion, are included in full.

One of the drawings and 25 per cent of the prints come from the Rosenwald Collection of the National Gallery of Art. Seven of the books come from the Lessing J. Rosenwald Collection of the Library of Congress.

Scope:

The exhibition spans Dürer's entire career, and is organized to show his development as a graphic artist.

A technical section, developed by Richard Field of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, will contain 50 prints with texts and labels and will deal with problems of connoisseurship.

Publication:

The catalog Dürer in America: His Graphic Work, published by the National Gallery, will be a major publication on the artist and his work, with extensive treatments of all drawings in the exhibition, summaries of major points on the prints, and reference material. A hard cover edition will be distributed in this country and abroad by the Macmillan Company. The catalog will be available at the Gallery in both soft and hard cover editions.

All works in the exhibition will be illustrated in the catalog. In addition to 253 illustrations of exhibited works, there will be 35 supplementary illustrations of paintings and drawings relating to works on view. Four illustrations will be in color.

The catalog was edited by Charles Talbot, assistant professor at Yale University, who has also written the introduction. Entries were prepared by Mr. Talbot, Gaillard Ravenel, a curator at the National Gallery, and Jay Levenson, a graduate student at the Institute

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of Fine Arts of New York University. J. Carter Brown, Director of the National Gallery, has written the foreword.

Exhibition Staff:

Gaillard Ravenel, Curator, National Gallery of Art
 Charles Talbot, Assistant Professor, Yale University
 Jay Levenson, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University
 Richard Field, Assistant Curator of Prints, Philadelphia Museum of Art

Lenders:

This will be the first time that all the Dürer drawings in American collections, with two exceptions, have been brought together. Lenders of the drawings are:

Art Institute of Chicago
 Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute, Williamstown
 Cleveland Museum of Art
 E.B. Crocker Art Gallery, Sacramento
 Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, Cambridge
 Robert Lehman Foundation, New York
 Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
 Mrs. Alexander P. Morgan, New York
 Museum of Fine Arts, Boston
 National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa
 William Rockhill Nelson Gallery and Atkins Museum of Fine Arts, Kansas City
 Pierpont Morgan Library, New York
 Professor L.V. Randall, Montreal
 Rhode Island School of Design, Museum of Art, Providence
 Seattle Museum of Art
 National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

Prints for the exhibition are being lent from twenty-two public collections:

Achenbach Foundation for Graphic Arts, Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco
 Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College, Oberlin
 Art Institute of Chicago
 Baltimore Museum of Art
 Brooklyn Museum, New York
 Cincinnati Art Museum
 City Art Museum of St. Louis
 Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute, Williamstown

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Cooper-Hewitt Museum of Decorative Arts
and Design, Smithsonian Institution,
New York
Grunwald Graphic Arts Foundation, Uni-
versity of California, Los Angeles
Los Angeles County Museum of Art
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
Minneapolis Institute of Arts
National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa
William Rockhill Nelson Gallery and
Atkins Museum of Fine Arts, Kansas
City
New York Public Library, New York
Philadelphia Museum of Art
Princeton University, The Art Museum
Rhode Island School of Design, Museum
of Art, Providence
Vassar College Art Gallery, Poughkeepsie
Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven
National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

Lenders of Books are:

Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Pierpont Morgan Library, New York
New York Public Library, New York

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