

# NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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## NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART PUBLISHES MAJOR DURER CATALOG IN CONJUNCTION WITH ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION

WASHINGTON, D.C. April 17, 1971. A major catalog on the Renaissance master Albrecht Dürer (1471-1528) will be published by the National Gallery of Art in conjunction with the special exhibition, Dürer in America: His Graphic Work, on view from April 25 through June 6, 1971.

The exhibition, honoring the 500th anniversary of the German artist's birth, brings together for the first time all but two of the Dürer drawings known to be in American and Canadian collections, 207 prints from American public collections, and 10 books with wood-cut illustrations. The catalog will include extensive critical entries on all of the 36 drawings, detailed discussion of the prints, and additional reference material.

The catalog was edited by Charles Talbot, assistant professor at Yale University, who has 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 of Fine Arts of New York University. J. Carter Brown, Director of the National Gallery, has written the foreword.

In addition to illustrations of all 253 exhibited works, there are 35 supplementary illustrations of paintings, drawings and other

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material related to works on view. Four plates are in color.

Included with the catalog will be a special illustrated essay, "Dürer and America," by Wolfgang Stechow, 1971 Kress Professor in Residence at the National Gallery. Based on his lecture which will inaugurate the exhibition, the essay will deal with the collecting, scholarship and appreciation of Dürer's works in America in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The lecture will be delivered April 25 at 4:00 p.m. in the National Gallery auditorium.

The 362-page catalog will be available at the National Gallery in both soft and hard-cover editions. The hard-cover edition will be distributed in this country and abroad by the Macmillan Company of New York and London.

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



DURER IN AMERICA: HIS GRAPHIC WORK  
Exhibition Catalogue (Jacket copy)

Albrecht Dürer, the greatest artist of the German Renaissance, and with Goya and Rembrandt, one of the three greatest printmakers of all time, devoted the majority of his artistic career to the creation of prints which were as prized in their own day as they are now. Prepared in celebration of the 500th anniversary of the birth of Albrecht Dürer, this volume offers an extensive scholarly treatment of 36 drawings, 207 prints and ten illustrated books which span the artist's entire career.

Dürer is unique among the artists of the Renaissance in having signed and preserved vast numbers of his drawings. This book illustrates and discusses 36 of the 38 drawings known to be in North American collections. Among these are to be found some of the most important produced by the artist: The Self Portrait of 1493, The Nude Woman with the Herald's Wand, 1498, Adam and Eve, 1504, The Holy Family in a Trellis, 1512, The Trinity, 1515, Design for a Mural Decoration, 1521, and Susanna of Bavaria, 1525.

Eighty of Dürer's engravings and 127 of his woodcuts, representing all his major printed works, are discussed extensively. The prints were chosen from among the best impressions in American public collections. The artist's five great graphic series are reproduced in full. A brief section dealing with Dürer's book illustrations and treatises completes the volume.

The foreword is by J. Carter Brown, Director, National Gallery of Art. There is an essay on the collecting and scholarship of Dürer in America by Wolfgang Stechow. Catalog entries were written by Charles Talbot, Gaillard Ravenel, and Jay Levenson. Professor Talbot served as general editor for the catalog section, for which he has written the introduction.

4 color plates. 308 black and white illustrations. 382 pages.

Wolfgang Stechow is Professor Emeritus of Oberlin College and was Kress Professor in Residence at the National Gallery of Art for 1970-71. He is the author of numerous publications.

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Among them: Dutch Landscape Painting of the 17th Century and Northern Renaissance Art 1400 - 1600, Sources and Documents.

Charles Talbot, Assistant Professor, History of Art, Yale University, wrote his doctoral dissertation on Albrecht Altdorfer and has contributed to such publications as Drawings from the Clark Art Institute and Prints and Drawings of the Danube School.

Gaillard F. Ravenel, who organized and designed the exhibition commemorated by this volume is a Curator in the Graphic Arts Department of the National Gallery of Art.

Jay Levenson is working towards his doctorate at the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University. Mr. Levenson's special interest is the relationship of German and Italian art in the 16th century.