

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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

FOR RELEASE:

THURSDAY a.m.
January 27, 1972

RARE TIEPOLO ETCHINGS EXHIBITION HONORS NATIONAL GALLERY
FOUNDING BENEFACTOR LESSING J. ROSENWALD

WASHINGTON, D.C. December 13, 1971. A special exhibition of over 90 rare and exceptionally fine etchings by the great Venetian artist Giovanni Battista Tiepolo (1696-1770) and his son Giovanni Domenico (1727-1804) will go on view Thursday, January 27, 1972, at the National Gallery of Art.

Eighty-five of the prints have been temporarily removed from two 18th-century albums which belonged to A. M. Zanetti the Elder (1680-1767), a noted collector-connoisseur and friend of the Tiepolos. The albums were given to the National Gallery by Lessing J. Rosenwald, whose other gifts of graphic arts to the Gallery form the nucleus of its distinguished holdings in this field. The exhibition is in honor of Mr. Rosenwald's 81st birthday.

NOTE TO THE EDITOR: The exhibition and accompanying catalog are intended as a surprise for Mr. Rosenwald. Please respect the release date above, which coincides with the opening day of the exhibition. The exhibition will be on view through April 23.

The etchings by the Tiepolos from the Zanetti-Rosenwald albums are early impressions of superb quality as well as of unusual interest. These prints are Giambattista's Vari Capricci

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and Scherzi di Fantasia series, and Giandomenico's Via Crucis and Flight into Egypt series. A number of impressions of the Scherzi have ink corrections made by hand, which are considered to have been made by Giambattista himself. Giandomenico's Flight series includes rare proof impressions from eight plates.

Duplicate impressions of some etchings, from the Gallery's collections and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, will also be exhibited. In addition, Giambattista Tiepolo's only other universally accepted print, the Adoration of the Magi, will be shown together with two drawings associated with it, which have been lent by the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, and the Achenbach Foundation for Graphic Arts, California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco. The exhibition also includes two of Giandomenico's reproductive etchings after paintings by his father, a type of printmaking which formed a large part of his oeuvre.

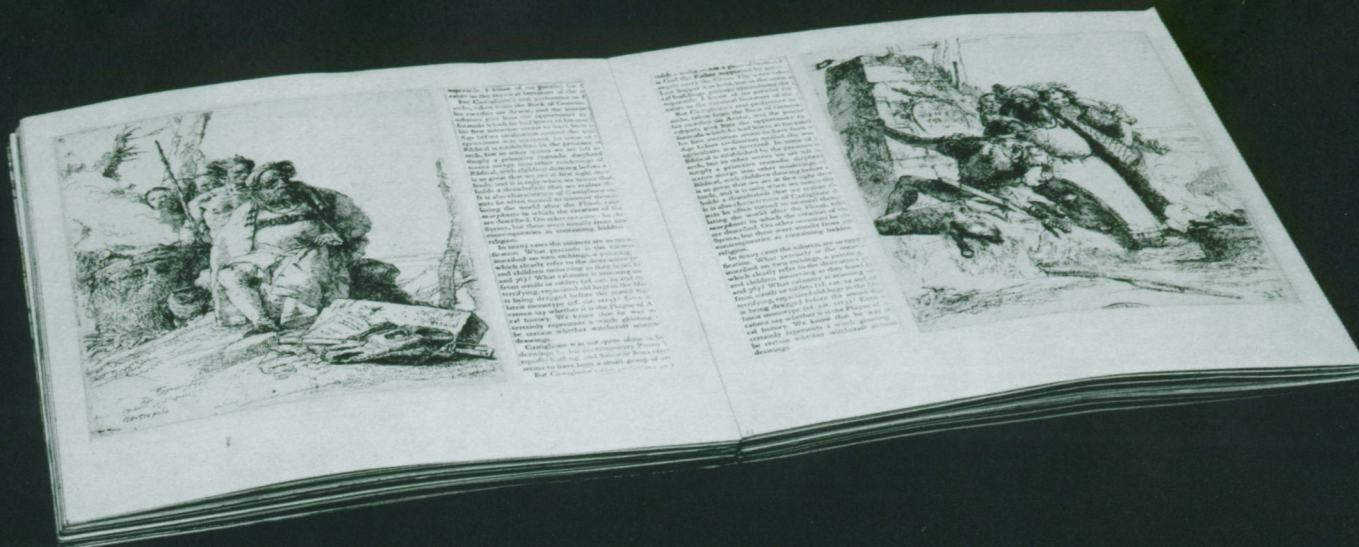
A 108-page catalog with scholarly text by H. Diane Russell, Assistant Curator of Graphic Arts, will contain 165 illustrations, reproducing all works in the exhibition as well as related material. The Capricci and Scherzi series and ten of the Flight into Egypt are reproduced in facsimile from the original prints.

The catalog and the exhibition installation are being designed by Gaillard F. Ravenel, Museum Curator. Accompanying the exhibition will be a supplemental group of 18th-century Venetian paintings and decorative arts from the Gallery's collections, as well as a display of prints by artists contemporary with the Tiepolos or used by them as sources.

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Scan of photocopy of photograph. Photograph is located in the Press Release files.



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WASHINGTON, D. C.

Rare Etchings by G.B. and G.D. Tiepolo by H. Diane
Russell, Assistant Curator of Graphic Arts. 165 il-
lustrations, 108 pp.

Published on the occasion of the exhibition of etchings
by G.B. Tiepolo and his son G.D. Tiepolo, held at the
National Gallery of Art January 25 through April 23, 1972.

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