

# NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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

EDITOR PLEASE NOTE

## CHANGE OF EXHIBITION OPENING AND TITLE

The National Gallery's next special exhibition, a major international loan show devoted to the indigenous arts of the Alaskan lands from prehistoric times to the end of the 19th century, will open to the public on Thursday, March 8, 1973 (not on March 3, as previously scheduled). It will run through May 15.

The exhibition also has been retitled The Far North: 2000 Years of American Eskimo and Indian Art. Included will be more than 350 works of art chosen from the four principal cultures of the Alaskan land mass: the Eskimos and Aleuts, principal representatives of the earlier periods, and the later art of the Tlingit-Haida and Athapascan Indians. Among the objects will be an extraordinary variety of masks and helmets, ceremonial headdresses with ermine cascades, gowns of puffin and cormorant skins, early ivory carvings, and boxes, baskets and bracelets in wood, willow and porcupine quills.

Loans to the exhibition are being made from the Soviet Union, Finland, Denmark, Holland, Germany, Switzerland, Scotland, and Ireland, in addition to collections in the United States and Canada.

A large, wooden ceremonial frog is being lent by an existing clan and for the first time will leave its traditional position at the water's edge on Sitka Sound.

After its premier at the National Gallery, the exhibition will be seen in Anchorage, Alaska, Portland, Oregon, and Fort Worth, Texas.

Further information, an advance fact sheet, color transparencies, and black and white glossies are now available from Katherine Warwick, Assistant to the Director, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. 20565, area code 202, 737-4215 ext 224.

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