

# NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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

MAJOR ITALIAN ENGRAVINGS CATALOG

PUBLISHED BY NATIONAL GALLERY

WASHINGTON, D.C. June 14, 1973. A major catalog on the National Gallery of Art's collection of fifteenth and early sixteenth century Italian prints has been published by the National Gallery. This catalog has been produced in conjunction with the Gallery's comprehensive exhibition, Prints of the Italian Renaissance, on view June 23 through October 7, 1973.

The new volume, Early Italian Engravings from the National Gallery of Art, is the third in a series on the Gallery's graphic arts holdings and the first to be devoted to Italian prints. Over 600 pages in length, it includes reproductions of and scholarly entries on all 191 engravings belonging to the Gallery, and 175 supplementary illustrations.

The catalog also contains detailed biographies of every engraver represented in the collection, and discusses problems of dating and stylistic development as they apply to the artist's entire oeuvre in essays which reflect the most extensive new research done in this field since the publication in 1948 of the second part of Arthur M. Hind's corpus, Early Italian Engraving.

New ideas are advanced about the attributions of early Florentine prints, and entirely new chronologies are proposed for the engravings of such artists as Andrea Mantegna, Jacopo de' Barbari, and Giulio Campagnola.

(more)

MAJOR ITALIAN ENGRAVINGS CATALOG PUBLISHED BY NATIONAL GALLERY

In addition, the general introduction to the catalog traces the entire development of printmaking in Italy in a systematic way, stressing the importance of the influence of the northern engravers, particularly Dürer and Schongauer.

Illustrated appendices include brief analyses of the niello prints and early sixteenth century woodcuts in the Gallery's collection, and full size reproductions of all watermarks.

J. Carter Brown, Director of the National Gallery, has contributed a foreword to the catalog, and Lessing J. Rosenwald, whose print collection forms the nucleus of the Gallery's graphic arts holdings, a preface. Mr. Rosenwald has also written an essay on the connoisseurship of niello prints.

The catalog was written by Konrad Oberhuber, Research Curator of the Gallery's Graphic Arts Department, Jay A. Levenson, a graduate student at New York University's Institute of Fine Arts and recent recipient of the Gallery's Finley Fellowship, and Jacquelyn L. Sheehan; Laurie Smith Fusco is responsible for the entry on Antonio Pollaiuolo. The catalog was designed by Roland A. Hoover and was printed by The Meriden Gravure Company.

END