

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NATIONAL GALLERY HOLDS FILM SHOWINGS
ON MODERN AMERICAN PAINTERS

WASHINGTON, D.C. October 19, 1973. Painters Painting, a documentary produced and directed by Emile de Antonio on contemporary New York painters 1940-70, will be shown at the National Gallery of Art during November in conjunction with the Gallery's special exhibition American Art at Mid-Century I.

The exhibition, on view through January 9, 1974, is the first in a series on modern painting and sculpture organized by the Gallery. Included are twenty-one large-scale canvases and monumental sculptures by such major moderns as painters Willem de Kooning, Sam Francis, Arshile Gorky, Hans Hofmann, Barnett Newman, Jackson Pollock, and Mark Rothko, and sculptors David Smith and Louise Nevelson.

Many of the artists in the exhibition are featured in Painters Painting, including de Kooning, Hofmann, Robert Motherwell, Newman and Pollock. Other artists in the film are Jasper Johns, Helen Frankenthaler, Kenneth Noland, Jules Olitski, Philip Pavia, Larry Poons, Robert Rauschenberg, Frank Stella

(more)

and Andy Warhol.

Commentary on the New York art scene after World War II enriches the film. Art critics Clement Greenberg, Hilton Kramer and Thomas Hess, museum curators William Rubin and Henry Geldzahler, art dealer Leo Castelli, collector Robert Scull and architect Philip Johnson add their views and experiences.

Billed as a highly personal account by de Antonio of the style that made New York the world's capital of contemporary art, Painters Painting is an uncritical intimate view of a subject he has been closely involved with. De Antonio has long been an advocate of contemporary painting and friend of the painters before their work was accepted by dealers and the public.

A New Yorker Films release, the film runs two hours and will be shown at the Gallery in two, hour-long programs alternating each week. The first part will be shown the first and third weeks of November on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. and Saturdays at 2:00 p.m. in the Gallery auditorium. The second part will be shown the second and fourth weeks at the same times. Due to the Christmas stamp ceremony which has been scheduled for Wednesday, November 7 at 11:00 a.m., that day's showing will be postponed until 1:00 p.m. There will be no admission charge.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION contact Katherine Warwick, Assistant to the Director, or Pam Jenkinson, Information Office, National Gallery of Art, 737-4215, ext. 224.