

# NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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

FOR RELEASE:  
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PRESS PREVIEW  
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## GALLERY SHOWS NEW CONTEMPORARY ART FILM SERIES

WASHINGTON, D. C. June 19, 1974. The New Masters, a film series on the life and work of leading contemporary artists which was shown by the British Broadcasting Corporation during the 1973-74 season, will be screened for the public at the National Gallery of Art during the summer.

Beginning Wednesday, July 3, one of the hour-long films, which cover Chagall, Gabo, Klee, Matisse, Picasso, Rouault, and the New York School will be shown each week for eight weeks at 1:00 and 6:30 Wednesdays and Fridays and at 6:00 and 7:30 Sundays.

Most of the films in the series have not been seen in this country before. The New York Masters was shown at the National Gallery in December, 1973, and the film on Picasso has been seen in some schools and public libraries. The films were made available to the Gallery through the courtesy of Time-Life Films.

The films, all in color, vary in their imaginative approaches to the life and work of each artist. Georges Rouault--Circus of the Shooting Star focuses on the circus themes that dominate the French painter's tragic vision.

In the film Naum Gabo, the Russian-born constructivist sculptor speaks as an eyewitness of the birth of modern art in Germany

(more)



and in Russia during the Revolution.

Picasso-in his Time is a film biography which combines footage of the artist at work with views of his paintings, sketches and sculpture to illuminate the different periods of his life.

Marc Chagall--Head over Heels was filmed in and around the artist's studio in St. Paul de Vence in the south of France.

Paul Klee--Heart of Creation uses Klee's 1924 talk on modern art as a focus for looking at the German painter's life, painting and music. Matisse and his Model analyzes the artist-model relationship through Matisse's paintings and writings.

The New Masters is the third major British-made film series on art to appear at the National Gallery. Civilisation, the epic 13-part series narrated by Kenneth Clark, had its first public showing in the United States at the National Gallery in November, 1969. Lord Clark's Pioneers of Modern Painting premiered at the National Gallery in May, 1972.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION contact Katherine Warwick, Assistant to the Director, or Pamela Jenkinson, Information Office, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C. 20565. area code 202, 737-4215 ext. 224.