

# NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VENETIAN DRAWINGS FROM AMERICAN COLLECTIONS

EXHIBITED AT NATIONAL GALLERY

WASHINGTON, D.C. August 30, 1974. A selection of 122 drawings by Venetian masters, including Titian, Tintoretto, Bellini, Canaletto, Carpaccio, Veronese, and Gian-Battista and Gian-Domenico Tiepolo, surveys the development of Venetian drawing in a loan exhibition opening at the National Gallery of Art September 29. The drawings, ranging from the fifteenth through the eighteenth century, will remain on view at the Gallery through November 24.

Coinciding with the opening two weeks of the Gallery's exhibition will be a Festival of Venetian Baroque and Renaissance Music September 30 through October 13 at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. The festival will include works by Rossini, and operas by Cimarosa, Monteverdi and Vivaldi.

The exhibition at the Gallery, Venetian Drawings from American Collections, reflects the increased interest of American collectors and the extraordinary growth of American collections over the past twenty-five years.

In his introduction to the catalogue accompanying the exhibition, Terisio Pignatti, Director of the City Museums of Venice

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and guest curator for the exhibition, describes Venetian drawing as "an autonomous expression, ...to be placed on a par with figurative poetry." In addition to Venetian scenes, the drawings include landscapes, religious and mythological subjects, portraits and figure studies. A fully-illustrated catalogue with entries by Mr. Pignatti accompanies the exhibition.

Sponsored by His Excellency, Egidio Ortona, the Italian Ambassador to the United States, the exhibition is being circulated under the auspices of the International Exhibitions Foundation and supported by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the David Lloyd Kreeger Foundation. After closing at the National Gallery, the drawings will be seen at the Kimbell Art Museum, Fort Worth, Texas, and The St. Louis Art Museum, Missouri.

Lectures on Venetian drawings will be given by Mr. Pignatti (Sunday, September 22 at 4:00 p.m.) and by Harold Joachim, Curator of Prints and Drawings at The Art Institute of Chicago (Sunday, September 29 at 4:00 p.m.). Tours of the Week during October will be devoted to the drawings as well as to Venetian painting in the Gallery's collection and the influence of Venetian culture on European art.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION or photographs 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.