

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The following was announced by the Department of State today:

Archeological Finds from the People's Republic of China

Washington, D.C. October 29, 1974. The exhibition of Chinese art and archeological artifacts from the People's Republic of China, seen in Europe and Canada during the past 18 months, will come to the United States and be on view at the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. from December 13, 1974 through March 30, 1975.

The exhibition also will be seen from April 20 through June 8, 1975 at the Nelson Gallery-Atkins Museum in Kansas City, Missouri. The objects will then be returned to Peking.

The some 380 ancient treasures include the now-famous flying horse of Kansu (first century A.D.) and the jade and gold shroud of Princess Tou Wan (late second century B.C.).

The travelling assemblage was selected from among the thousands of objects excavated in the People's Republic of China from 1949 to 1972. Included are bronzes, pottery, porcelains and textiles ranging from prehistory to the Yuan Dynasty ending in the late fourteenth century A.D.

The exhibition will be one of the largest international art loans to come to the United States. Packed in specially constructed cases fitted with shock-absorbing materials, the exhibition weighs 13 tons and will be brought to Washington from Canada. Curators

(more)

from the People's Republic of China will accompany the exhibition during its stay in the United States.

Arrangements with the People's Republic of China have been made in Peking by the United States Liaison Office in China. In the United States, preparations for the exhibition are being handled by the staffs of the National Gallery of Art and the Nelson Gallery-Atkins Museum with support from the staff of the Freer Gallery of Art and in coordination with the Liaison Office of the People's Republic of China in the United States and the Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

The visit of the exhibition to the U. S. is a further development of the cultural exchanges envisaged by the Shanghai Communiqué of February 1972. Preliminary agreement was worked out during Secretary Kissinger's Fall 1973 visit to the People's Republic of China.

A grant toward the expenses of the exhibition has been provided the National Gallery of Art by the International Business Machines Corporation. The Nelson Gallery-Atkins Museum has been given a grant by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

END