

# NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EUROPEAN MUSIC IN 1776 MARKS

OPENING OF GALLERY BICENTENNIAL FESTIVITIES

WASHINGTON, D.C. February 28, 1975. Author and music historian H.C. Robbins Landon, a specialist in 18th-century music, will give the 1975 Andrew W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts this spring as the first of the National Gallery of Art's Bicentennial festivities.

Mr. Landon's seven-part lectures series is entitled "Music in Europe in the Year 1776." The series will be given on seven consecutive Sundays at 7 p.m. from March 9 through April 20 in the National Gallery Auditorium.

Visuals and recorded musical examples will illustrate the lectures throughout. Among the musical selections will be compositions by J.C. Bach, Johann Schobert, Franz Beck, C.P.E. Bach, Padre Antonio Soler, G. Paisiello, Haydn and Mozart. The art will range from great Gainsborough portraits of J.C. Bach, Abel and Tenducci to Hungarian sources for unpublished and little-known portraits of Haydn and the Princess Eszterhazy.

Mr. Landon is an eminent authority on Joseph Haydn. In 1955 he published his monumental book, The Symphonies of Joseph Haydn, followed, some years later, by a complete edition of all the Haydn symphonies in score.

As a tribute to Mr. Landon, the National Gallery Orchestra, Richard Bales, Conductor, will play a Haydn program in H.C. Robbins Landon editions on Sunday evening March 9.

Mr. Landon has further demonstrated his scholarship in his reattribution of the Jena Symphony, formerly thought

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to be by Beethoven, to Friedrich Witt and in his discovery of the "lost" Mass in G by Haydn. Besides The Symphonies of Joseph Haydn, he has published The Collected Correspondence and London Notebooks of Joseph Haydn (1959), Essays on Eighteenth-Century Music (1969), Ludwig van Beethoven: A Documentary Study (1970), and is at present working on a four-volume biography of Haydn.

Mr. Landon, who now lives in Vienna, attended Swarthmore College and Boston University, where he earned a Bachelor of Music degree. In 1949, he founded the Haydn Society, which recorded and printed the music of Joseph Haydn. He became a Special Correspondent of The Times (London) in 1957 and contributed to that newspaper until 1961.

He served as Visiting Professor at Queen's College in New York City during 1969, and in that year received an Honorary Doctor of Music degree from Boston University. In 1970, he was Regents' Professor of Music at the University of California at Davis, and in 1971, he was an Honorary Professorial Fellow at University College, Cardiff. In 1974, Mr. Landon received an honorary degree of Doctor of Music from Queen's College, Belfast, Northern Ireland. This year Mr. Landon has returned to the University of California at Davis as Regents' Professor of Music.

The Andrew W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts began in 1952 and are supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Their purpose is to "bring to the people of the United States the best contemporary thought and scholarship bearing on the subject of the fine arts."

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