

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FREE PASS SYSTEM FOR DRESDEN EXHIBITION
TO BE ESTABLISHED ON NATIONAL GALLERY PLAZA
BEGINNING JUNE 1

WASHINGTON, D. C. May 2, 1978. To accommodate as many visitors as possible and minimize the length of time spent waiting in line, the National Gallery of Art will issue free passes for admission to The Splendor of Dresden: Five Centuries of Art Collecting, An Exhibition from the German Democratic Republic, an unprecedented international loan exhibition. There will be no admission without a pass.

Distribution will begin at 5:00 p.m. on June 1, the day the exhibition and the Gallery's East Building open to the public. No passes are needed for the other exhibitions in the East Building, to which visitors will be admitted on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Gallery's summer exhibition hours are weekdays and Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Sundays, noon to 9:00 p.m.

The passes, which will allow admission to the Dresden exhibition during designated half-hour intervals, will be distributed from two special tents on the west side of National Gallery Plaza (Fourth Street between Constitution Avenue and Madison Drive). No passes will be reserved by phone or distributed by mail.

Distribution of the passes will begin each day at 5:00 p.m. for that

(more)

evening and the following morning and afternoon. The tents will remain open, as long as passes are available, from 9:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and from noon to 8:00 p.m. on Sundays. This system will be in effect from 5:00 p.m. June 1 until the exhibition closes September 4.

Each visitor may pick up a maximum of two passes. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Passholders not already in the East Building will be asked to enter through the West Building and proceed to the Concourse level, where they will cross through the Café to the Dresden lobby in the East Building. After seeing the Dresden exhibition, passholders will be free to explore the East Building and visit the other exhibitions at their leisure.

Groups of twelve or more people may reserve time in the Dresden exhibition on Thursday and Friday evenings between 6:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. Appointments may be arranged by telephoning the National Gallery's Education Department (202-737-4215, extension 272) or by writing the office at 6th Street at Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20565.

The exhibition has been organized jointly by the National Gallery of Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco. It is made possible through a grant from the International Business Machines Corporation, with additional funding from the Robert Wood Johnson Jr. Charitable Trust, the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Other exhibitions on view in the East Building this summer are as follows:

Small French Paintings from the Bequest of Ailsa Mellon Bruce

Aspects of Twentieth-Century Art: I. Picasso and Cubism;
II. European Painting and Sculpture; III. Matisse--
Cutouts and "Jazz"

American Art at Mid-Century: The Subjects of the Artist

Piranesi: The Early Architectural Fantasies

Master Drawings and Watercolors from the Collection of the
National Gallery of Art and Promised Gifts

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