

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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NGA ANNOUNCES GREEK SHOW EXTENSION

WASHINGTON, D. C. September 26, 1979. The first exhibition of ancient Greek art ever to be sent to the United States from Greece, Cycladic Art: Ancient Sculpture and Ceramics of the Aegean from the N. P. Goulandris Collection, will be extended through January 1, 1980.

Ancient Moderns: Greek Island Art and Culture 3000-2000 B. C., a film on Cycladic art narrated by Rex Harrison, will be shown on WETA, Channel 26, the evening of October 11. Scenic footage of the Cyclades islands in the Aegean is included as well as an analysis of Cycladic art and its relation to our own time. The film is also being shown in the East Building Auditorium in conjunction with the exhibition.

The exhibition, which will not be seen elsewhere, is installed in a suite of galleries on the ground floor of the East Building.

The exhibition contains over 150 of the white marble figurines that have become more familiar to the public since the exhibition opened in May and a selection of ceramics dating from the same early Bronze Age period, 3500 - 1500 B. C.

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The objects have been lent by Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas P. Goulandris of Athens, who have the largest and most important collection of Cycladic art in private hands.

The small marble figurines (ranging in size from 1 inch to over 2¹/₄ inches tall) closely evoke certain aspects of contemporary sculpture and have therefore become the most appealing among Cycladic images. Several distinct masters--including the "Goulandris Master"--have left identifying characteristics on the Cycladic form. The marble, of exceptional quality and numerous varieties, was quarried on the Cyclades islands.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION or photographs contact Katherine Warwick, Assistant to the Director (Information Officer), or Pamela J. Driscoll, Information Office, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C. 20565, area code 202, 737-4215, ext. 511.