

# NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

FOURTH STREET AT CONSTITUTION AVENUE NW WASHINGTON DC 20565 • 737-4215 extension 511

## ADVANCE EXHIBITION SCHEDULE (In Chronological Order)

August 3 through December 31, 1980

American Indian Life: Paintings by George Catlin. Approximately 50 finished oil sketches by this well-known 19th-century painter of American Indian life will be on view, selected from over 350 Catlin works given to the National Gallery by Paul Mellon in 1965. The exhibition will include powerful Indian portraits as well as renderings of Indian life--ceremonial, hunting and other daily activities. One section of the exhibition will be devoted to the series of 26 paintings by Catlin depicting the voyages of the 17th-century French explorer Robert Cavelier de La Salle in North America, which have never been shown as a group at the Gallery before.

August 31 through December 31, 1980

The Morton G. Neumann Family Collection. A selection of approximately 140 paintings, drawings, watercolors and sculpture will be on view from this Chicago collection, considered one of the finest and most representative private collections of 20th-century art in the U. S. Among the cubist works will be paintings by Pablo Picasso, Juan Gris and Ferdinand Leger. The orphism, futurism and de Stijl movements in Europe will be represented in paintings and sculpture by Robert Delaunay, Giacomo Balla, Gino Severini, Raymond Duchamp-Villon and Piet Mondrian; dada and surrealism by Giorgio de Chirico, Jean Arp, Francis Picabia, Man Ray, Rene Magritte and Joseph Cornell. Sixteen paintings, drawings and sculpture by Joan Miró, 17 paintings and drawings by Paul Klee, 6 paintings and bronzes by Alberto Giacometti, 9 paintings by Jean Dubuffet and 2 Matisse works will also be on view. The American abstract movement will be seen in the work of Alexander Calder, Philip Guston, Mark Rothko, Kenneth Noland and Frank Stella. Pop art, superrealism and pattern painting will also be included with works by Robert Rauschenberg, Richard Estes and Robert Zakanitch.

November 2, 1980 through January 4, 1981

Gods, Saints and Heroes: Dutch Painting in the Age of Rembrandt. This exhibition focuses on what 17th-century Dutch society considered the most important painting subjects: scenes from classical history, mythology, religion, allegory, modern history and literary texts. The first of its kind, the exhibition will reflect the superior quality of Dutch history painting as well as the integral role the subject played in the broader pictorial tradition of Dutch society. Approximately 80 paintings have been selected from European and American collections. Among the artists on view will be Rembrandt, Jan Vermeer, Hendrick Terbruggen, Jan Steen, Hendrick Goltzius, Pieter Lastman, Abraham Bloemaert, Jan Lievens, Frans Post, Nicolaes Berchem, Jan de Bray, Gerard de Lairesse and

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Aert de Gelder. Organized by the Detroit Institute of Arts, the exhibition will be shown there after the National Gallery premiere and will then travel to the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam.

November 16, 1980 through April 15, 1981

The Search for Alexander. Perhaps no temporal leader in history has generated more fame, legend and historical speculation than Greece's Alexander the Great of Macedon. His conquests by the age of 33 embraced most of the then-known world from the Attic peninsula and Egypt eastward to the Indus Valley, spreading humanistic values of Greek culture in the Near East and Asia. Over 90 objects of 4th century B. C. Macedonian metalwork and sculpture have been selected for this major exhibition from Greek museums. Offered for the first time in the U. S. will be the opportunity to see some of the extraordinary gold, silver and gilded objects--a wreath of oak leaves, a diadem, a golden larnax, armor, among others, from the royal tomb at Vergina discovered in 1977 by Greek archaeologist Manolis Andronicos. This king's tomb is possibly that of Philip II of Macedon, father of Alexander. Other important pieces are small ivory portraits of Philip and Alexander, also from the Vergina site, and the large, richly sculpted bronze krater from nearby Derveni. After its premiere at the National Gallery, this exhibition will make a nationwide tour with showings at the Art Institute of Chicago, the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco. The National Gallery is coordinating the exhibition in this country. An audio-visual program, supplemented by original objects from European and American museums, will document the tremendous popularity of Alexander in art through the past two millenia.

December 14, 1980 through March 15, 1981

Picasso: The Saltimbanques. In celebration of the centenary year of Pablo Picasso's birth in 1881, the National Gallery is organizing this exhibition, focusing on the Gallery's large painting Family of Saltimbanques (1905), which, under the terms of the Chester Dale bequest, has been restricted from being lent to other Picasso shows being arranged. Paintings, prints and drawings by Picasso will be brought together on this persistent theme in the artist's oeuvre. It was a period in Picasso's life when, living in Montmartre, he frequented the Cirque Medrano and became fascinated with the vagabond lives of the performers. It was a theme which obsessed him, and the Gallery's painting was the artist's largest and most ambitious project in his career to date, emerging from his melancholy canvases to lighter and less tragic themes. The show will also trace, through works by Watteau, Daumier, Manet and Seurat, among others, the related traditions of the Harlequin, jester and Columbine, from their origins in the Commedia dell'Arte of the 17th century to the circus figures in Picasso's day.

January 25 through April 5, 1981

Hans Baldung Grien: Prints and Drawings. A selection of approximately 90 prints and drawings by this important 16th-century versatile German Renaissance artist, whose fascinating oeuvre is virtually unknown to the general public in the United States, will be on view. The full range of Baldung's corpus will be represented, including the finest possible impressions of his major prints and a rich sampling of drawings lent from European and American collections. Very few Baldung drawings are in American museum collections and his prints in U. S. collections are scattered. The exhibition and accompanying catalogue will intro-

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duce the artist to the American public as well as present thorough discussions of Baldung's stylistic development, his relationship to the work of Dürer and his contemporaries, his place in the context of Upper Rhineland art of the first half of the 16th century and his complex and esoteric iconography of witchcraft and animal savagery. Organized by the Yale University Art Gallery, it will be shown there after the National Gallery.

## CURRENT EXHIBITIONS

Through September 1

Post-Impressionism: Cross-Currents in European and American Painting, 1880-1906. This major international loan exhibition of 275 paintings places the four towering French post-impressionist masters in the context of their contemporaries in France and eight other countries in Europe as well as the United States. The four principals are Paul Cézanne, Paul Gauguin, Vincent van Gogh and Georges Seurat. More than 170 public and private lenders have contributed works to this exhibition. The exhibition was developed from one mounted by the Royal Academy of Arts in London last fall, which was revised by the Gallery into a strictly focused time-span, a new section of American paintings added to the core of the London show and supplemented further by many examples not previously included. The exhibition is presented in sections devoted to: (1) Impressionism in the 1880s; (2) Aspects of Salon Painting, The 1880s; (3) Great Masters of Post-Impressionism, 1880-1906; (4) Brittany, Tradition and Innovation; (5) Great Britian and Ireland; (6) The United States, 1880-1906; (7) Belgium and Holland, 1881-1897; (8) Aspects of Salon Painting, The 1890s; (9) Young Independents and Nabis, 1892-1905; (10) The Neo-Impressionists (pointillists), 1883-1896; (11) Divisionism in Italy, 1892-1905; (12) Germany, Norway and Switzerland, 1883-1902; and (13) The Heritage of Post-Impressionism.

Through September 1

Twentieth-Century Art from the Busch-Reisinger Museum. Seventy-two northern and central European 20th-century paintings, drawings, watercolors and sculpture from Harvard University's Busch-Reisinger Museum are on view. Founded in 1903, the Busch-Reisinger Museum has in its holdings a distinguished collection of German expressionist and Bauhaus works. These include German expressionist paintings and sculpture by Paul Klee, Lyonel Feininger, Wassily Kandinsky, George Grosz, Ernst Barlach, Emil Nolde, Max Beckmann, Erich Heckel and Karl Schmidt-Rottluff and works by Bauhaus artists such as Josef Albers, Laszlo Moholy-Nagy, Naum Gabo, Willi Baumeister and Oskar Schlemmer. The exhibition traces the dramatic events in the unfolding of northern European art in the first half of the 20th century, from Vienna symbolism and painterly German expressionism in the Brucke and Blaue Reiter movements to the geometric reasoning of the Bauhaus years.

END

July 9, 1980

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION 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.