OF ART NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

39TH SEASON OF SUNDAY EVENING CONCERTS AT NATIONAL GALLERY BEGINS SEPTEMBER 28

WASHINGTON, D. C. August 29, 1980. The 39th season of free Sunday evening concerts at the National Gallery begins September 28 at 7:00 p.m. with the National Gallery Orchestra, Richard Bales, Conductor.

This season marks the 38th year of the National Gallery concerts under Mr. Bales' direction. Mr. Bales made his debut as conductor at the Gallery on June 6, 1943, and has become known nationally for his innovative programming, his compositions, and arrangements.

Special highlights of the season include world premieres of works by Richard Bales, Thomas Beveridge, Johan Franco, Genevieve Fritter, Mary Howe, John La Montaine, John Powell (Edited by Roy Hamlin Johnson), Claudia Stevens, and Russell Woollen.

The concert season will be climaxed by the Gallery's 38th American Music Festival, an annual spring event begun in 1944 during Mr. Bales' first season. Celebrating American music of all periods, the Festival often introduces to the Washington area works by rising young composers as well as those who have already achieved eminence. This year's Festival, the 38th, will be held during April and May of 1981.

(more)

The Gallery concerts are sponsored by bequests from William Nelson Cromwell and F. Lammot Belin. Assistance toward the orchestral programs has been given by the Music Performance Trust Fund of the Recording Industry through a grant from Local 161-710 of the American Federation of Musicians.

The concerts, which will continue through June 1981, are given in the West Building's East Garden Court on Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Through the cooperation of Local 161-710 of the American Federation of Musicians, these programs are broadcast live in their entirety by Station WGMS AM and FM. Intermissions feature program notes by Mr. Bales and talks on works in the Gallery's collection and on special exhibitions by members of the Gallery staff, with occasional interviews.

Program listings for each month are given in the Gallery's Calendar of Events, which is available on request.

Details of the opening programs follow:

THE WILLIAM NELSON CROMWELL CONCERTS

National Gallery of Art Washington, D. C.

West Building East Garden Court

1593rd Concert

Sunday, September 28, 1980 7:00 o'clock

NATIONAL GALLERY ORCHESTRA Richard Bales, Conductor

Program

Joseph Haydn.....Symphony No.39 in G Minor (1732-1809)

Anton Bruckner......Symphony No.6 in A Major (1824-1896)

1594th Concert

Sunday, October 5, 1980 7:00 o'clock

NATIONAL GALLERY ORCHESTRA Richard Bales, Conductor

Soloists:
Jean and Kenneth Wentworth, Piano 4-Hands

Program

END