

# NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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FIRST COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY OF CUBIST PRINTS

OPENS AT NATIONAL GALLERY OCTOBER 18

WASHINGTON, D.C. October 14, 1981. The Cubist Print, the first major exhibition to offer a comprehensive survey of Cubist printmaking, opens in the East Building of the National Gallery of Art on October 18. The 140 works come from more than thirty public and private collections in France, England, Canada and the United States. Among them are all of the published Cubist prints by Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque, many of which have been lent from the collection of Dr. and Mrs. Abraham Melamed, and rare proof states of unique Picasso prints from the Musée Picasso, Paris.

After its premiere at the National Gallery, where it will remain on view through January 3, 1982, the exhibition will travel to the University Art Museum, University of California, Santa Barbara (February 17 - March 28, 1982) and The Toledo Museum of Art, Ohio (April 24 - June 13, 1982).

With prints and illustrated books by Picasso, Braque and other modern masters, the exhibition illustrates the experiments of these artists with traditional printmaking processes that brought French graphic arts into the mainstream of the new era from 1908 to the mid-1930s. In addition to works by Picasso and Braque, the exhibition includes etchings, aquatints, woodcuts, lithographs and renderings in drypoint and pochoir (stencil) by Jacques Villon, Louis Marcoussis, Jean-Emile Laboureur, Juan Gris, Fernand Léger and twenty-eight other artists of that period.

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The exhibition is arranged in eight sections, in galleries on the main-floor level of the East Building. The first four sections present the contributions of Picasso and Braque, Villon, Marcoussis and Laboureur. Subsequent sections are devoted to cityscapes and still lifes, favorite subjects of many Cubists, and the graphics of Alexander Archipenko, Henri Laurens and others known primarily for their sculpture. The concluding section of the exhibition is comprised of those works which illustrate the diverse stylistic directions of many graphic artists affected by the movement.

In addition to the National Gallery and the University Art Museum of the University of California, Santa Barbara, public institutions lending examples to the exhibition include The Museum of Modern Art and The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, The Art Institute of Chicago, the Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts at the University of California, Los Angeles, The Toledo Museum of Art, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Yale Univeristy Art Gallery, New Haven, and the Art Gallery of Ontario, Toronto.

The exhibition was organized for the University Art Museum by Burr Wallen, Assistant Professor of Art History at the Univeristy of California, Santa Barbara. A fully illustrated catalogue written by Professor Wallen and Donna Stein, a specialist in the art of this period, accompanies the exhibition.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION or photographs contact Katherine Warwick, Assistant to the Director (Information Officer) or Mary W. Dyer, Information Office, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. 20565, area code 202, 842-6353.