

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NATIONAL GALLERY MAKES SIX NEW CONSERVATION APPOINTMENTS

WASHINGTON, D. C. November 8, 1984. Six important new appointments in the Conservation Division of the National Gallery of Art were announced today by J. Carter Brown, Director of the National Gallery.

David Bull, who has been in private practice in painting conservation in Los Angeles and London for the past several years, will head the Painting Conservation Department. Prior to his private practice, Mr. Bull was in charge of painting conservation at the J. Paul Getty Museum in Malibu (1978-1980) and directed the Norton Simon Museum in Pasadena (1980-1981).

Mr. Bull was born and educated in England. He joined the conservation department of the National Gallery in London in 1960, which he left in 1964 to establish private practice. He is an elected Fellow of the International Institute of Conservation.

His responsibilities at the Gallery will include examination, technical study, and treatment of paintings. In conjunction with the Chief of Conservation, Ross Merrill, he will be instrumental in the expansion of programs for research in the conservation of paintings and the training of conservators.

Gary W. Carriveau, former senior research scientist at The Detroit Institute of Arts and adjunct professor at Wayne State University, Detroit, has been appointed Head of the Gallery's Scientific Department, a new position which has been added to the Conservation Division to ensure high quality analytical services and scientific research.

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Mr. Carriveau, who has B. S. and M. S. degrees in physics from San Diego State University and a PhD. in nuclear physics from the Australian National University in Canberra, has also been a senior research physicist at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, a visiting scientist at Brookhaven National Laboratory, and worked with the University of Pennsylvania's Applied Science Center for Archeology. He has published numerous articles and has lectured extensively.

Mervin J. Richard, Jr. joins the National Gallery staff as Conservator for Loans and Exhibitions, with responsibility for overseeing the care of art work in the exhibition programs of the Gallery.

Mr. Richard received two B. A. degrees from the University of Delaware, one in chemistry and the other in art history. He was awarded an M.A. from Oberlin College where he also received a Certificate from the Intermuseum Conservation Association Training Program in 1978. Formerly the paintings conservator at the Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, Delaware, and adjunct assistant professor of art conservation at the University of Delaware/Winterthur Conservation Training Program, he has specialized in the study of wooden materials, teaching and lecturing widely.

Barbara Berrie has been appointed Conservation Scientist reporting to the head of the Scientific Department within the Conservation Division. In her new assignment, Ms. Berrie will conduct analytical services in support of conservation treatments, perform technical research and assist in the supervision of conservation science interns.

Ms. Berrie was born in Scotland, graduating in 1977 with honors from the University of St. Andrews. In 1982 she received her doctorate from Georgetown University, Washington, D. C. She has published a number of scholarly works relating to her field.

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Michael R. Skalka has been appointed Assistant for Conservation Programs and is responsible for implementation of conservation activities including budget management, procurement of materials, articulation of special projects, and personnel administration. Mr. Skalka received two B. A. degrees, the first in psychology from Bloomfield College and a second in art history from Rutgers University where he graduated magna cum laude. His M. F. A. degree in museology is from Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York, where he gained valuable experience in the applications of computer technology in the museum field and in exhibition planning and development.

Scottish-born Stanley Robertson comes to the National Gallery from London as Frame Conservator. He assumes responsibility for the treatment of the antique frames in the collections as well as the treatment of gilded decorative arts. Trained in art history and studio arts at Darroch College, Edinburgh, Scotland, Mr. Robertson's conservation training consisted of a traditional apprenticeship concluding at Atelier d'Doreur, Paris. He was frame conservator and gilder at Upbrook Studios, London, working with Paul Levi, noted frame maker and historian.

In announcing the appointments, J. Carter Brown said, "an art museum's most serious charge is to give the best possible care to its collections. We are delighted to have now, thanks to the support of the Federal government and The Andrew Mellon Foundation, a team in place, under the leadership of our Head of Conservation, Ross Merrill, to carry out this responsibility at the highest international standard."

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