

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART
ANNOUNCES RAUSCHENBERG EXHIBITION
TO OPEN IN 1988

WASHINGTON, D. C. May 30, 1985. J. Carter Brown, Director of the National Gallery of Art, announced today the first loan in a series of major new works by the contemporary American artist, Robert Rauschenberg. Altar Peace will be on view in the Gallery's East Building until June 17, 1985.

The loan inaugurates a project between the Rauschenberg Overseas Culture Interchange (R.O.C.I.) and the National Gallery of Art where this world tour exhibition of Rauschenberg works will be shown in 1988-1989.

R.O.C.I. is an evolving exhibition beginning with some two hundred Rauschenberg works created during the last ten years. It celebrates the different cultural identities of twenty-two countries where new works created specially for this tour as well as his earlier work will be shown during the next four years. Altar Peace, produced as part of his R.O.C.I. series for Mexico, is a combined painting and sculpture, and is Rauschenberg's first work from this project to be seen at the National Gallery. The R.O.C.I. exhibition is currently on view at the Museo Rufino Tamayo in Mexico City.

Mr. Rauschenberg will be working with local painters, writers, and artisans in order to convey the regional and cultural characteristics of each of the twenty-two countries where he will be creating objects in a

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variety of media. These new works will then be incorporated in the R.O.C.I. exhibition for each participating country.

Mr. Rauschenberg's objective is to promote world peace and understanding through art. He has long supported the belief that man can communicate more honestly and openly through art. He said, "Art is educational, provocative and enlightening in all languages at once."

Other countries participating in the world tour include Chile, at the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Santiago; Venezuela, at the Museo de Arte Contemporaneo de Caracas; two locations in China---Beijing, at the National Art Gallery and Tibet; and Japan, at the Laforet Museum in Tokyo.

As the R.O.C.I. exhibition evolves and travels from country to country, representative works from each country will be shown at the National Gallery. Completion of the tour with the exhibition at the Gallery will bring to a conclusion one of the most ambitious and innovative projects ever undertaken by a modern artist.

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