

# NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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ROBERT RAUSCHENBERG WORK  
ON LOAN TO NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

WASHINGTON, D. C. October 25, 1985. J. Carter Brown, Director of the National Gallery of Art, announced that Urban-Interior Network, the third loan in a series of major new works by the contemporary American artist, Robert Rauschenberg, will go on view beginning today through November 15, 1985 in the National Gallery's East Building, Concourse Level.

Urban-Interior Network was created for the innovative project between the Rauschenberg Overseas Culture Interchange (R.O.C.I.) and the National Gallery of Art. R.O.C.I. is an evolving exhibition beginning with some two hundred Rauschenberg works created during the last ten years, and new works which celebrate the different cultural identities of twenty-two countries. These works will travel to each of the participating countries; one representative work from each country will be shown at the National Gallery, and after a world tour, there will be an exhibition at the National Gallery in 1988 or 1989.

Urban-Interior Network, reflects the culture of Venezuela and its people. The work is a large, highly-colored combination of paint, silkscreened photographic images, striped fabric, and three-dimensional objects. The artist has chosen photographs of Venezuela's industrial and oil economy set against its animal and tribal population. On the left of the painting a street market mirror is placed above a white chair back

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and seat with a single leg, creating a surrealist sculpture. This is balanced at the right by multiple images of neoclassical Venezuelan architecture. Rauschenberg executed Urban-Interior Network during an exhibition of the artist's work, which is currently on view at the Caracas Museum of Contemporary Art.

Altar Peace, the first work from the R.O.C.I. series produced for Mexico, was seen at the National Gallery in the spring of 1985. The second loan, Copperhead Grande, which captures the cultural heritage of Chile, was on view at the Gallery during the summer months. R.O.C.I. opens in Beijing, capital of the People's Republic of China, on November 11, 1985 and will continue through December 5, 1985. Exhibitions are planned later for Tibet and then Japan's Laforet Museum in Tokyo.

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

Rauschenberg has long supported the belief that man can communicate more honestly and openly through art. His objective for R.O.C.I. is to promote world peace and understanding through art.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION or photographs contact Neill Heath, Public Information Officer or Carolyn Amiot, Deputy Information Officer, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. 20565 (202) 842-6353.