

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

FOURTH STREET AT CONSTITUTION AVENUE NW WASHINGTON DC 20565 • 737-4215/842-6353

NOTE TO EDITORS: Current as of March 1987. Information listed below is subject to change. Please confirm dates and titles with the Information Office (202) 842-6353.

ADVANCE EXHIBITION SCHEDULE March - November 1987

CONTINUING EXHIBITIONS

AMERICAN FURNITURE FROM THE KAUFMAN COLLECTION
Oct. 12, 1986 - April 19, 1987
West Building, Ground Floor

More than 100 of the finest examples of American furniture from the colonial period to the mid-19th century have been chosen from the collection of Mr. and Mrs. George M. Kaufman. This exhibition marks the first time a single private collection of American furniture has been shown in a major institution. Outstanding examples of Queen Anne, Chippendale, Federal and Empire furniture are on view with a focus toward the major regional style centers of Boston, Newport and Philadelphia. The full-color exhibition catalogue features essays by Morrison Heckscher, senior curator, American decorative arts, The Metropolitan Museum of Art; Wendy Cooper, director, DeWitt Wallace Gallery, Colonial Williamsburg; and Gregory Weidman, furniture curator, Maryland Historical Society. The detailed catalogue entries have been written by Michael Flanigan.

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HENRI MATISSE: THE EARLY YEARS IN NICE 1916-1930

Nov. 2, 1986 - March 29, 1987

East Building, Mezzanine and Upper Level

This exhibition of more than 165 paintings focuses on a significant but little understood period in Henri Matisse's career, the years 1916 through 1930 he spent painting in Nice. Emphasis is placed on what distinguishes this period from Matisse's preceding work and the establishment of an expanded subject matter which characterized his work of this period. The exhibition has five major themes: still lifes, models posed in the Nice apartments, landscape views (especially the famous Mardi Gras fete des fleurs pictures), paintings of family activities and the large group of odalisques. It concludes just before the time of the Barnes Mural La danse (1933). The exhibition has been organized by Jack Cowart, curator of 20th-century art at the National Gallery, and by Dominique Fourcade of Paris, also a noted Matisse scholar, both of whom have contributed to the fully illustrated scholarly catalogue. This exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities and a grant from GTE Corporation. Henri Matisse: The Early Years in Nice 1916-1930 will be seen only in Washington, D.C.

THE AGE OF SULTAN SULEYMAN THE MAGNIFICENT

Jan. 25 - May 26, 1987

East Building, Upper Level

This exhibition presents the highest aesthetic and technical achievements of the Ottoman Empire during the rule of Sultan Suleyman I (1520-1566), renowned legislator, statesman, poet, and patron of the arts. This is the first major U.S. exhibition devoted exclusively to 16th-century Ottoman art and includes about 210 objects: illustrated manuscripts, drawings and paintings; imperial items made of silver, gold, jade, and rock crystal embellished with gems; kaftans, textiles, embroideries, and rugs; inlaid woodwork, ceramics and tiles. The Turkish national museums in Istanbul, including the famed Topkapi Palace, lent more than 130 objects; the remaining works come from American and European museums. Esin Atil (Center for Asian Art, Smithsonian Institution) is guest curator for the exhibition at the National Gallery. This exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities and a grant from Philip Morris Companies Inc. After leaving Washington this exhibition will travel to the Art Institute of Chicago (June 13 - Sept. 7, 1987) and The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York (Oct. 4 - Jan. 17, 1988).

NEW EXHIBITIONS

DONATELLO AT CLOSE RANGE: AN INITIAL VIEW OF THE RESTORATION IN THE OLD SACRISTY OF SAN LORENZO, FLORENCE

Apr. 3, 1987 - to be determined
West Building, Ground Floor

This photographic display documents the ongoing restoration projects being undertaken on Donatello's bronze and stucco relief sculptures in the Old Sacristy of the Church of San Lorenzo in Florence. Scenes from the life of Saint John the Evangelist, previously dulled by grime, may now be seen with renewed freshness. Full-scale color transparencies and comparative views of the work in progress enable viewers to see Donatello's renowned works at close range. This photographic exhibit is made possible by a grant from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation.

MASTER DRAWINGS FROM THE ARMAND HAMMER COLLECTION

Apr. 26 - to be determined
West Building, Ground Floor

One of the finest private collections of drawings in America will go on view in the graphics galleries in the West Building. Among the drawings in the exhibition are Tuft of Cowslips by Albrecht Durer, a sheet of studies by Leonardo da Vinci, Saint Jerome in the Desert Listening to the Angels by 18th century Italian artist Tiepolo, two works by Watteau, and drawings by 19th century French artists Camille Pissarro, Edgar Degas, Paul Cezanne and Georges Seurat. Also included is a sketchbook by Paul Gauguin, consisting of 62 pages, done in Denmark and Brittany between 1884 and 1888. Mary Cassatt, Pablo Picasso and Andrew Wyeth are also represented in the Hammer collection. A fully illustrated catalogue with an introduction by J. Carter Brown and a preface by Dr. Armand Hammer accompanies the exhibition. This exhibition will not travel from the National Gallery.

ITALIAN MASTER DRAWINGS FROM THE BRITISH ROYAL COLLECTION

May 10 - July 26, 1987

East Building, Ground Floor

This is the first survey exhibition of the greatest drawings in the British Royal Collection ever to travel from England. Ranging from the Renaissance through the Baroque periods, more than 60 drawings will be on view, including seven works by Leonardo, four by Michelangelo and three by Raphael. Other extraordinary early drawings by Giovanni Bellini and Domenico Ghirlandaio will be included, along with Mannerist drawings by Parmigianino and Tintoretto and Baroque works by Bernini and Guercino. The survey, which is intended to show the finest and most beautiful Italian drawings in the British Royal Collection, concludes with four drawings by Piazzetta and five by Canaletto. After leaving the National Gallery Italian Master Drawings from the British Royal Collection will travel to the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco (Aug. 8 - Oct. 25, 1987) and the Art Institute of Chicago (Nov. 10, 1987 - Jan. 26, 1988). The catalogue is written by Jane Roberts, curator of the Print Room at the Royal Library, Windsor. Andrew Robison, senior curator at the National Gallery, is the coordinating curator of the exhibition. This exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities. Pan American World Airways has been designated the official carrier of the exhibition.

AMERICAN DRAWINGS AND WATERCOLORS OF THE 20TH CENTURY:

SELECTIONS FROM THE WHITNEY MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART

May 21 - Sept. 7, 1987

West Building, Ground Floor

This group of graphic works from the Whitney Museum of American Art will trace American draftsmanship from the work of Maurice Prendergast in the early part of this century to the work of contemporary artist Jasper Johns. Examining major schools of American art such as regionalism, early abstraction and figurative modes from the traditional to the surreal, the exhibition will focus on the imaginative diversity and innovation of 20th-century drawings in the United States. Included will be important sheets by such artists as Milton Avery, Stuart Davis, Arshile Gorky, Philip Guston, Edward Hopper, Jackson Pollock, and Claes Oldenburg. The exhibition will be accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue written by Paul Cummings, adjunct curator of drawings at the Whitney Museum of American Art. Coordinating curator for the National Gallery of Art is Ruth Fine, curator in the department of prints and drawings. This exhibition is made possible by The Du Pont Company.

AMERICAN DRAWINGS AND WATERCOLORS OF THE 20TH CENTURY: ANDREW WYETH,
THE HELGA PICTURES

May 24 - Sept. 27, 1987

West Building, Ground Floor

This exhibition consists of selections from the "Helga Pictures," including pencil drawings, watercolors, dry brush watercolors, and supplemented by a few temperas. This group of more than 135 works, all depicting the same model, comprises a total of about 16 different series of interrelated poses. These extraordinary images were executed over a 15-year period, demonstrating Wyeth's own process of private concentration on a single subject. This exhibition marks the first time that a large suite of sequential drawings related to a single work of Andrew Wyeth's will be shown. The fully illustrated catalogue, chosen as the July Selection by the Book-of-the-Month Club, will include an essay by John Wilmerding, deputy director of the National Gallery. After leaving the National Gallery, Andrew Wyeth, the Helga Pictures will travel to the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (Oct. 28, 1987 - Jan. 3, 1988), the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (Jan. 31 - Apr. 10, 1988), the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (Apr. 28 - July 10, 1988), the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco (Aug. 13 - Oct. 16, 1988), and the Detroit Institute of Arts (Nov. 13, 1988 - Jan. 22, 1989). This exhibition is made possible by The Du Pont Company.

A CENTURY OF MODERN SCULPTURE: THE PATSY AND RAYMOND NASHER COLLECTION

June 28, 1987 - Jan. 3, 1988

East Building, Ground Floor and Mezzanine

A selected overview of modern sculpture, on loan from one of the finest collections of modern sculpture in private hands, this exhibition will feature concentrations of work by diverse modern masters of the figurative and constructivist traditions. Included will be examples of sculpture by Jean Arp, Constantin Brancusi, Alexander Calder, Raymond Duchamp-Villon, Max Ernst, Alberto Giacometti, Barbara Hepworth, Henri Matisse, Joan Miro, Henry Moore, Pablo Picasso, Medardo Rosso and Auguste Rodin. In addition there will be a group of American objects, including works by Barnett Newman, Claes Oldenburg, Anthony Caro, Jonathan Borofsky and six sculptures by David Smith. An illustrated catalogue, with essays by Pulitzer Prize winning biographer Elizabeth Frank, Steven Nash, deputy director/chief curator of the Dallas Museum of Art, Nan Rosenthal, curator of 20th-century art, National Gallery of Art, and Professor Robert Rosenblum of the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, will accompany the exhibition. An expanded version of the exhibition will go on view at the Dallas Museum of Art in the spring of 1987. This exhibition is supported by Northern Telecom, Inc.

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WILLIAM MERRITT CHASE: SUMMERS AT SHINNECOCK 1891-1902

Sept. 6 - Nov. 29, 1987

West Building, Main Floor Galleries

Consisting of a select group of approximately 25 paintings and pastels, this exhibition will be the first to focus exclusively on the works executed by Chase at his summer home and studio at Shinnecock, Long Island. Between 1891 and 1902 Chase created some of the most beautiful paintings of his career. The exotic contents and cool interiors of his home and studio, the sun-filled landscapes of the surrounding grassy dunes, and the coming and goings of Chase's own family formed the subjects of the artist's summer work at Shinnecock. A Friendly Call (1895), one of the best-loved works in the National Gallery's collection of American paintings, will be featured along with A Fairy Tale (c. 1892), Reflection (c. 1893), In the Studio (c. 1892) and the great pastel, Shinnecock Hall (c. 1893). This exhibition is organized by Nicolai Cikovsky, Jr., curator of American art at the National Gallery of Art and D. Scott Atkinson, curator of the Terra Museum of American art. This exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities and is supported by Bell Atlantic Corporation.

BERTHE MORISOT

Sept. 6 - Nov. 29, 1987

West Building, Main Floor Galleries

The first American museum retrospective of this innovative and pioneering member of the impressionist group, Berthe Morisot includes many works that have not been seen by the public since the artist's death in 1895. The exhibition consists of about 60 oil paintings, as well as selected pastels, watercolors and color pencil drawings from both public and private collections. A vivid demonstration of Morisot's virtuoso brushwork and her extraordinary use of color, the exhibition chronicles the heroic years of the original impressionist movement. The exhibition will travel to the Kimbell Art Museum, Fort Worth, Texas (Dec. 14, 1987 - Feb. 22, 1988) and to the co-organizing institution, Mount Holyoke College Art Museum, South Hadley, Massachusetts (Mar. 14, 1988 - May 9, 1988). The exhibition catalogue, written by Charles Stuckey, curator of modern painting at the National Gallery of Art, provides the first in-depth biography of this pioneering woman artist. This exhibition is supported by Republic National Bank of New York.

JEWELS OF THE ANCIENTS: SELECTIONS FROM THE JILL SACKLER COLLECTION
OF ANCIENT NEAR EASTERN JEWELRY

Sept. - Nov., 1987 (exact dates to be determined)
West Building, Ground Floor

This exhibition will contain examples of earrings, necklaces, bracelets and rings made from Syria to Afghanistan from the mid-third millenium B.C. through the 6th century A.D. The objects, all intended for personal adornment, are made of gold and silver decorated with garnets, agates, carnelians, glass and enamels. Goldsmithing techniques from major cities such as Babylon and Susa, as well as regional workshops in Syria, Iran and the Caucasus will be examined. The Trans-Caucasus will be represented by the largest concentration of materials from that region in any collection outside the Soviet Union. The catalogue, written by Dr. Trudy Kawami of Columbia University, will include an illustrated introductory essay explaining the cultural and stylistic development of jewelry. Coordinating curator at the National Gallery is Dr. Alison Luchs, assistant curator of sculpture and decorative arts.

THE ART OF ROSSO FIORENTINO

Oct. 25, 1987 - Jan. 3, 1988
West Building, Central Gallery

Internationally known during his lifetime, Rosso Fiorentino is today regarded as one of the finest and most individualistic Italian artists of the 16th century. Rosso was active in Florence and Rome before being called to France in 1530 to become the prime painter to King Francis I. His sophisticated style had great impact in France, bringing the art of the Italian Renaissance to Fontainebleau. Thirty-four of his finest surviving drawings and more than 70 prints after his designs convey the beauty and power of Rosso's imagery. Also on exhibition will be objects of majolica and limoges that were executed from his designs, as well as two important tapestries. The scholarly catalogue accompanying the exhibition is written by Dr. Eugene Carroll of Vassar College, a leading authority on Rosso. This exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.



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GEORGIA O'KEEFFE

Nov. 1, 1987 - Feb. 21, 1988

East Building, Mezzanine and Upper Level

This centennial exhibition of Georgia O'Keeffe will celebrate the artistic achievement of this major American artist. Organized by Jack Cowart, curator of 20th-century art at the National Gallery of Art, and Juan Hamilton, the exhibition will consist of more than 100 rarely seen oil paintings, watercolors, pastels and drawings. This exhibition will focus on the most influential aspects of O'Keeffe's career: abstractions, flower paintings, figure studies, cityscapes, still lifes and landscapes. The catalogue, fully illustrated in color, will contain essays by the co-curators as well as a selection of previously unpublished letters by O'Keeffe to her many artist-friends, assembled by art historian Sarah Greenough. After leaving the National Gallery this exhibition will travel to The Art Institute of Chicago (Mar. 12 - June 26, 1988), the Dallas Museum of Art (July 31 - Oct. 16, 1988) and The Metropolitan Museum of Art (Nov. 9 - Jan. 29, 1989). This exhibition is made possible by a generous grant from the Southwestern Bell Foundation.

MADE IN AMERICA: SCULPTURE AND TEXTILES FROM THE SHELBURNE MUSEUM

Nov. 15, 1987 - April 3, 1988

East Building, Upper Level

Approximately 125 objects from the Shelburne Museum in Vermont will be the focus of this exhibition. The Shelburne Museum holds a large and diverse collection of works from America's artistic and cultural heritage, yet many of them have not been exhibited widely, remaining unknown to the general public. Among the pieces on exhibit will be quilts and coverlets, hooked rugs, weathervanes and whirligigs, decoys, carousel animals, trade signs and carved figures. This exhibition coincides with the Shelburne's 40th anniversary. Made in America: Sculpture and Textiles from the Shelburne Museum will travel to the Amon Carter Museum (May 7 - Sept. 4, 1988), the Denver Art Museum (Oct. 15 - Jan. 1 1989), the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (Feb. 5 - Apr. 30, 1989), the Wadsworth Atheneum (June 4 - Sept. 3, 1989) and the New York Historical Society (Fall 1989) after leaving the National Gallery. This exhibition is supported by American Express Company.

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