

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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

CONTACT: Randall Kremer
(202) 842-6353

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JOHN MARIN EXHIBITION SLATED FOR NATIONAL GALLERY Additional Works Promised to Gallery by Artist's Son

WASHINGTON, April 8, 1987 - The National Gallery of Art announced today a major exhibition focusing on the watercolors, paintings and etchings of the American artist, John Marin (1870-1953). The exhibition, scheduled for June 19 through Sept. 25, 1988, will consist of works which were donated to the National Gallery in October 1986 by the artist's son, John C. Marin, Jr.

It was also announced today that Mr. Marin has promised two additional works to the National Gallery, a c.1913 watercolor, Woolworth Building under Construction and a 1938 oil, Grey Sea. The Woolworth Building is a brilliantly detailed view of one of Marin's most admired subjects and is a significant addition to the group of New York scenes already in the National Gallery's collection. Grey Sea is a densely worked piece with areas of rich impasto that contrast with painted surfaces enhanced by scraping and gestural brushstrokes.

"The National Gallery today has a collection of John Marin works which is among the most significant in the world. We have John C. Marin, Jr. to thank for this," said J. Carter Brown, director of the National Gallery of Art. "Through his generosity, and through the efforts of Lawrence Fleischman, president of Kennedy Galleries, we are going to present what I believe will be a truly magnificent exhibition of the works of this uniquely American artist."

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A selection of eight watercolors from the Marin gift of last fall are now on view in the National Gallery's West Building, Ground Floor. It includes one of the artist's most abstract works, Abstraction (1917), as well as examples from his early sojourn in Europe, French Landscape (1909), and several works painted in Maine, among them Small Point, Maine (1931) and Deer Isle, Maine (1922). Grey Sea will be on view through April 26 in the American Paintings galleries, West Building, Ground Floor. This represents the first time any of the works from the Marin gifts will be on view as part of the National Gallery's permanent collection.

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