

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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FRANKLIN KELLY RETURNS TO NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

Washington, D.C., February 28, 1990 - Franklin Kelly, curator and American art historian, will return to the National Gallery of Art as research curator of American Art, it was announced today by J. Carter Brown, the Gallery's director. He is currently curator of collections at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington.

Mr. Kelly's new responsibilities will include research and writing of the systematic catalogue and curatorial duties related to the Gallery's permanent collection of American art. His appointment, effective April 2, has been made under the sponsorship of the Luce Foundation.

Mr. Kelley said this morning: "In recent years I have had a most productive and rewarding association with the National Gallery and I am delighted to be renewing that relationship. I am particularly looking forward to returning to serious research and writing in my field of specialization, American painting. At the same time, I have greatly valued my experiences working at the Corcoran and am pleased to have been part of such a venerable and important cultural institution."

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Mr. Kelly first joined the National Gallery in 1985 as assistant curator of American art. During his tenure he was involved in a number of exhibitions, including Paintings by Fitz Hugh Lane and Winslow Homer Watercolors. Since joining the Corcoran Gallery in 1988 he has returned to the National Gallery as co-organizer of American Paintings from the Manoogian Collection, and most recently as guest curator of Frederic Edwin Church, on view in the East Building until March 18th.

Before joining the National Gallery in 1985 Mr. Kelly was associate curator of paintings at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. He holds degrees in art history from the University of North Carolina (B.A.), Williams College (M.A.), and the University of Delaware (Ph.D. - Sypherd Prize for the outstanding dissertation in the humanities). From 1981 to 1983 Mr. Kelly was a Samuel H. Kress Fellow at the National Gallery's Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts.

Mr. Kelly is the author of the book, Frederic Edwin Church and the National Landscape, and numerous scholarly articles.
