

# NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

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

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CONTACT: Ruth Kaplan  
Deborah Ziska  
(202) 842-6353

## NATIONAL GALLERY RECEIVES GIFT OF STRAND

### PHOTOGRAPHS FROM SOUTHWESTERN BELL CORPORATION

Washington, D.C., June 27, 1990 -- The National Gallery of Art has received a fiftieth-anniversary gift of six important works of art by the American photographer Paul Strand from the Southwestern Bell Corporation. The remaining 55 photographs in the Corporation's Paul Strand Collection, which include many of Strand's most outstanding works, have been promised to the Gallery and will be given at a later date.

The entire collection of 61 photographs, which will form the core of the National Gallery's Paul Strand Collection, will be included in a centennial retrospective of Strand's work that will be shown at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, December 2, 1990 through February 3, 1991, as well as at venues in five U.S. cities and London. A grant from Southwestern Bell Foundation has made possible the exhibition and its international tour.

The six photographs in the initial gift span the artist's career, and include the earliest print of The White Fence (1916) known to exist; the unpublished satista print of Workman (1916); a striking portrait of Strand's first wife, Rebecca, New Mexico (1931); the dramatic Wild Iris (1928); Truckman's House (1920); and Toward the Sugar House, Vermont (1944).

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"This outstanding group of six photographs is a major addition to the National Gallery's photography collection. When they are joined by the other 55 photographs in the Southwestern Bell Corporation Paul Strand Collection, the National Gallery will have one of the most significant repositories of the artist's work," said J. Carter Brown, director, National Gallery of Art. "This marks the first time that a corporation has not only supported an exhibition but has also donated works in the exhibition to the National Gallery of Art."

"Our association with the National Gallery of Art has been a rewarding one," said Gerald D. Blatherwick, vice chairman, Southwestern Bell Corporation. "It's truly an honor for us to recognize the Gallery's fiftieth anniversary through this gift of Strand photographs. We feel privileged that, once the gift is completed, the collection will be housed in one of the most prestigious museums in the world."

After the exhibition of 150 Strand photographs closes at the Gallery, it will be presented at The Art Institute of Chicago, May 26 - July 21, 1991; The Saint Louis Art Museum, August 11 - October 6, 1991; The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, November 10, 1991 - January 12, 1992; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, March 12 - May 15, 1992; and The Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, M. H. de Young Memorial Museum, June 14 - August 16, 1992.

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Upon completion of the U.S. tour, the core of the exhibition, comprising the Southwestern Bell Corporation Paul Strand Collection and selected photographs from the Paul Strand Archive and public and private collections, will be presented at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, September 16 through November 22, 1992.

A special grant from Southwestern Bell Foundation has supported the exhibition catalogue, which will be published by the National Gallery of Art in association with Aperture Foundation, Inc.