

National Gallery of Art

Washington, D.C.

NEW GUIDES TO THE NATIONAL GALLERY PERMANENT COLLECTION

OFFER A VARIETY OF TOURS TO REINSTALLED GALLERIES

To enhance visitors' appreciation of the newly installed works of art at the National Gallery, the first in a series of new self-guided tours, laminated guides for individual galleries in English and five other languages, and audio tours have been produced. "Hand in hand with the reinstallation, we are working to see that new educational materials will make the permanent collection more accessible to visitors than ever before," said Linda Downs, head of the Gallery's education division. "We are particularly proud that the new gallery guides provide the most comprehensive information on the collection ever available in foreign languages."

SELF-GUIDED TOURS

The Age of Lorenzo de' Medici: A Walking Tour guides visitors through the Gallery's collection of art created in Renaissance Florence. Honoring the 500th anniversary of the death of this celebrated art patron, the twenty-six-page booklet tells a lively story of patronage, politics, and the arts in fifteenth-century Florence.

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Twenty-five paintings, bronzes, and sculpture displayed in six galleries are highlighted. Andrea del Verrocchio's terracotta bust of Lorenzo de' Medici, located in Gallery 9, "illustrates the image of the common citizen that Lorenzo promoted for himself," according to the text by Richard Stapleford, history of art professor, Hunter College at City University of New York. The guide also points viewers to Leonardo da Vinci's Ginevra de' Benci in Gallery 6, as "the culmination of the development of portraiture in this period." The publication is available in the West Building bookshop, at the rotunda Acoustiguide desk, and in the Renaissance galleries at a cost of \$2.00.

The second in the series of self-guided tours and the first for families, Portraits and Personalities, expected to be completed this summer, will provide a lively interactive text to be used with children ages eight to ten looking at some of the Gallery's most famous portraits. The family guide series/program is supported by a grant from the Vira I. Heinz Endowment.

GALLERY GUIDES

New laminated guides in English are now available in twenty-one galleries. The series of large-format (10 x 16 in.), illustrated guides provides historical background on works of art as well as brief descriptions.

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Laminated guides with text in French, German, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish are also now available in five galleries. Eventually all the guides will be translated. A map showing which galleries currently have guides is available upon request at the main floor art information desk. Public response to the new guides is being studied by a professional evaluator; the findings will be incorporated in future guides.

For those interested in copies of the texts, paper duplicates in all languages will be sold in the Gallery bookshops at a nominal cost within coming months. Laminated guides for most main floor galleries in the West Building are expected to be completed within two years; guides to East Building galleries will follow. The project is made possible by a grant from Knight Foundation.

The Director's Tour, a new audio guide to the reinstalled permanent collections, has recently been recorded by J. Carter Brown. Masterpieces selected for the tour range from the fifteenth through the nineteenth centuries. Three additional recorded tours of the permanent collection are expected to be available this summer: Impressionist and Post-Impressionist Paintings, American Paintings, and the recently reinstalled twentieth-century galleries. The taped tours may be rented in the rotunda on the main floor of the West Building. The Twentieth Century tour will be available on the concourse level of the East Building and on the upper level.

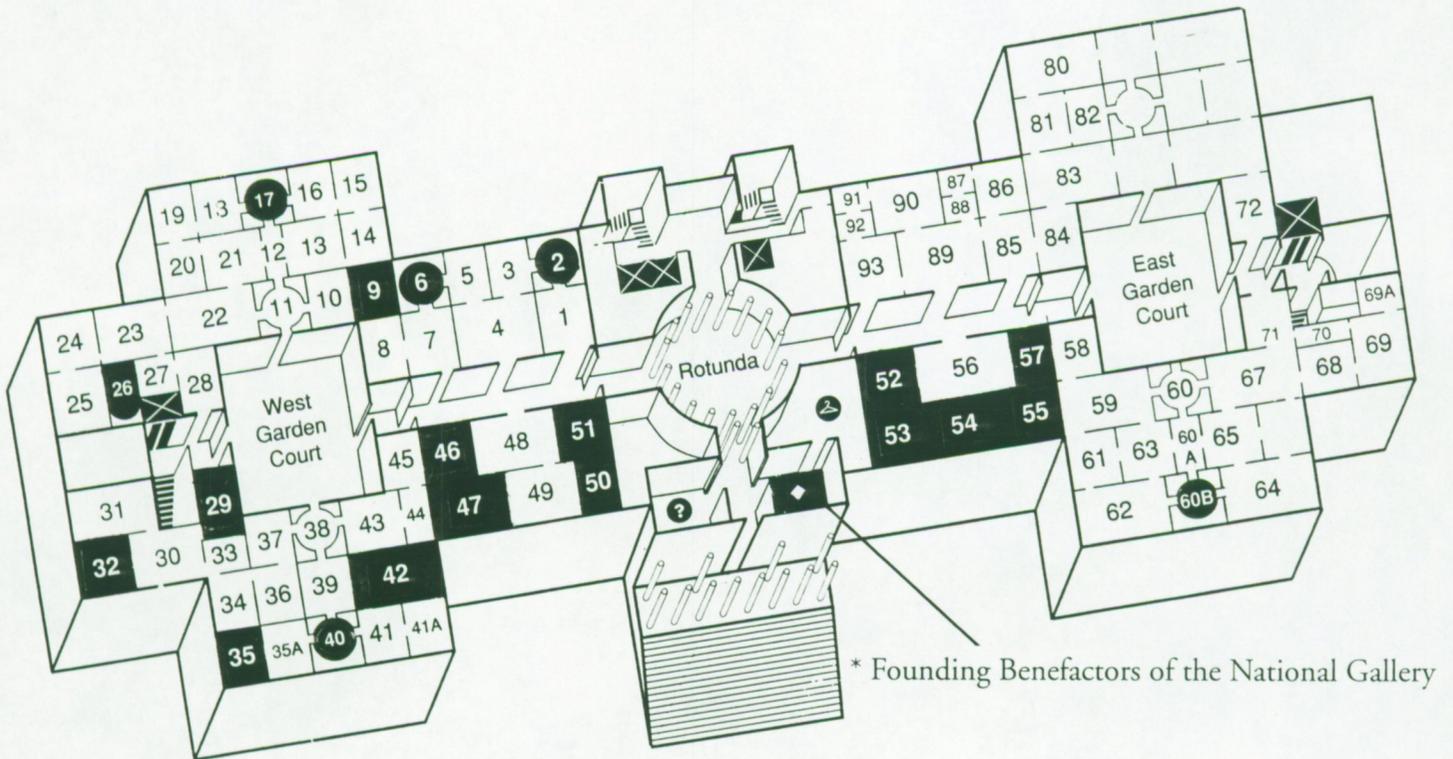
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Look for our New Gallery Guides

Large, laminated guides on the permanent collections are replacing the National Gallery's paper leaflet program. The new guides, which feature more information and illustrations, will be translated into French, German, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish.

New English language guides are now available in twenty-one galleries on the Main Floor of the West Building. Five guides are available in translation.

Galleries with guides are indicated in black on the map below:



Galleries

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|------|--|-------|------------------------|
| * 2 | Gothic Altarpieces & Church Sculpture | 46 | Frans Hals |
| 6 | Leonardo & Florentine Portraiture | 47 | Dutch Still Lifes |
| * 9 | Verrocchio & Florentine Sculpture | 50 | Dutch Landscapes |
| 17 | <i>The Feast of the Gods</i> by Bellini & Titian | 51 | Johannes Vermeer |
| * 26 | Frescoes on a Mythological Theme | 52 | Francisco de Goya- |
| 29 | El Greco | 53 | Chardin & Portraiture |
| 32 | Poussin & Claude Lorrain | 54 | Watteau & Early Rococo |
| 35 | Dürer, Grünewald & Holbein | 55 | Boucher & Fragonard |
| 40 | Spain under Ferdinand & Isabel | 57 | Constable & Turner |
| 42 | Sir Anthony van Dyck | * 60B | John Singleton Copley |

This project is made possible by a grant from Knight Foundation.

* Translations available June 1992