

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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

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NATIONAL GALLERY ANNOUNCES EXTENDED FRIDAY HOURS

AND OFFERS EVENING ACTIVITIES THIS SUMMER;

AN ARRAY OF SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS AND PROGRAMS AWAIT VISITORS

Washington, D.C. - The National Gallery of Art has extended its Friday evening hours to 8:00 p.m. through September 4, 1992. On those evenings visitors will be able to visit the newly reinstalled permanent collection and an array of temporary exhibitions, shop in the Gallery's bookstores, and take advantage of special programs, including film presentations, slide lectures, and tours. The Gallery's restaurants will also be open later on Friday (as listed below) to provide dinner service and light refreshments.

The Gallery is open from Monday through Thursday and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; and Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., through September 4. Admission to the Gallery and its programs is free of charge.

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SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

Art of the American Indian Frontier: The Collecting of Chandler and Pohrt is on view through January 24, 1993 in the East Building. The breathtaking beauty and dynamism of decorative, utilitarian, ceremonial, and spiritual objects created by Indian people of the Woodlands and Plains between 1790 and 1900 is revealed in this show. The objects were selected from the renowned collection assembled by Milford G. Chandler and Richard A. Pohrt. A 17-minute video on the formation of the collection accompanies the exhibition.

John Singer Sargent's El Jaleo, on view in the East Building through August 2, focuses on the American artist's dramatic, life-size painting of a magnificent gypsy dancer in performance. El Jaleo, recently restored to its full brilliance, is on loan for the first time from the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in Boston. It is accompanied by seven related paintings and forty works on paper.

Käthe Kollwitz, installed through August 16 in the East Building, contains more than one hundred works that present Kollwitz (1867-1945) as an artist of the highest achievement. Her moving depictions of injustice, poverty, and war in Germany became well-known in this country in the 1930s and the years following World War II.

Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, Paintings, Drawings and Prints, through August 16 in the East Building, complements the Käthe Kollwitz exhibition. The 41 works by this German expressionist master (1880-1938) present a concentrated survey of his intensely colored paintings, major drawings and pastels, and vanguard prints.

Dürer to Diebenkorn: Recent Acquisitions of Art on Paper is presented in the West Building through September 7. A selection of 114 recent gifts and purchases surveys the high points of art on paper from the Renaissance through the twentieth century. Artists represented include Carpaccio, Dürer, Holbein, Rembrandt, Castiglione, Gainsborough, Goya, Caspar David Friedrich, Winslow Homer, Matisse, Ansel Adams, Thiebaud, Christo, Diebenkorn, and Fischl.

Homage to Jacques Callot on view in the East Building through September 7, commemorates the 400th anniversary of the birth of this master French etcher and engraver. The exhibition features 82 of the artist's best-loved prints of theatrical performances, court festivals, and warfare.

REINSTALLATION OF THE PERMANENT COLLECTION

The National Gallery's permanent collections of Italian, Spanish, German, Flemish and Dutch, British, American, and French painting, and sculpture, which are housed on the main floor of

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the West Building, have been reinstalled. This two-year effort involved repainting of the galleries, many with special glazes; the addition of new lighting and architectural elements; revision of the object and gallery labels for clarity; and the addition of laminated information cards in English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish about works of art. The first in a series of self-guided tours, The Age of Lorenzo de' Medici: A Walking Tour, takes visitors through the Gallery's collection of art created in Renaissance Florence. The guidebook is available for \$2.00 in the West Building bookstore and the Italian Renaissance galleries.

EVENING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Among the Friday evening program offerings are a film series devoted to classic images of the theater, mime, and performance and a lecture series entitled "All Cities Great and Small." The films will be presented every Friday at 6:00 p.m. (and at 5:00 p.m. on June 19) during the month of June in the East Building auditorium in conjunction with the exhibition, Homage to Jacques Callot. Most of the films are available for purchase on videocassette in the Gallery bookstores.

In July and August, a series of lectures profiling major cities and their art will be presented on Fridays at 6:00 p.m. in the East Building auditorium. The cities include Boston, Edinburgh, Florence, London, St. Petersburg, Siena, and Venice.

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The same lecture will be delivered on the following Sunday at 4:00 p.m. The Gallery bookstores will offer a selection of maps, publications, and videos about the featured cities.

Introductory tours to the West Building collections will be given every Friday evening through August 31. Interested persons should meet in the West Building rotunda at 6:00 p.m.

RESTAURANT HOURS

The recently acquired Renaissance bronze sculpture Venus and Cupid was installed in the **Garden Café** fountain in May. The **Garden Café**, which is located near the Sixth Street entrance of the West Building, offers a Friday evening selection of cheeses, breads, hors d'oeuvres, and wines. It is open Monday through Thursday, and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; and Sunday, 12:00 noon to 6:30 p.m.

The **Terrace Café**, overlooking the East Building and Alexander Calder's monumental mobile Untitled (1976), will offer a Friday dinner menu, including two new specialities: cold poached salmon with Mediterranean summer salads and a chorizo and black bean dish. The **Terrace Café** hours are Monday through Thursday, and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Sunday 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. Beverages and dessert will be served until 7:30 p.m. on Friday.

In addition to its selection of espresso, cappucino, and light refreshments, the **Cascade Espresso Bar**, on the concourse

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level of the Gallery, will offer a summer menu featuring crab salad sandwiches, fresh lemonade with mint, Linzer tortes, and summer fruit tarts. The **Cascade Espresso Bar** is open Monday through Thursday, and Saturday, 12:00 noon to 4:45 p.m.; Friday, 12:00 noon to 7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, 12:00 noon to 5:45 p.m.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The National Gallery of Art is located between Third and Seventh Streets on the Mall in northwest Washington, D.C. The Gallery is accessible by the Judiciary Square and Archives Metro subway stops. For more information, please call (202) 737-4215 or TTY (202) 842-6176.