

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 SUMMER HOURS FOR

"GREAT FRENCH PAINTINGS FROM THE BARNES FOUNDATION:

IMPRESSIONIST, POST-IMPRESSIONIST, AND EARLY MODERN"

Washington, D.C. -- The National Gallery of Art has extended its weekend hours to 7:00 p.m. on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from May 2 through August 15, 1993, for the exhibition Great French Paintings from The Barnes Foundation: Impressionist, Post-Impressionist, and Early Modern in the East Building. On those evenings visitors will also be able to shop in the East Building's bookstore and dine in the **Terrace Café**.

The hours for the West Building and other exhibitions in the East Building remain Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Great French Paintings from The Barnes Foundation is open Monday through Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; and Sunday, 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., from May 2 through August 15.

Admission to the Gallery and its programs is free of charge.

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SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS

EAST BUILDING

Great French Paintings from The Barnes Foundation: Impressionist, Post-Impressionist, and Early Modern will be on view in the East Building May 2 through August 15. For the first time, eighty of the finest French impressionist, post-impressionist, and early modern paintings from the extraordinary collection assembled by Dr. Albert C. Barnes will be exhibited. The exhibition includes masterpieces from The Barnes Foundation's strong holdings of Cézanne, Matisse, and Renoir as well as paintings by Manet, Monet, Van Gogh, Gauguin, Rousseau, Seurat, Toulouse-Lautrec, Chaim Soutine, Roger de la Fresnaye, Braque, and Picasso.

This exhibition is supported by a grant from GTE Corporation. Admission to this exhibition requires a pass. Same-day and advance passes may be obtained free of charge in the East Building of the National Gallery. Passes may also be obtained at all Ticketmaster locations and Hecht Co. stores for a service charge of \$2.00 per pass, and through Ticketmaster PhoneCharge for a \$3.00 service fee per pass and a \$1.00 handling fee by calling one of the following numbers:

Washington, D.C.	(202) 432-SEAT
Baltimore, MD	(410) 481-SEAT
Nationwide toll-free	(800) 551-SEAT

For more information about the exhibition or passes, call (202) 842-6713 or the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (202) 842-6176.

Helen Frankenthaler: Prints, on view through September 6 in the East Building, is the Gallery's first show by the widely acclaimed contemporary American artist Helen Frankenthaler. It features more than seventy-five prints and related drawings from 1961, the year she first experimented with printmaking, through 1992, as well as Gateway IX, a bronze screen that is part painted, part sculpture, and part print. The Gallery's purchase of the screen was made possible by Perry R. and Nancy Lee Bass.

William M. Harnett is on view through June 13 in the East Building. The first comprehensive exhibition of still lifes by William M. Harnett since the artist's death in 1892 reintroduces the work of this leader of the American school of *trompe-l'oeil* (fool-the-eye) painting. Harnett's subjects, painted to mimic reality, include objects of everyday life such as books, musical instruments, currency, and bric-a-brac. Forty-nine of his most important paintings are presented, including the Gallery's new acquisition The Old Violin.

Drawings from the O'Neal Collection, installed through August 15 in the East Building, is an exhibition of fifty-eight old master and modern drawings celebrating the gift and promised gift to the National Gallery of the distinguished collection of William B. O'Neal, professor emeritus of architectural history at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. The collection consists of works spanning five centuries by artists such as John Ruskin, Sir Edward Coley Burne-Jones, Lord Frederic Leighton, and Simeon Solomon.

WEST BUILDING

The Great Age of British Watercolors 1750 - 1880, on display from May 9 through July 25 in the West Building, features more than 240 superb British watercolors chosen from major collections throughout Great Britain and America. The exhibition demonstrates the glorious and innovative achievements of British watercolorists between 1750 and 1880. On view are rarely seen masterworks by more than seventy-five artists, including Thomas Gainsborough, John Constable, John Sell Cotman, Thomas Girtin, William Blake, and others whose watercolors were of critical importance to the development of this popular medium. J. M. W. Turner, whose brilliant renderings of atmosphere and light pushed the medium to a new height, is represented by twenty-seven major watercolors.

Georges de La Tour's "Repentant Magdalene," in the West Building from April 25 to September 6, celebrates the four-hundredth anniversary of the birth of French artist Georges de La Tour. This focus exhibition features the National Gallery's newly restored Repentant Magdalene (c. 1640) and another version by La Tour from the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. These dramatic paintings of the repentant sinner are among the most important ideas explored by the artist in autograph versions.

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LECTURE SERIES

An eight-part lecture series about the major artists represented in Great French Paintings from The Barnes Foundation, including Monet, Manet, Matisse, Cézanne, and Picasso, will be on Fridays at 5:00 p.m. beginning June 25 through August 15. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis in the East Building Large Auditorium. The lectures will be repeated on Sundays at 4:00 p.m. For information on other education programs, call (202) 842-6690.

RESTAURANT HOURS

The **Terrace Café**, overlooking the East Building atrium and Alexander Calder's monumental mobile Untitled (1976), will be open Monday through Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; and Sunday 12:00 noon to 6:30 p.m. A full menu will be offered until 6:00 p.m. on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday with beverages and dessert available from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

GENERAL INFORMATION

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

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