

National Gallery of Art

NEWS RELEASE

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NATIONAL GALLERY RECEIVES MAJOR GRANT TO ESTABLISH

THE J. PAUL GETTY FUND

FOR THE FRANKLIN D. MURPHY COLLECTION

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Earl A. Powell III, director, National Gallery of Art, announced today that the Trustees of the J. Paul Getty Trust have given a grant of one million dollars to the National Gallery's New Century Fund for the establishment of the J. Paul Getty Fund for the Franklin D. Murphy Collection. The purpose of the new Getty Fund is to enable the Gallery to continue assembling its collection of source materials for the study of Western European art, particularly out-of-print and antiquarian literature.

Powell also announced the Gallery's first acquisitions made possible by the grant from the Getty Fund. One is a book of fine woodcut illustrations by Albrecht Dürer published in 1534 by Hieronymus Formschneyder in Nuremberg. It will become part of the rare book collection in the Gallery's library. The other acquisition is a lavishly illustrated book by Ottavio Boldoni commemorating the triumphal entrance of archbishop Cesare Monti into Milan in 1635.

"The establishment of the J. Paul Getty Fund for the

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Franklin D. Murphy Collection is a fitting memorial to Dr. Murphy, who was a leader in publishing, education, and the arts. This fund will assure that the Gallery's library collection continues to support art history scholars at the highest possible level," said National Gallery director Powell.

Franklin D. Murphy was chairman and chief executive of the Times Mirror Company in Los Angeles from 1968 to 1980 and served as chancellor of both UCLA and University of Kansas. He became a trustee of the National Gallery of Art in 1964 and was chairman of the board of trustees from 1985 to 1993. During that time he provided critical support for the library's acquisition of rare and antiquarian books. He also served as a trustee of the J. Paul Getty Trust from 1981 to 1991. He died on June 16, 1994.

"Franklin Murphy was renowned for the guidance and inspiration he offered to many, young and old. He was a valued and inspirational trustee of the Getty for ten years. He also had a passion for early art historical literature, particularly related to the Renaissance," said Harold M. Williams, president and chief executive officer, the J. Paul Getty Trust. "We know that he would have been pleased with the establishment of this fund."

The J. Paul Getty Trust is the only private operating foundation of its kind in the world combining so many aspects of the visual arts and humanities. The mission of the Getty is based on the premise that arts and humanities matter to every person and make a difference in their lives. Through the activities of six operating programs and a grant program, and

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through collaborative projects with institutions around the world, the Getty seeks to make a valuable contribution to the vitality of the visual arts in the areas of scholarship, conservation, and education.

The National Gallery's New Century Fund was established in 1994 to support three major Gallery program areas: the permanent collection, unrestricted endowment, and scholarly activities, including the Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, scientific research, and the library.

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