

# National Gallery of Art

## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### NATIONAL GALLERY TO EXTEND WEEKEND HOURS

#### FOR VISITORS TO VIEW THE EXTRAORDINARY ART OF JOHANNES VERMEER

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The National Gallery of Art will extend viewing hours for Johannes Vermeer, the first exhibition ever devoted solely to the extraordinary art of the seventeenth-century Dutch painter, to 7:00 p.m. on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, beginning November 24, 1995, through February 11, 1996. The West Building Garden Café will also remain open until 6:30 p.m. on the same evenings. The exhibition will close at 6:00 p.m. and the Café at 4:00 p.m. on December 24 and 31.

"Due to the overwhelming interest in this once-in-a-lifetime exhibition, we decided to expand the opportunity for more people to see these exquisite paintings," said Earl A. Powell III, director, National Gallery of Art. "We were extremely fortunate to be able to bring together from Europe and the United States a large number of the works that are allowed to travel. The exhibition includes 21 of 35 existing works by Vermeer."

During the extended hours, Johannes Vermeer will be accessible only by the West Building entrance at Sixth Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W. (after 5:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and after 6 p.m. on Sunday).

The Gallery is the only U.S. venue for the show, which will travel to the Royal Cabinet of Paintings Mauritshuis in the

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Fourth Street at Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20565

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Hague, March 1 through June 2, 1996. The exhibition is organized by the two museums.

The exhibition is made possible by United Technologies Corporation. It is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.

Passes are required for admission to Johannes Vermeer. During the extended evening hours same-day passes may be obtained in the West Building, East Sculpture Hall. At other times, same-day passes may be obtained at the West Building pass desk in the East Sculpture Hall and advance passes may be obtained at the East Building pass desk during public hours: Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Gallery is closed on December 25 and January 1. Advance passes may also be obtained at all TicketMaster locations and Hecht's stores for a service charge of \$2.00 per pass, and through TicketMaster PhoneCharge for a \$2.75 service fee per pass and a \$1.25 handling fee per order by calling one of the numbers listed below:

Washington, DC	(202) 432-SEAT
Baltimore, MD	(410) 481-SEAT
Northern Virginia	(703) 573-SEAT
Nationwide toll-free	(800) 551-SEAT (outside of areas listed above)

For more information about passes call (202) 842-6684 or the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (202) 842-6176. For visitor information call (202) 842-6690.

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