

# exhibitions



OPENING EXHIBITION

## Christoffer Wilhelm Eckersberg, 1783–1853

November 23, 2003–  
February 29, 2004  
East Building, Upper Level

As a prolific artist and noted professor, Christoffer Wilhelm Eckersberg inspired a generation of artists who collectively created the Golden Age of Danish painting. Coinciding with the 150th anniversary of the artist's death, this first monographic exhibition in the United States of Eckersberg's work features fifty-one luminous paintings representing all aspects of his multifaceted art, with emphasis on marine subjects, landscapes, and portraits that resonate with a modern audience.

The exhibition traces the artist's career from its neoclassical beginnings, through Eckersberg's formative periods of study in Paris and Rome, to his mature work in Denmark—where, after his appointment to the Royal Academy in 1816, he became the most influential teacher in the history of Danish art.

Christoffer Wilhelm Eckersberg,  
*Woman in Front of a Mirror*, 1841, The  
Hirschsprung Collection, Copenhagen

*The exhibition was organized by the National Gallery of Art, Washington, in collaboration with the Statens Museum for Kunst, Copenhagen, and the Royal Danish Embassy, Washington.*

*The exhibition is made possible by support from Lockheed Martin, Augustinus Foundation, Bikuben Foundation, Scandinavian Airlines System, Beckett Foundation, Group 4 Falck A/S and The Wackenbut Corporation, Novo Nordisk Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and The Danish Ministry of Culture. Generous support for the catalogue of the exhibition was provided by The Honorable Edward E. Elson and Mrs. Elson.*

*The exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.*

The softcover exhibition catalogue is available in the Gallery Shops (\$25). To order, see last page.

CONTINUING EXHIBITION

## The Age of Watteau, Chardin, and Fragonard: Masterpieces of French Genre Painting

October 12, 2003–January 11, 2004  
West Building, Main Floor

This exhibition showcases an outstanding selection of over one hundred eighteenth-century French genre paintings borrowed from private and public collections across North America, Europe, and Russia. Genre paintings are devoted to the depiction of aspects of contemporary life, variously viewed by the artists with humorous, erotic, moralizing, or didactic intent, and sometimes with a dispassionate eye.

The exhibition includes Jean-Antoine Watteau's amorous and nostalgic *fêtes galantes*; Jean-François de Troy's gallant *tableaux de modes*; François Boucher's lyrical pastorals; Jean-Baptiste-Siméon Chardin's sober domestic interiors; Jean-Baptiste Greuze's emotional family dramas; Jean-Honoré Fragonard's dangerous liaisons, indoors and out; and Louis-Léopold Boilly's polished Empire interiors and sharply observed Parisian street scenes. The exhibition reveals a constantly changing mirror of Parisian social life and culture throughout the eighteenth century.

*The exhibition was organized by the National Gallery of Art, Washington; the National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa; and the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Gemäldegalerie.*

*The exhibition is made possible by The Florence Gould Foundation.*

*The exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.*

The softcover exhibition catalogue is available in the Gallery Shops (\$49.95). To order, see last page.



Jean-Antoine Watteau, *Iris (the Dance)*,  
c. 1719, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin,  
Gemäldegalerie

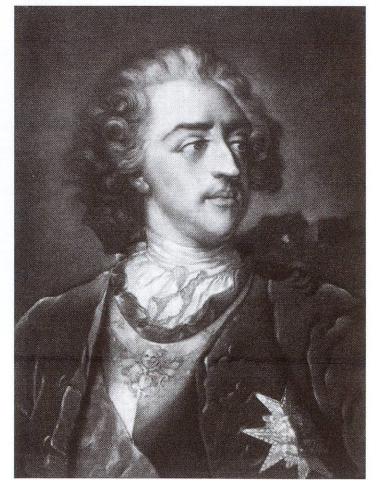
CONTINUING EXHIBITION

## Colorful Impressions: The Printmaking Revolution in Eighteenth-Century France

October 26, 2003–February 16, 2004  
West Building, Ground Floor

Some 115 eighteenth-century French color prints, all in very fine impressions, celebrate one of the most innovative periods in the history of color printmaking. During the second half of the eighteenth century in France, newly invented engraving and etching techniques were combined with new ways of printing a single image from multiple plates. For the first time, full-color prints could be created from just four basic colors: red, yellow, blue, and black. Within a matter of decades, thousands of images were produced, including some of the most complex and beautiful color prints ever made.

The names of the printmakers who pioneered these techniques—Bonnet, Demarteau, Janinet, Descourts, and Debucourt, to name a few—are not well known today, but the artists whose compositions they engraved rank among the most famous of the eighteenth century: Boucher,



Jakob Christoffel Le Blon (after  
Nicholas Blakey), *Louis XV*, 1739,  
National Gallery of Art, Washington,  
Rosenwald Collection

Watteau, Fragonard, Robert, and Boilly, among others. The prints capture the spirit of the times—the reigns of Louis xv and Louis xvi and the advent of the Revolution—in a unique and highly memorable way. *The Age of Watteau, Chardin, and Fragonard: Masterpieces of French Genre Painting* complements *Colorful Impressions*.

*The exhibition was organized by the National Gallery of Art, Washington.*

The exhibition catalogue is available in the Gallery Shops in both hardcover (\$65) and softcover (\$45). To order, see last page.









Christoffer Wilhelm Eckersberg,  
*The Nathanson Family*, 1818,  
Statens Museum for Kunst, Copenhagen

Christoffer Wilhelm  
Eckersberg, 1783-1853  
*November 23, 2003 - February 29, 2004*

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