

NEWS RELEASE

National Gallery of Art
Washington, D. C.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington, September 30: ¹⁹⁴⁶ David E. Finley, Director of the National Gallery of Art, announces the opening, on October 6, of an exhibition of Rodin's sculpture, drawings and prints. The exhibition has been selected from a collection of Rodin's works given in 1942 to the National Gallery of Art by Mrs. John W. Simpson and from a set of dry points which form part of the more recent extensive gift of prints by Mr. Lessing J. Rosenwald.

The exhibit emphasizes intimate and informal aspects of Rodin's production. The sculpture to be shown includes several marbles, among them the portrait of Mrs. Simpson first exhibited at the Paris Salon of 1904; a number of famous bronzes, such as The Thinker and The Age of Bronze in reduced versions; and several examples of smaller sketches and models in plaster and terra cotta. All were acquired directly from the artist by Mrs. Simpson toward the beginning of the century and constitute a unique ensemble with many pieces inscribed and dedicated by the artist.

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The drawings, also part of the Simpson Collection, date from Rodin's last period. Executed in pencil with sepia wash, rapid and adroit studies of figures in action, they combine the artist's lyrical gift with his sense for abstraction. Among the prints, which reflect somewhat the same feeling for structure as the sculpture, are a number of rare impressions, including several states of the Victor Hugo and a selection of figure compositions.

The fine impressions of five of the dry points shown are from the Rosenwald Collection, one of the most distinguished collections of prints formed in modern times, which was given to the Gallery in 1943.

The exhibition will remain on view until December 12.

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