

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DUTCH PAINTING SCHOLAR A. B. DE VRIES

APPOINTED NATIONAL GALLERY KRESS PROFESSOR

WASHINGTON, D.C. December 5, 1973. A. B. de Vries, Director Emeritus of the Mauritshuis, The Hague, and an eminent scholar of seventeenth-century Dutch painting, has been named Samuel H. Kress Professor in Residence at the National Gallery of Art for the academic year 1973-74.

While at the National Gallery, Mr. de Vries will be studying works by Rembrandt, Vermeer, and other Dutch painters in the Gallery's collection. In December he plans to complete a corpus of several volumes on the Mauritshuis' collection of Rembrandt paintings that he has been working on with other scholars at The Hague since 1968.

While director of the Mauritshuis, Mr. de Vries arranged the important and major exhibition in 1966 of "In the Light of Vermeer: Five Centuries of Painting," commemorating the sesquicentennial of the royal paintings collection in The Hague. He also arranged comprehensive exhibitions for the Mauritshuis on Jan Steen, Rembrandt, Frans Hals and Goya and produced exhibitions on Dutch seventeenth-century painting for museums in Italy, Switzerland, Israel, Japan and Brazil.

Mr. de Vries' publications include several outstanding and

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definitive books on Jan Vermeer and a major publication of seventeenth-century Dutch painting in the renowned Netherland collection of Sidney J. van den Bergh.

Since his retirement from the Mauritshuis in 1970, Mr. de Vries has taught at Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts; has been advisor to the Putnam Foundation, Timken Art Gallery, San Diego, California; and after his residency as Kress Professor at the National Gallery, will assume a teaching position at the University of California, Los Angeles.

The Kress Professorship, established in 1965, is supported by a grant from the Samuel H. Kress Foundation. During the academic year, the Kress Professor works on projects of his own choosing, advises the Gallery on acquisitions and other curatorial activities, and supervises the Gallery's Fellows in residence on their studies. He also serves as Chairman of the National Gallery's Fellowship Committee, which recommends candidates for Fellowship grants.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION contact Katherine Warwick, Assistant to the Director, or Pamela Jenkinson, Information Office, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C. 20565, area code 202, 737-4215 ext. 224.