

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PRESS PREVIEW:
TUESDAY, MAY 25, 1982
10 A.M.-3 P.M.

MODERN PAINTINGS FROM THYSSEN-BORNEMISZA COLLECTION

BEGIN U.S. TOUR AT NATIONAL GALLERY MAY 30

WASHINGTON, D.C. MAY 4, 1982. Sixty-six paintings by modern European and American masters from the collection of Baron Thyssen-Bornemisza go on view as a group for the first time from May 30 through September 6 in the National Gallery of Art's East Building. Entitled 20th-Century Masters: The Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection, the exhibition will travel to five other U.S. museums.

The present exhibition is the second from the Thyssen-Bornemisza collection to open at the National Gallery before touring the United States.

The paintings are installed in the East Building's Mezzanine and Upper level galleries in sections devoted to expressionism, abstraction, the city and still life, the surrealist generation, the human figure, and American painting.

Works in the exhibition include Nude with Arms Raised (1907) and The Harvesters (1907) by Picasso, The Staircase (1914) and The Bridge (1923) by Léger, The Man from Potin (1921-2) and Lady in Mauve (1922) by Feininger, and Girl at a Sewing Machine (1921) and Hotel Room (1931) by Hopper.

(m o r e)

Among works by other major figures are Derain's London, Waterloo Bridge (1905-6), Kirchner's Franzi before a Carved Stool (1910), Mondrian's Composition in Red and Blue (1931), Gris's Table before a Window (1921), Miró's Catalan Peasant with a Guitar (1924), Magritte's La Clef des Champs (1936), Estes' Telephone Booths (1967) and Wesselman's Nude, Number One (1970).

The paintings were chosen from the Baron's holdings by William S. Lieberman, chairman of 20th-century art at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, for the International Exhibitions Foundation. A catalogue fully illustrated in color, with text by Mr. Lieberman, will accompany the exhibition.

The exhibition has been organized by the International Exhibitions Foundation. The exhibition and catalogue are supported by a grant from United Technologies Corporation. Additional assistance has been received in the form of an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities, and by grants from the Government of the Canton of Ticino, the Tourist Office of Ticino, and the Lugano Tourist Office. United Technologies is also making available a brochure written by Simon de Pury, curator of the Thyssen-Bornemisza collection.

In its eighteen-month tour, the exhibition will be seen at the Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford (October 1-November 28, 1982), The Toledo Museum of Art (December 17, 1982-February 20, 1983), the Seattle Art Museum (March 15-May 15, 1983), the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (June 2-July 31, 1983) and The Metropolitan Museum of Art (August 30-November 27, 1983).

(more)

The previous exhibition, also organized by the International Exhibitions Foundation and supported by United Technologies, presented works by European masters of earlier centuries. It had its Gallery premiere in 1979 and traveled to eight other U.S. cities in 1980 and 1981.

LECTURES, TOURS AND FILMS

On Sunday June 20, Gregory Hedberg, chief curator at the Wadsworth Atheneum, will deliver a lecture entitled "Contemporary Themes in the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection" at 4 p.m. in the East Building auditorium. The lecture is open to the public at no charge.

During June, two of the Gallery's Tours of the Week will be devoted to the exhibition. The tours, which are also free of charge, begin in the central courtyard, as follows:

"The Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection:
20th-Century European Masters"

Tues., June 8-Sat., June 12, 1:00 p.m.
Sun., June 13, 2:30 p.m.

"The Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection:
20th-Century American Masters"

Tues., June 15-Sat., June 19, 1:00 p.m.
Sun., June 20, 2:30 p.m.

(more)

Free films describing 20th-century movements represented in the exhibition will be shown in the East Building auditorium on the following schedule:

"Pursuit of the Marvelous:
The Persistence of Surrealism"

Tues., June 1-Sat., June 5, 12:30 p.m.
Sun., June 6, 1:00 p.m.

"Gertrude Stein: When This
You See, Remember Me"

Tues., June 8, Sat., June 12, 12:30 p.m.
Sun., June 13, 1:00 p.m.

"Futurism" and "Briget Riley"

Tues., June 15-Sat., June 19, 12:30 p.m.
Sun., June 20, 1:00 p.m.

END

**Film crews and photographers should contact the Information Office (842-6353) in advance.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION or photographs contact Katherine Warwick, Assistant to the Director (Information Officer), Mary Dyer or Carolyn Engel Information Office, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. 20565, area code, (202) 842-6353.