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NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART APPOINTS CURATOR

OF SOUTHERN BAROQUE PAINTING

WASHINGTON, D.C., September 28, 1989 -- The National Gallery of Art has appointed Diane De Grazia curator of southern baroque painting. Ms. De Grazia has served as Gallery curator of Italian drawings since 1974.

"Her extensive background in the field of European painting, as well as her distinction as curator of Italian drawings, makes Ms. De Grazia well suited for the role of curator of southern baroque painting," said National Gallery director J. Carter Brown.

"This is an exciting opportunity, especially since interest in baroque art--works from the late sixteenth to the eighteenth centuries--is growing," said Ms. De Grazia. "Response to the 1979 exhibition of Prints and Related Drawings by the Carracci Family for example, was unexpectedly enthusiastic, and it is gratifying to be able to work on future exhibitions of baroque painting at the National Gallery and to help build the permanent collection."

In addition to her work on the Carracci, Ms. De Grazia is also known for her catalogue for the 1984 exhibition, Correggio and his Legacy:

Sixteenth-Century Emilian Drawings. She has organized or been curator of other exhibitions at the National Gallery, including Renaissance Drawings from the Ambrosiana (1984), From Dürer to Delacroix: Great Master Drawings from Stockholm (1985), and Master Drawings from the National Gallery of Canada (1989).

As curator of southern baroque painting Ms. De Grazia will assume responsibility for the care and presentation of the Gallery's collection in this area and contribute to the systematic catalogue of the permanent collection. She is also planning monographic and thematic exhibitions that will feature seventeenth— and eighteenth—century European painting.

Ms. De Grazia received her doctorate from Princeton University in 1972 with a dissertation entitled "The Drawings of Jacopo Bertoia 1544-1574." She is the author of a book, Bertoia, Mirola, and the Farnese Court, which will be published by Nuova Alfa Press (Bologna) in April 1990. In 1987 she was appointed Visiting Mellon Professor at the University of Pittsburgh. Before coming to the National Gallery, Ms. De Grazia served as curator of European art at the Denver Art Museum.