AMERICAN NAIVE PAINTINGS
FROM THE EDGAR WILLIAM AND BERNICE CHRYSLER GARBISCH COLLECTION

Washington, D.C. – On June 3, 2001, the National Gallery of Art will open American Naive Paintings, an installation of 50 works from the Gallery's Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch collection, one of the most important collections of American Naive paintings. The works, which were painted in the 18th and 19th centuries by artists who had little or no academic art training, are vivid records of many aspects of America's past and include portraits, landscapes, still lifes, and depictions of everyday life and religious and historic events.

The installation is on view at the National Gallery of Art the West Building, ground floor central galleries beginning June 3, 2001. It opens simultaneously with Jasper Johns: Prints from Four Decades and The Unfinished Print, which will be on view during the same period in adjacent galleries.

"The paintings in the Garbisch collection have long been appreciated as wonderfully appealing works of art and are indeed a favorite among the Gallery's visitors," said Earl A. Powell III, director, National Gallery of Art.

Works by the greatest names in American folk art are featured in the exhibition, including Erastus Salisbury Field, Edward Hicks, Joshua Johnson, Ammi Phillips, and William Matthew Prior. Painting as itinerants or in small workshops, these artists boldly and inventively conveyed the reality of the people, places, and ideas that they knew. Although most of these painters were not financially successful, the sustained length of their careers and their apparent productivity indicate that they had an appreciative contemporary audience.

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Portraits in the exhibition range from the Gansevoort Limner’s charming Dutch colonial likeness of young Susanna Truax (1730) in her brilliantly striped dress, to Field’s image of pride and protectiveness, Mrs. Paul Smith Palmer and Her Twins (1835/1838) to Horace Bundy’s intense and commanding Vermont Lawyer (1841).

Just as portraits served as objects of record and remembrance, landscapes were often created as documents of achievement and station in life. A very early example, Ralph Wheelock’s Farm (c. 1822) by Francis Alexander, depicts industrious workers scattered across expanses of green field. Hick’s The Cornell Farm (1848) is a lyrical depiction of the peace and harmony of agricultural life.

Still lifes were also featured in the work of early American painters and used as decoration in the home. In Melons and Grapes (mid-19th century) by Chipman, the artist’s attempt at perspective has created the illusion that the fruit is slipping toward the viewer.

Other highlights in the exhibition include such canonical works as Hick’s Peaceable Kingdom (c. 1834) and such whimsical and well-known paintings as The Cat (mid-to-late 19th century) and General Washington on a White Charger (1835 or later), both by unknown artists.

EDGAR WILLIAM AND BERNICE CHRYSLER GARBISCH

Edgar William Garbisch (1899–1979) and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch (1908–1979) collected choice American art and antiques to decorate the hunting lodge they inherited in 1941 on Maryland’s Eastern Shore. Collecting at a time when interest in folk art was limited to a small circle of enthusiasts, the couple was able to obtain extraordinary works. Beginning in 1953 and ending with the bequest of 1980, the Garbisches donated more than 300 paintings and about 100 works on paper to the National Gallery of Art. Twenty-two other institutions have benefited from the Garbisches’ generosity, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

NATIONAL GALLERY INFORMATION

The National Gallery of Art and its Sculpture Garden, located on the National Mall between Third and Ninth Streets at Constitution Avenue, NW, are open Monday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Sculpture Garden is open until 7 p.m. daily from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Admission is free. For general information, call (202) 737-4215; call the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (202) 842-6176; or visit the Gallery’s Web site at www.nga.gov. To receive the Gallery’s free bimonthly Calendar of Events, call (202) 842-6662 or e-mail calendar@nga.gov.
National Gallery of Art

Washington, D.C.

American Naïve Paintings from the Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch Collection

Checklist
National Gallery of Art  3 June 2001 (indefinitely)

✧ JPEG image available
● Slide available

1. Francis Alexander
American, 1800–1880
*Ralph Wheelock’s Farm*, c. 1822
oil on canvas
Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1965

2. John Bradley
American, active 1831/1847
*Little Girl in Lavender*, c. 1840
oil on canvas
Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1958

3. Horace Bundy
American, 1814–1883
*Vermont Lawyer*, 1841
oil on canvas
Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1953

4. Thomas Chambers
✧ American, 1808–1866 or later
● *The Connecticut Valley*, mid-nineteenth century
oil on canvas, mid-nineteenth century
Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1956

5. Thomas Chambers
American, 1808–1866 or later
*Lake George and the Village of Caldwell*, mid-nineteenth century
oil on canvas
Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1966

6. Thomas Chambers
American, 1808–1866 or later
*Packet Ship Passing Castle Williams, New York Harbor*, mid-nineteenth century
oil on canvas
Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1980

7. Chipman
American, active mid-nineteenth century
*Melons and Grapes*, mid-nineteenth century
oil on canvas
Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1957

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8. The Denison Limner (probably Joseph Steward)  
   American, 1753–1822  
   Captain Elisha Denison, c. 1790  
   oil on canvas  
   Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1980

9. The Denison Limner (probably Joseph Steward)  
   American, 1753–1822  
   Mrs. Elizabeth Noyes Denison, c. 1790  
   oil on canvas  
   Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1980

10. The Denison Limner (probably Joseph Steward)  
    American, 1753–1822  
    Miss Denison of Stonington, Connecticut (possibly Matilda Denison), c. 1790  
    oil on canvas  
    Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1980

11. Attributed to Gerardus Duyckinck  
    American, 1695–1746  
    Lady Undressing for a Bath, c. 1730/1740  
    oil on canvas  
    Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1956

12. Erastus Rastus Salisbury Field  
    American, 1805–1900  
    Paul Smith Palmer, 1835/1838  
    oil on canvas  
    Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1971

13. Erastus Rastus Salisbury Field  
    American, 1805–1900  
    Mrs. Paul Smith Palmer and Her Twins, 1835/1838  
    oil on canvas  
    Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1971

14. Erastus Rastus Salisbury Field  
    American, 1805–1900  
    Leverett Pond, c. 1860/1880  
    oil on canvas  
    Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1978

15. Erastus Rastus Salisbury Field  
    American, 1805–1900  
    The Taj Mahal, c. 1860/1880  
    oil on canvas  
    Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1978

16. Erastus Rastus Salisbury Field  
    American, 1805–1900  
    Ark of the Covenant, c. 1865/1880  
    oil on canvas  
    Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1956
17. Erastus Rastus Salisbury Field
   American, 1805–1900
   • "He Turned Their Waters into Blood", c. 1865/1880
     oil on canvas
     Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1964

18. The Gansevoort Limner (possibly Pieter Vanderlyn)
   American, c. 1687–1778
   • Susanna Truax, 1730
     oil on bed ticking
     Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1980

19. The Gansevoort Limner (possibly Pieter Vanderlyn)
   American, c. 1687–1778
   Young Lady with a Fan, 1737
   oil on canvas
   Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1980

20. Attributed to Daniel Hendrickson
    American, 1723–1788
    Catharine Hendrickson, c. 1770
    oil on canvas
    Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1953

21. Edward Hicks
    American, 1780–1849
    Peaceable Kingdom, c. 1834
    oil on canvas
    Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1980

22. Edward Hicks
    American, 1780–1849
    Penn's Treaty with the Indians, c. 1840/1844
    oil on canvas,
    Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1980

23. Edward Hicks
    American, 1780–1849
    The Grave of William Penn, c. 1847/1848
    oil on canvas
    Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1980

24. Edward Hicks
    American, 1780–1849
    • The Cornell Farm, 1848
      oil on canvas
      Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1964

25. Charles C. Hofmann
    American, c. 1820–1882
    View of Benjamin Reber's Farm, 1872
    oil on canvas
    Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1955
26. Jurgan Frederick Huge
   American, 1809–1878
   * Composite Harbor Scene with Castle, c.1875
     oil on canvas
     Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1969

27. Joshua Johnson
   American, born c. 1763, active 1796/1824
   Family Group, c. 1800
   oil on canvas
   Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1980

28. Frederick W. Mayhew
   American, 1785–1854
   John Harrison, c. 1823
   oil on canvas
   Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1980

29. Frederick W. Mayhew
   American, 1785–1854
   Mrs. John Harrison and Daughter, c. 1823
   oil on canvas
   Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1980

30. Linton Park
    American, 1826–1906
    * Flax Scutching Bee, 1885
      oil on bed ticking
      Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1953

31. Ammi Phillips
    American, 1788–1865
    Joseph Slade, 1816
    oil on canvas
    Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1953

32. Ammi Phillips
    American, 1788–1865
    * Alsa Slade, 1816
      oil on canvas
      Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1953

33. Asahel Powers
    American, 1813–1843
    Mrs. William Sheldon (?), c. 1831
    oil on wood
    Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1953

34. William Matthew Prior
    American, 1806–1873
    Boy with Toy Horse and Wagon, c. 1845
    oil on canvas
    Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1953

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35. William Matthew Prior  
   American, 1806–1873  
   *The Burnish Sisters*, 1854  
   oil on canvas  
   Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1980

36. Charles S. Raleigh  
   American, 1831–1925  
   *Law of the Wild*, 1881  
   oil on canvas  
   Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1971

37. C. F. Senior  
   American, active 1881 or later  
   *The Sportsman's Dream*, 1881 or later  
   oil on canvas  
   Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1980

38. Joseph Whiting Stock  
   American, 1815–1855  
   *Baby in Wicker Basket*, c. 1840  
   oil on canvas  
   Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1980

39. Joseph Whiting Stock  
   American, 1815–1855  
   *Girl with Reticule and Rose*, c. 1840  
   oil on canvas  
   Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1980

40. Joseph Whiting Stock  
   American, 1815–1855  
   *Mary and Francis Wilcox*, 1845  
   oil on canvas  
   Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1959

41. Susan Waters  
   ◊ American, 1823–1900  
   ♦ *Brothers*, c. 1845  
   oil on canvas  
   Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1956

42. Unknown  
   American, nineteenth century  
   *Aurora*, mid-nineteenth century  
   oil on wood  
   Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1957

43. Unknown  
   ◊ American, nineteenth century  
   ♦ *Bowl of Fruit*, c. 1830  
   oil on canvas  
   Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1980
44. Unknown
American, nineteenth century
*The Cat*, probably second half nineteenth century
oil on canvas
Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1980

45. Unknown
American, nineteenth century
*The Dog*, early twentieth century
oil on canvas
Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1957

46. Unknown
American, nineteenth century
*Fruit and Flowers*, mid-nineteenth century
oil on canvas
Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1966

47. Unknown
American, nineteenth century
*Lexington Battle Monument*, 1853 or later
oil on canvas
Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1953

48. Unknown
American, nineteenth century
*The Sargent Family*, 1800
oil on canvas
Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1953

49. Unknown
*Dr. Philemon Tracy*, c. 1790
oil on paper mounted on board
Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1980

50. Unknown
American, nineteenth century
*General Washington on a White Charger*, 1835 or later
oil on wood
Gift of Edgar William and Bernice Chrysler Garbisch, 1955

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