MATISSE: THE CUT-OUTS

Fifty-seven examples of the cut-out paintings by Henri Matisse (1869-1954) will be on view in the special exhibition galleries on the ground floor beginning September 10. Showing Matisse’s work over a twenty-year period, the exhibition will start with experiments in this medium from the 1930s and conclude with his works from the 1950s. The latter are widely considered the culminating achievement of one of the twentieth-century’s greatest artists.

The works of art, produced by cutting shapes from paper painted to Matisse’s specifications, reflect his extraordinary sense of design and color. This selection comprises the first major exhibition of the Matisse cut-out paintings, and includes some of the very large independent compositions, as well as designs for stained-glass windows, ceramic tile murals, church vestments and other textiles, and book illustrations.

An extensive reference catalogue with more than twenty color plates and 250 black-and-white illustrations, with essays by leading Matisse scholars in the United States and France, will be available at the exhibition.

SUNDAY CONCERTS BEGIN

The 36th season of free Sunday evening concerts at the National Gallery begins September 25 at 7:00 p.m. with the National Gallery Orchestra, Richard Bales, Conductor, and The Washington Brass Quintet playing the world premiere, written especially for the Gallery, of “Concerto for Brass Quintet and Orchestra,” by Randall E. Faust. Also featured will be two soloists performing “The Chinese Flute” by Ernst Toch.

LABOR DAY WEEKEND FILM

Perry Miller Adato’s award-winning film Gertrude Stein: When This You See, Remember Me will be shown on Sunday at 4:00 p.m. and Monday at 2:30 p.m., Labor Day weekend, in the Gallery Auditorium. A rich portrait of the author’s Paris years from 1905 through the 1930s, the film recreates, through Miss Stein’s memories and reflections, the great excitement and creative surge that swept through the French capital during that era. Featured throughout the film are many paintings, including some by Matisse, owned by the Stein family.

For the first time since they were acquired in 1973, five National Gallery acquisitions will be exhibited: Vénus, from his blue nude series; La Négresse, a large composition inspired by the American entertainer Josephine Baker; Femme à l’amphore et grenades, a large work in blue and white; Grande décoration aux masques, an enormous cut-out, 32 feet long, inspired by mosaic tile walls Matisse had seen in Spain; and Les Bêtes de la mer . . . , an independent composition incorporating many sea forms.

The exhibition was organized by the St. Louis Art Museum and the Detroit Institute of Arts, where the exhibition will also be seen. Preparation of the exhibition and catalogue were initiated and supervised by Jack Cowart, Curator of 19th- and 20th-Century Art, St. Louis, with assistance from John Hallmark Neff, Curator of Modern Art, Detroit. This project is supported by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts in Washington, D.C., a federal agency, and financial assistance from the Missouri Arts Council and the Michigan Arts Council.

MATISSE LECTURES AND TOURS

In conjunction with this special exhibition, the Sunday Lectures for September 11 and 18 will be devoted to Matisse and will be given by Mr. Cowart and Mr. Neff respectively. In addition, beginning September 5, the Tours of the Week will focus first on the role of color in art, of which Matisse was a leading exponent, and, during the week of September 19, on the exhibition itself. These tours will be given by the Gallery’s Education Department.

REGULAR HOURS BEGIN SEPTEMBER 5

Tuesday, September 5, marks the return to the regular visiting hours at the Gallery. Monday through Saturday the hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 12 noon to 9 p.m. The hours for the Café, which features table service, are Monday through Saturday 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Buffet features a coffee service from 10 to 11 a.m., full service 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and a fast-food line until 3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Café and Buffet hours for Sunday are full service 12 noon to 6 p.m.
National Gallery of Art
MONDAY, August 29 through SUNDAY, September 4

CROPSEY. Autumn—On the Hudson River (detail)

* PAINTING OF THE WEEK
Cropsey. Autumn—On the Hudson River
(Gift of the Avalon Foundation) Gallery 67
Tues. through Sat. 12:00 & 2:00; Sun. 3:30 & 6:00

TOUR
Introduction to the Collection. Rotunda
Mon. through Sat. 11:00, 1:00, & 3:00
Sun. 2:30 & 5:00

FILMS
"Civilisation" XII—The Fallacies of Hope
Tues., Thurs., & Sat. 1:00 & 6:30 (50 minutes)
"Rembrandt"—The Bible
Wed., Fri., & Sun. 1:00 & 6:30 (30 minutes)

Auditorium

SUNDAY FILM
Gertrude Stein: When This You See, Remember Me
Auditorium 4:00 (90 minutes)

GAINSBOROUGH. Landscape with a Bridge (detail)

* PAINTING OF THE WEEK
Gainsborough. Landscape with a Bridge
(Andrew W. Mellon Collection) Gallery 59
Tues. through Sat. 12:00 & 2:00; Sun. 3:30 & 6:00

TOUR OF THE WEEK
The Artist's Concern for Color: 13th through 18th Centuries.
Rotunda
Tues. through Sat. 1:00; Sun. 2:30

TOUR
Introduction to the Collection. Rotunda
Mon. through Sat. 11:00 & 3:00; Sun. 5:00

SUNDAY LECTURE
Matisse at Venice, 1943-1949
Speaker: Jack Cowart
Curator of 19th- and 20th-century Art
The St. Louis Art Museum, St. Louis
Auditorium 4:00

National Gallery of Art
MONDAY, September 5 through SUNDAY, September 11

DE HOOCH. The Bedroom (detail)

* PAINTING OF THE WEEK
De Hooch. The Bedroom
(Widener Collection) Gallery 44
Tues. through Sat. 12:00 & 2:00; Sun. 3:30 & 6:00

TOUR OF THE WEEK
The Artist's Concern for Color: 19th and 20th Centuries
Rotunda
Tues. through Sat. 1:00; Sun. 2:30

TOUR
Introduction to the Collection. Rotunda
Mon. through Sat. 11:00 & 3:00; Sun. 5:00

SUNDAY LECTURE
The Role of Matisse's Cut-Outs in His Career
Speaker: John Hallmark Neff
Curator of Modern Art
The Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit
Auditorium 4:00

National Gallery of Art
MONDAY, September 12 through SUNDAY, September 18

SARGENT. Mrs. William Crowninshield Endicott

* PAINTING OF THE WEEK
Sargent. Mrs. William Crowninshield Endicott
(Gift of Louise Thoron Endicott) Gallery 67
Tues. through Sat. 12:00 & 2:00; Sun. 3:30 & 6:00

TOUR OF THE WEEK
The Artist's Concern for Color: The Matisse Exhibition
Constitution Avenue Lobby
Tues. through Sat. 1:00; Sun. 2:30

TOUR
Introduction to the Collection. Rotunda
Mon. through Sat. 11:00 & 3:00; Sun. 5:00

SUNDAY LECTURE
Rembrandt's "The Mill": Its History and Its Mystique
Speaker: Arthur K. Wheelock, Jr.
Curator of Dutch and Flemish Painting
National Gallery of Art
Auditorium 4:00

SUNDAY CONCERT
National Gallery Orchestra
Richard Bales, Conductor
Martha Steiger, Soprano
William Montgomery, Flute
The Washington Brass Quintet
East Garden Court 7:00

* 11" x 14" color reproduction with text for sale this week—25 cents each. Minimum mail order, $1.00.

All concerts, with intermission talks by members of the National Gallery Staff, are broadcast by Station WCMS-AM (970) and PM (103.5).

# 8" x 10" black-and-white photographs for sale this week—$1.00 each; descriptive text available at no charge.

# Color postcards with texts for sale this week—10 cents each, postpaid.