exhibitions

CONTINUING EXHIBITION

Claes Oldenburg: An Anthology
Through May 7, 1995
East Building, mezzanine and upper levels

The first major exhibition since 1969 to survey the art of Claes Oldenburg premieres at the National Gallery of Art. Approximately 200 of the most important collages, drawings, and sculpture from 1958 to the present document the career of this versatile and remarkably prolific artist.

On display are examples of his well-known "hard," "soft," and "ghost" sculptures of food and household objects, such as an ice cream cone, light switch, and fans—each on a giant scale. Oldenburg focuses on the metamorphic potential of familiar objects to create new forms and infuses the commonplace with life, wit, and alternative meanings. Many of his soft sculptures allude to organic, often anthropomorphic forms such as the Soft Switches (1964) or the Soft Drainpipe—Red Hot Version (1967).

Special features of the installation are two large-scale works: the twenty-four-foot-tall Lipstick (Ascending) on Caterpillar Tracks, originally made for Yale University in 1969 (reconstructed in 1974), and Knife Ship I, a forty-four-foot-long sculpture in the form of a Swiss Army Knife, that was the centerpiece of the performance, "Il Corso del Coltello" (The Course of the Knife), presented in Venice in 1985.

CONTINUING EXHIBITION

Imitation and Invention: Old Master Prints and Their Sources
Through August 6, 1995
East Building, ground level

Focusing on the National Gallery of Art's superb collection of graphic art, sixty-three works illuminate the fascinating variety of visual influences from the fifteenth through the seventeenth centuries. Well-known prints are brought together with the prints that inspired them and others that they in turn inspired.

Major works by such revered artists as Albrecht Dürer, Andrea Mantegna, and Jacques Callot are included. As prints circulated readily through Europe in the Renaissance and baroque periods, printmakers continually adapted details, themes, compositions, and techniques. The exhibition begins with those many aspects of borrowing from early fifteenth- and sixteenth-century sources and ends by highlighting the work of Rembrandt, one of the most innovative adapters of earlier print sources.
The Glory of Venice: The Art in the Eighteenth Century

Through April 23, 1993
West Building, main floor galleries

Created as a pair, these two significant American paintings have not been displayed together in public since 1857. “The Spirit of War” (1851), from the National Gallery of Art, and its companion, “The Spirit of Peace” (1851), from the Woodmere Art Museum, Philadelphia, were considered by contemporaries to be among Jasper Francis Cropsey’s most important works. These two scenes Cropsey explored a complex union of ideas and emotions, a carefully constructed vision of contrasting elements: a turbulent landscape with a medieval castle and knights preparing for battle on the one hand, and a peaceful scene with a classical temple on the other. These two visions were worlds away from the Hudson River Valley and the Catskill Mountains that dominated Cropsey’s oeuvre. Wall texts with insight into the two paintings.

The exhibition brochure is made possible through the generosity of Mrs. John C. Newington.

Restaurants

(See hours on page 7)
Starbucks Coffee is now served in the Terrace and Garden Cafés and the Espresso Bar

Terrace Café
Call (202) 789-3211 to make reservations for your next luncheon party in the Terrace Café following a visit to the Clois Oldenburg: An Anthology exhibition.

Cafeteria Buffet
Enjoy a continental breakfast served Monday through Saturday from 10:00 to 11:00 and Sunday at 11:00 in the cafeteria buffet on the concourse level.

Garden Café
Pastries and coffee are served Monday through Saturday from 10:00 to 11:00 and Sunday from 11:00 to noon. “Pasta Made-to-Order” is featured on Sundays, 4:00 to 6:30. Italian dishes are offered throughout the week in celebration of the exhibition. The Glory of Venice: Art in the Eighteenth Century. Call (202) 789-3302 to reserve a table.

Gallery Shops

West Building
The Glory of Venice exhibition catalogue ($39.95 softbound, $55.00 hardbound) is featured along with posters, note cards, books, videotapes, and a wall calendar.

Concerts
Get inspiration for gardening from a beautiful selection of books on flowers, gardens, and artists’ gardens. Also featured are an assortment of pastels, colored pencils, blank cards and envelopes, and books on creating your own art.

East Building Sales Desk
The Clois Oldenburg: An Anthology exhibition catalogue ($39.95 softbound, $55.00 hardbound) is now on sale, along with books, posters, and note cards on Claes Oldenburg and Jeff Koons.

Jasper Francis Cropsey, The Spirit of Peace, 1851, National Gallery of Art, Avrich Fund

Jasper Francis Cropsey, The Spirit of War, 1851, National Gallery of Art, Avrich Fund

Jasper Francis Cropsey, “The Spirit of War” and “The Spirit of Peace”

Through April 16, 1993
West Building, ground floor, central gallery

Created as a pair, these two significant American paintings have not been displayed together in public since 1857. “The Spirit of War” (1851), from the National Gallery of Art, and its companion, “The Spirit of Peace” (1851), from the Woodmere Art Museum, Philadelphia, were considered by contemporaries to be among Jasper Francis Cropsey’s most important works. These two scenes Cropsey explored a complex union of ideas and emotions, a carefully constructed vision of contrasting elements: a turbulent landscape with a medieval castle and knights preparing for battle on the one hand, and a peaceful scene with a classical temple on the other. These two visions were worlds away from the Hudson River Valley and the Catskill Mountains that dominated Cropsey’s oeuvre. Welltext with the artist’s own descriptions give insight into the two paintings. The exhibition brochure is made possible through the generosity of Mrs. John C. Newington.
Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen, of Notes,

APR

eba East Building auditorium
wb West Building Rotunda

12:00 Gallery Talk:

12:00 Gallery Talk:

4:00 Mellon Lecture:

2:00 Gallery Talk:

1:00 Gallery Talk:

12:00

12:00

12:30

12:30

12:30

6:00

Art:
The Historical Vision
Mix Media
Renaissance Lecture:
Chamber Players (wbgc)
registration required)

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ON THE COVER:
Pietro Longhi, Masked Figures with a Fruit Seller, c. 1760, Ca'Rezzonico, Venice