exhibitions

The softcover exhibition catalogue is available in the Gallery Shops ($39.95). To order, see last page.

OPENING EXHIBITION

The Age of Watteau, Chardin, and Fragonard: Masterpieces of French Genre Painting

October 12, 2003—January 11, 2004
West Building, Main Floor

The exhibition brings together an outstanding selection of over one hundred French eighteenth-century paintings, borrowed from private and public collections across North America, Europe, and Russia. Genre paintings are devoted to the depiction of aspects of contemporary life, variously viewed by the artists with humorous, erotic, moralizing, or didactic intent, and sometimes with a dispassionate eye. The exhibition includes Jean-Antoine Watteau’s amorous and nostalgic fêtes galantes; Jean-François de Troy’s gallant yet cynical tableaux de modes; François Boucher’s lyrical pastorals; Jean-Baptiste-Siméon Chardin’s sober domestic interiors; Jean-Baptiste Greuze’s emotional family dramas; Jean-Honoré Fragonard’s dangerous liaisons, indoors and out; and Louis-Léopold Boilly’s polished Empire interiors and sharply observed Parisian street scenes. The exhibition charts the development and transformations within an art form that functioned as a constantly changing mirror of Parisian social life and culture throughout the eighteenth century.

The exhibition was organized by the National Gallery of Art, Washington.

The exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.

The softcover exhibition catalogue is available in the Gallery Shops ($49.95). To order, see last page.

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OPENING EXHIBITION

The Art of Romare Bearden

September 14, 2003—January 4, 2004
East Building, Mezzanine and Upper Level

The most comprehensive retrospective ever assembled for one of America’s preeminent twentieth-century artists explores the complexity and scope of his evolution. The exhibition features many rarely exhibited and never before reproduced works from private collections. Approximately 130 works include paintings; drawings and watercolors; monotypes and edition prints; collages of diverse materials, including textiles; photographs; wood sculpture; and designs for record albums, costumes and stage sets, and book illustrations.

Presented thematically in a roughly chronological sequence, the works in the show represent the places where Bearden lived and worked: the rural south, northern cities (principally Pittsburgh and New York’s Harlem), and the Caribbean island of St. Martin. They also reflect his wide range of interests and explore often overlapping themes of religion, ritual practice, everyday life, jazz clubs, brothels, history, mythology, and literature.

Highlights include Berkeley — The City and Its People (1973), seen here for the first time outside of the Berkeley City Council chambers where it was installed in 1974; The Block II (1972), an unusual multi-panel piece depicting the varied indoor and outdoor life of Harlem; and Mauritius (1969), Bearden’s only known work of sculpture, an allusion to the martyred Egyptian soldier recruited from upper Egypt. Also in the show are three illustrations (never before exhibited or reproduced) for Li’l Dan, the Drummer Boy: A Civil War Story, a book for which Bearden also wrote the text. This book has now been published for the first time to coincide with the exhibition.

The exhibition was organized by the National Gallery of Art, Washington.

The exhibition is made possible by a generous donation/Licensed by VAGA, New York City.

The exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.

The softcover exhibition catalogue is available in the Gallery Shops ($35). To order, see last page.

The exhibition catalogue is available in the Gallery Shops in both hardcover ($50) and softcover ($35). To order, see last page.

The Art of Romare Bearden is part of Blues & Dreams: Celebrating the African American Experience in Washington, D.C. For details, visit www.washington.org.
Jean-Antoine Houdon, George Wash­ington: 1779-1836, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Purchased with funds provided by Asian Coorte (c. 1660-after 1707). Coorte’s compositions generally combine a few still-life objects against a dark background. Whether his focus was a bunch of strawberries, an arrangement of exotic shells, or a bunch of asparagus, he imbued his scenes with a haunting stillness. Today he is recognized as a gifted and original master, one whose Span­ish works are infrequently exhibited in the United States.

The name of the printmaker who pioneered these techniques—Bosse, Denuelle, Descamps, Denuelle, and Beaudouin—are not as well known today, but the artists whose compositions they inspired enjoyed much more fame among the most famous of the eighteenth-century publishers. Watanabe, Fuuga, Robert, and Belamy, among others, the prints capture the spirit of the times—the origins of Louis XVI and Louis XV, and the advent of the Revolution—a print is a unique and highly memorable way. ColleaguesTomorrow the exhibition required)

openings exhibition

continuing exhibition

Small Wonders: Dutch Still Lifes by Adriaen Coorte
June 29—September 20, 2003
West Building, Main Floor
This is the first exhibition in the United States of Adriaen Coorte (1635–1686)’s work. The exhibition presents nineteen of Coorte’s exquisite still lifes, which were once owned by the Duke of Buckingham and are now on loan to the National Gallery of Art. Adriaen Coorte (c. 1660–1707) is best known for his small-scale genre scenes that depict Dutch domestic scenes with a wide variety of fascinating objects. The exhibition is organized by the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

Opening of Colorful Impressions: Printmaking Techniques of the Eighteenth Century France
May 8—September 3, 2003
West Building, Ground Floor

The exhibition features forty prints from the National Gallery’s collection that display a profusion of colorful imagery and the technical skill required to create them. The 18th-century French printmakers innovated techniques that made the printing of full-color images possible for the first time. These innovations enable the National Gallery to present a unique view of printmaking during one of the most complex and beautiful periods in its history.

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continuing exhibition

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OCTOBER 10:30 Children's Film
11:30 Film
3 FRIDAY
NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART, WASHINGTON • SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2003
calendar
series (eba)
Brakhage (eba)
Olivier Cubist Portraits of Fernande

Lecture Overview of
Romare Bearden Plays Bearden (20 mins.), Wilford Brimley, September 20, October 19 at 12:00 (wb)
Picasso: The Art of Romare Bearden (50 mins.), Sally Shellenbarger, September 30 and October 1 at 12:00 (wb)
Picasso: The Art of Romare Bearden (50 mins.), Sally Shellenbarger, September 30 and October 1 at 12:00 (wb)
Tours of the collection begin at noon in the West Building and the East Building Art Information Desk. Additional tours of the collection begin at noon in the West Building.

Tours are given by Gallery staff and are included with admission to the West Building. Behind the scenes tours of the West Building are offered at noon on October 4, 11, and 18, and 1:00 on October 7 and 22.

Above Brown (1922): The Second Step (1927), (50 mins.), Wilford Brimley, September 23, October 7, and 24 at 1:00 (wb)

The Architect of the National Gallery of Art (1919), James Agee, September 25, October 6, and 19 at 1:00 (wb)

Introducing Art Reading the Image of the Renaissance Counter (50 mins.), Philip Leonardi, September 21, October 7, and 24 at 1:00 (wb)

27 MONDAY

Wallace Collection
Audio guide available for rental at the entrance to the exhibition: $5. Narrated by director Earl A. Powell III, the tour includes an overview of the collection and its major themes.

The Art of Romare Bearden (50 mins.), Sally Shellenbarger, September 30 and October 1, 8, and 11 at 12:00 (wb)
New Perspectives on the Art of Romare Bearden (50 mins.), Grady L. Goodfellow, September 12, 14, 16, 20, 22, and 23 at 2:00 (wb)

Small Wonders: Dutch Still Life (20 mins.), Sally J. Stamps, September 6 at 12:00 (wb)
Identifying Precious Metals: The Woode (20 mins.), King Jocelyn, September 6 and 18 at 12:00 (wb)

The film is made possible by the loft Foundation.

National Gallery of Art, Washington.

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programs

Art Tours
An elegant assortment of gifts commemorating the exhibition The Art of Romare Bearden. For more information please call (202) 737-4215.

Restaurant
The Terrace Café, with a view of the cascading waterfall, offers soups, salads, specialty entrées, wood-fired pizzas, sandwiches, and fresh-baked desserts. A full express bar offers homemade gelato, pastries and wines.

Information
Admission
The Garden is located on Constitution Avenue between Third and Seventh Streets, NW. Washingtonian rail stations are located at Judiciary Square and Archives/Navy Memorial (yellow and green lines), and Smithsonian (Blue and orange lines). Metro maps are located on Fourth Street, Seventh Street and Pennsylvania Avenue.

Hours
Gallery Monday-Sunday, 10:00-5:30

Garden Café
West Building, Ground Floor
The Garden Café provides a serene spot for lunching on traditional American fare and a cup of coffee. For more information, call (202) 737-4215. To support group reservations for ten or more, call (202) 319-4845.

Menu
Monday-Thursday, 11:30-3:00
Friday and Saturday, 11:30-5:00
Sunday, 11:00-5:00

Pastry Café
1300 Constitution Avenue, NW
Group Tours
One-hour tours for groups of ten or more must be booked through special events office at (202) 737-4215.

Accessibility
Ramps for wheelchairs and cribs are located at the Sixth Street South Entrance. All Washington DC area rail stations are accessible from the East Building. Wheelchairs and strollers are available at all entrances. For information about access to public areas and galleries, refer to the Brief Guide and Plan of the East and West Buildings at the Art Information Desk. Limited parking is available in front of the East Building for vehicles displaying the international symbol of accessibility (I). The Sculpture Garden is accessible to those with disabilities. Call (202) 633-4200 for information about services available on a free loan basis. For East Building auditorium programs, call (202) 842-6474 or TDD (202) 842-6247 or TDD (202) 842-6176 for the Telecommunication Device for the Deaf (TDD).

Sign language interpretation is available with three weeks’ notice. Call (202) 842-6340.

Radio Program
This fall at the National Gallery of Art, host Barbara Terry, with guests, each Sunday morning at 9:00 on WETA 90.9 FM in the Washington, DC area, and each Sunday afternoon at 2:00 on WETA 90.9 FM in the Washington area.

Terrace Café
East Building, Mezzanine
Enjoy aaffle-style buffet breakfast infused with the spirit of the Harlem Renaissance. George Washington! live jazz is performed in the Terrace Café. For more information please call (202) 737-4215.

Music
(September 14-17) Saturday-Sunday, 11:00-5:00

Garden Information
Admission to the Gallery’s Sculpture Garden is free, except as noted.

Security Check
Visitors are asked to present all bags for inspection at the South Entrance of the Gallery. Visitors are asked to present all bags for inspection at the South Entrance of the Gallery. All baggage, over­ sighted baggage, bags, and parcels must be left at the lockers near the Fourth Street entrance of either the East Building or the West Building. These items are subject to random screening prior to acceptance. Items larger than 8” x 8” x 8” are not allowed.

The Collection
The National Gallery of Art, one of the world’s preeminent museums, houses a diverse and extensive collection of the world’s finest art. The Collection is accessible on our Web site at http://www.nga.gov/collection/index.html.

Charitable Giving
Your charitable gift supports many important Gallery programs and acquisition priorities. For more information, please call (202) 842-6353.

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