

**Medieval to Modern: Recent Acquisitions of Drawings, Prints, and Illustrated Books**

May 4—November 2, 2008
West Building, Main Floor

Since 2003, the National Gallery of Art has acquired an exceptional group of drawings, prints, and rare illustrated books. The 209 works in this exhibition date from the fifteenth century—with one of the earliest European engravings and the first image printed in multiple colors—through twenty-first-century works by Martin Puryear, Ed Ruscha, and Sean Scully.

Decorative plaque depicting a narrative scene (detail), (Bagram, Room 13), 1st to 2nd centuries AD, National Museum of Afghanistan. Photo © Thierry Ollivier/Musée Guimet

**Afghanistan: Hidden Treasures from the National Museum, Kabul**

May 25—September 7, 2008
East Building, Mezzanine

Afghanistan’s rich cultural heritage is celebrated in this exhibition of extraordinary archaeological treasures from the National Museum of Afghanistan, Kabul. Some 230 objects ranging in date from c. 2000 BC through AD 200 are drawn from four key archaeological sites. They include gold objects from the famed Bactrian Hoard, a two-thousand-year-old treasure cache discovered in 1978 but hidden from view until 2003.

Organized by the National Geographic Society and the National Gallery of Art, Washington, in association with the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and The Metropolitan Museum of Art

Supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities and an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities

At the National Gallery of Art the exhibition is made possible by the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation

The works in the exhibition are the sole property of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan

Catalogue, softcover, $30

**Afghanistan Acoustiguide**

Gallery director Earl A. Powell III, with commentary by Fredrik T. Hiebert, National Geographic Society; Sanjoy Mehendale, University of California, Berkeley; and archaeologist Paul Bernard, Paris, France.

Acoustiguide, $5

**Afghanistan Film**

Afghanistan: Hidden Treasures
Produced by Blue Bear Films for the National Geographic Society, the twenty-eight-minute documentary features footage of the 2003 rediscovery of the collections from the National Museum, Kabul, which had been hidden in the vaults of the Central Bank in the Presidential Palace in 1988. The film also includes interviews with National Geographic archaeologist and exhibition curator Fredrik T. Hiebert and museum director Omara Massoudi. A ten-minute version will be shown in the exhibition.

Initiated by The Art Institute of Chicago

Made possible through the generous support of the Trellis Fund

**Richard Misrach: On the Beach**

May 25—September 7, 2008
West Building, Ground Floor

The sublime beauty and inherent danger of the sea and its surroundings are explored in nineteen dramatic photographs. Drawn from one of Misrach’s most recent series, with some photographs as large as six feet high by ten feet wide, the exhibition speaks to contemporary society’s troubled relationship to nature—especially in the American West—and the historic events of 9/11.

Initiated by The Art Institute of Chicago

Sponsored by The Exhibition Circle of the National Gallery of Art

Catalogues: hardcover, $60; softcover, $35

**Martin Puryear**

June 22—September 28, 2008
West Building, Main Floor

A native Washingtonian who has achieved international acclaim, Martin Puryear (b. 1941) has created a distinctive body of sculpture that explores natural forms and materials, especially a wide variety of woods, and engages issues of history, culture, and identity. In the first American retrospective of his work in more than fifteen years, some forty-eight objects created between 1976 and 2007 reflect the integration of concepts of minimalism.

Organized by The Museum of Modern Art, New York

Sponsored by The Exhibition Circle of the National Gallery of Art

Catalogues: hardcover, $60; softcover, $35
MAY/JUNE 2008   NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART   WWW.NGA.GOV

IN OTHER NEWS

**Impressed by Light:** British Photographs from Paper Negatives, 1840–1860**

Through May 4, 2008
West Building, Ground Floor

The work of more than forty photographers, many of whom were gentlemen-amateurs who favored the collotype (photographs made from paper negatives) for its expressive qualities, is preserved through 210 photographs in the first exhibition to explore British photography in the 1840s and 1850s.


Made possible by the generous support of the Telefilm Fund, the Film Foundation, and the Reyna and Milton Cohen Family Foundation.

The catalogue is made possible by Howard Sinn, with additional support from Mary C. and James W. Foley, the National Endowment for the Arts, Colorado (Medici Prince)."
Welcome to the National Gallery of Art. Please visit our website at www.nga.gov for more information.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 28**

9:30 **Overview of Western Art: Medieval Art**

10:15 **Panel Discussion Moderated by Rene Boitelle, Anthea Duncan Forbes, and Christopher Callen:** Representing Sacred Art. See ( ) on page 3.

12:10 **Recent Acquisitions in European Painting:** J. Russell Sale or Carla Brenner. May 30 and June 6, 7, and 13 (60 mins.). J. Russell Sale.

12:30 **Art in Early Modern Europe**: David Gariff. June 16, 23, and 30 (50 mins.).

**THURSDAY, MAY 29**

9:30 **Overview of Western Art: Renaissance and Baroque**

10:15 **Panel Discussion Moderated by Rene Boitelle, Anthea Duncan Forbes, and Christopher Callen**: From Representation to Modern History: Art and Contemporary Works of Art in the United States and European Art. See ( ) on page 3.

12:10 **Recent Acquisitions in European Painting:** J. Russell Sale or Carla Brenner. May 30 and June 6, 7, and 13 (60 mins.). J. Russell Sale.

12:30 **Art in Early Modern Europe**: David Gariff. June 16, 23, and 30 (50 mins.).

**FRIDAY, MAY 30**

9:30 **Overview of Western Art: The Nineteenth Century**

10:15 **Panel Discussion Moderated by Rene Boitelle, Anthea Duncan Forbes, and Christopher Callen**: Modernism in the Arts in 1768. See ( ) on page 3.

12:10 **Recent Acquisitions in European Painting:** J. Russell Sale or Carla Brenner. May 30 and June 6, 7, and 13 (60 mins.). J. Russell Sale.

12:30 **Art in Early Modern Europe**: David Gariff. June 16, 23, and 30 (50 mins.).

**SATURDAY, JUNE 7**

9:30 **Overview of Western Art: Modern and Contemporary Art**

10:15 **Panel Discussion Moderated by Rene Boitelle, Anthea Duncan Forbes, and Christopher Callen**: American Expatriates Abroad: The Exiles and their Work in Europe. See ( ) on page 3.

12:10 **Recent Acquisitions in European Painting:** J. Russell Sale or Carla Brenner. May 30 and June 6, 7, and 13 (60 mins.). J. Russell Sale.

12:30 **Art in Early Modern Europe**: David Gariff. June 16, 23, and 30 (50 mins.).
**Anatomy of Art:**
Photography in the Nineteenth Century

Gallery talks, lectures, and demonstrations focus on the equipment and processes employed by early photographic practitioners. Photographs may be viewed in the exhibition. Visually impaired--assisted by Lightlitz in the Forum of American Art. Visit “Art pages” for more information.

**Gallery Talks**
East Building Information Desk (eb) or West Building Auditorium (wba)

**Concerts**
Concerts take place in the West Building Auditorium (wba) or East Building (eb).

**Family Activities**
Children and Teen Film Program

**Film Programs**

**Music**

**Tours**

**Visitors Information**

**Visit Online or Call**

**Information: Library**

**Sculpture Garden**

**Gallery Shops**

**Tickets**

**Accessibility**
May • June

VISIT WWW.NGA.GOV/CALENDAR FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 22 – September 21, 2008

National Gallery of Art

Treasures from the National Museum, Kabul

Martin Puryear

Photo © Kitty Colwell/Museum
National Museum of Afghanistan