MASTERS OF BRITISH PAINTING 1800-1950

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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SPECIAL PREVIEW OF MASTERS OF BRITISH PAINTING 1800-1950 FOR CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS OF MUSEUM OF MODERN ART AND DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

Sir Roger Makins, British Ambassador to the United States, will open an exhibition called <u>Masters of British Painting 1800-1950</u> at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 street, on Monday evening at 9:30. The special preview, being held for the Museum's Contributing Members will also be attended by distinguished guests from this country, Europe and Canada. The exhibition will open to the public on Wednesday, following the regular Museum Members' opening on Tuesday evening.

<u>Masters of British Painting</u> consists of 119 paintings ranging from famous landscapes by Turner and Constable to recent work by such well-known artists as Graham Sutherland and Francis Bacon. It was selected and installed by Andrew Carnduff Ritchie, Director of the Museum's Department of Painting and Sculpture.

Sir Roger, who will be making one of his last official appearances, will be introduced to the visitors by William A. M. Burden, President of the Museum. Among the 350 guests will be Sir John Rothenstein, Director of the Tate Gallery, London; Dr. R. H. Hubbard, Chief Curator of the National Gallery of Canada; Mr. Thomas Howe, Director of the California Palace of the Legion of Honor in San Francisco; and Mrs.Lilian Somerville, Director of the Fine Arts Department of the British Council which assisted in shipping the paintings from England.

Sir Francis Rundall, Consul General of Great Britain, and Lady Rundall, Hon. T. P. Davin, Consul General of New Zealand, Hon. Josiah Francis, Consul General of Australia, H. E. Dr. E. Ronald Walker, Ambaasador and Permanent representative to the United Nations from Australia, and H. E. Dr. R. A. MacKay, Ambaasador and Permanent representative from Canada to the United Nations, are among the government officials who are expected to attend.

The exhibition will remain on view at the Museum through December 2. It will then be shown in St. Louis at the City Art Museum and in San Francisco at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor.

If you are interested in assigning a photographer, please call Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, CIrcle 5-8900 before 5:30.