

The Museum of Modern Art

CURATORS' BIOGRAPHIES

MARINA BESSONOVA

Marina Bessonova has been curator of modern French painting at the State Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts in Moscow since 1970. She has organized numerous exhibitions on the works of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist painters and contributed to many exhibition catalogues. Her recent projects include the exhibitions IMPRESSIONIST TO EARLY MODERN PAINTINGS FROM THE U.S.S.R. (1986), MOSCOW-LENINGRAD, EPOCH OF DISCOVERIES (FRENCH AVANT-GARDE ART FROM 1900 TO THE PRESENT) (1989), and PAUL GAUGUIN: VIEW FROM RUSSIA (1989).

JACK COWART

Jack Cowart is head of department and curator of twentieth-century art at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. The major exhibitions and related research catalogues he has contributed to since coming to the National Gallery in 1983 include GEORGIA O'KEEFFE 1887-1987, and HENRI MATISSE: THE EARLY YEARS IN NICE 1916-1930. Cowart also directed the 1977-1978 exhibition HENRI MATISSE PAPER CUT-OUTS that premiered at the National Gallery. He received a Ph.D. from The Johns Hopkins University (1972) with a dissertation entitled *Ecoliers to Fauves - Henri Matisse, Albert Marquet and Henri Manguin Drawings: 1890-1906*.

JOHN ELDERFIELD

John Elderfield is director of the Department of Drawings and curator in the Department of Painting and Sculpture at The Museum of Modern Art, New York. His work on Matisse includes *Fauvism* (1976), *Matisse in the Collection of The Museum of Modern Art* (1978), *The Cut-Outs of Henri Matisse* (1978), and *The Drawings of Henri Matisse* (1984), the first two of which accompanied exhibitions he organized. His other recent exhibitions and accompanying publications include THE MODERN DRAWING (1984), KURT SCHWITTERS (1985), MORRIS LOUIS, (1986), and THE DRAWINGS OF RICHARD DIEBENKORN (1988). He received a Ph.D. in 1975 from the Courtauld Institute of Art at the University of London.

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ALBERT KOSTENEVICH

Albert Kostenevich is chief curator of modern European painting at the State Hermitage Museum in Leningrad, a post he has held for 21 years. Beginning with an early retrospective of the paintings of van Gogh in 1967, he has been responsible for numerous exhibitions at the Hermitage, including many shows of American and western art on loan from museums in the United States. Kostenevich specializes in French art of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In addition, he is the author of numerous publications, including *Orozco* (1969), *Raoul Dufy* (1975), *Picasso* (exhibition catalogue, Moscow and Leningrad, 1982), *European Painting of the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries in the Hermitage* (1987, in English), and *From Monet to Picasso* (1989). His work in preparation for *MATISSE IN MOROCCO* has provided expanded opportunities for him to travel and conduct research in the United States and Europe.

PIERRE SCHNEIDER

Pierre Schneider, art critic and scholar, is a Junior Fellow of the Society of Fellows at Harvard University, from which he received a Ph.D. in 1952. He also holds the Doctorat d'Etat from the University of Paris (1984). The author of a monograph on Matisse published in 1984, he has initiated and directed or otherwise been involved with numerous exhibitions and accompanying catalogues on the art of Henri Matisse, including *HENRI MATISSE: EXPOSITION DU CENTENAIRE* at the Grand-Palais, Paris (1970), *HENRI MATISSE: DAS GOLDENE ZEITALTER*, Kunsthalle, Bielefeld (1981), and *MATISSE ET L'ITALIE*, Museo Correr, Venice (1987). A frequent lecturer and contributor to European and American journals, Schneider resides in Paris.