

*loc. nat nys + mags. 127
museums.*

**COMMITTEE FOR THE EXHIBITION OF FRENCH DRAWINGS
FROM AMERICAN COLLECTIONS** at the Boymans Museum, Rotterdam and the Orangerie, Paris, 1958

21 West 53 Street, New York 19, New York

Telephone: Circle 7-2585

FOR RELEASE
Friday, June 20, 1958
No. 1

MAJOR EXHIBITION OF AMERICAN-OWNED FRENCH DRAWINGS TO BE SHOWN AT ROTTERDAM AND PARIS

More than 200 of the finest French drawings in America chosen from 27 public and 41 private collections will leave New York on July 18 for showings in Rotterdam and Paris as a return gesture for two exhibitions of French drawings from European collections that toured this country a few years ago. Initiated in response to a request from the Boymans Museum in Rotterdam and the Louvre in Paris, "French Drawings from American Collections" ranges from portraits by court artists of the 16th century to 20th-century drawings by Matisse and Picasso. It has been organized by a distinguished Committee representative of more than 50 museums and private collectors under the Honorary Chairmanship of C. Douglas Dillon, former Ambassador to France and now Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, and Paul J. Sachs, Professor of Fine Arts, Emeritus, at Harvard University.

At the request of the American Embassy in Paris, the International Council at The Museum of Modern Art, New York, assumed responsibility for the project, which has involved the cooperation of institutions and individuals from virtually every part of the United States. Mrs. Bliss Parkinson, President of the International Council, initiated the formation of the Honorary Committee, which includes the Ambassadors of France and of the Netherlands, and invited William A. M. Burden, President of The Museum of Modern Art, to form the exhibition's General Committee, representative of art patrons and institutions throughout the country especially known for their collections of drawings.

The works of art were chosen by a Selection Committee of ten experts headed

more

by Miss Agnes Mongan, Assistant Director and Curator of Drawings at the Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, who will accompany the exhibition to Europe as its Curator. Coordination of arrangements within the United States has been undertaken by the International Program of The Museum of Modern Art, directed by Porter A. McCray, under the auspices of the International Council. The Metropolitan Museum of Art is serving as final assembly point for the exhibition prior to its sailing on the Nieuw Amsterdam on July 18. Eighteen other institutions throughout the country are acting as local collecting points for their own drawings and those of private lenders in their respective areas.

"French Drawings from American Collections" will be shown at the Boymans Museum, Rotterdam from July 30 to September 28 and at the Orangerie in Paris from October 24 to January 2, 1959.

Among the 16th-century drawings are a group of portraits by Clouet, including one of Mary, Queen of Scots wearing her widow's weeds. Taste from a series of "The Five Senses" by Bellange and a number of drawings by Claude and Poussin are in the 17th-century section. More than a quarter of the exhibition is devoted to the 18th century, reflecting the special interest American collectors have shown in that period. Boucher's Reclining Nude, formerly owned by the Czars of Russia, and outstanding examples by Fragonard and Watteau are among the drawings from this brilliant century of French draftsmanship.

From the earlier part of the 19th century are four landscapes by Corot, nine portraits by Ingres and drawings by David, Géricault, Courbet, Delacroix, Daubigny and Millet. The Impressionists and Post-Impressionists active in the latter part of the century are represented through drawings by Cézanne, Degas, Gauguin, Matisse, Renoir and Seurat. The 20th-century section with which the show concludes offers a strong representation of drawings by Matisse and Picasso demonstrating the successive styles of each of these artists.

The Boymans Museum in Rotterdam directed by Mr. J. C. Ebbinge Wubben will present the exhibition under its own sponsorship; the Holland-America Line is pro-

more

129

viding free transportation to and from Europe. In France, the Section of Arts and Letters of the Ministry of Education and the Cultural Relations Section of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs will sponsor the exhibition jointly with the American Embassy. The Association Française d'Action Artistique, an organization responsible for the exchange of art exhibitions between France and other countries, is coordinating arrangements in Paris and underwriting costs there. The Orangerie where the exhibition will be shown is a branch of the Louvre, whose Curator of Drawings, Mme Jacqueline Bouchot-Saupique, was largely responsible for arranging the two exhibitions of French drawings that toured the United States.

The Selection Committee under Miss Mongan's chairmanship includes:

Adelyn D. Breeskin, Director, The Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, Md.; Henry Sayles Francis, Curator of Paintings and Prints, The Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, O. Harold Joachim, Curator of Prints and Drawings, The Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis, Minn.; William S. Lieberman, Curator of Prints, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, N. Y.; Elizabeth Mongan, Curator of Graphic Arts, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C.; Daniel Catton Rich, Director, The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.; Theodore Rousseau, Jr., Curator of Paintings and Drawings, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, N. Y.; Felice Stampfle, Curator of Prints and Drawings, The Pierpont Morgan Library, New York, N. Y.; Carl Zigrosser, Curator of Prints, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, Penna.

Members of the Committee for the Exhibition serving with the Chairman,

William A. M. Burden, are: Frederick B. Adams, Jr., Director, The Pierpont Morgan Library, New York, N. Y.; Winslow Ames, Saunderstown, R. I.; Walter Cummings Baker, New York, N. Y.; Mrs. Tiffany Blake, Chicago, Ill.; Robert Woods Bliss, Washington, D. C.; Adelyn D. Breeskin, Director, The Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, Md.; John Nicholas Brown, Providence, R. I.; Richard F. Brown, Chief Curator of Art, Los Angeles County Museum, Los Angeles, Calif.; Harold T. Clark, President, The Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, O.; Stephen C. Clark, New York, N. Y.; John P. Coolidge, Director, Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.; Charles C. Cunningham
more

130

Director, Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, Conn.; Chester Dale, President, National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Murray Danforth, Providence, R. I.; Richard S. Davis, Director, The Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis, Minn.; René d'Harnoncourt, Director, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, N. Y.; A. Conger Goodyear, New York, N. Y.; Everett D. Graff, President, The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.; T. Edward Hanley, Bradford, Penna.; Calvin S. Hathaway, Director, The Cooper Union Museum for the Arts of Decoration, New York, N. Y.; August Heckscher, Chairman, The International Council at The Museum of Modern Art, New York, N. Y.; Philip Hofer, Cambridge, Mass.; Thomas Carr Howe, Director, California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, Calif.; R. Sturgis Ingersoll, President, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, Penna.; Edward S. King, Director, The Walters Art Gallery, Baltimore, Md.; Siegfried Kramarsky, New York, N. Y.; Robert Lehman, New York, N. Y.; Ralph Lowell, President, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Mass.; Henri Marceau, Director, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, Penna.; John Maxon, Director, Rhode Island School of Design, The Museum of Art, Providence, R. I. Mrs. Chauncey McCormick, Chicago, Ill.; John de Menil, Houston, Tex.; William M. Milliken, Director Emeritus, The Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, O.; Junius S. Morgan, President, The Pierpont Morgan Library, New York, N. Y.; Grace L. McCann Morley, Director, San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, Calif.; Charles Nagel, Director, City Art Museum of St. Louis, St. Louis, Mo.; John S. Newberry, New York, N. Y.; Mrs. Bliss Parkinson, President, The International Council at The Museum of Modern Art, New York, N. Y.; Duncan Phillips, President and Director, The Phillips Gallery, Washington, D. C.; Perry T. Rathbone, Director, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Mass.; John Rewald, New York, N. Y.; Daniel Catton Rich, Director, The Art Institute of Chicago, Ill.; Andrew Carnduff Ritchie, Director, Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, Conn.; David Rockefeller, New York, N. Y.; Nelson A. Rockefeller, New York, N. Y.; James J. Rorimer, Director, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, N. Y.; Lessing J. Rosenwald, Jenkintown, Penna.; Edgar C. Schenck, Director, The

more

132
Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Laurence C. S. Sickman, Director, William Rockhill Nelson Gallery of Art, Atkins Museum of Fine Arts, Kansas City, Mo; Frederick J. Singley, Jr. President, The Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, Md.; Mrs. C. I. Stralem, New York, N. Y.; Mrs. Herbert N. Straus, New York, N. Y.; Mrs. Jesse Isidor Straus, New York, N. Y.; John S. Thacher, Director, The Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, Washington, D. C.; John Walker, Director National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C.; Edward M. M. Warburg, New York, N. Y.; Gordon Bailey Washburn Director, Carnegie Institute Department of Fine Arts, Pittsburgh, Penna.; and Forsyth Wickes, Newport, R. I.

Museums and other public institutions which are lending drawings to the exhibition are: Albright Art Gallery, Buffalo, N. Y.; The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.; The Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, Md.; The Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, N. Y.; California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco, Calif.; The Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, O.; City Art Museum of St. Louis, St. Louis, Mo.; The Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, O.; The Columbus Gallery of Fine Arts, Columbus, O.; The Cooper Union Museum, New York, N. Y.; Department of Graphic Arts, Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.; The Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, Washington, D. C.; Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.; George A. Lucas Collection, The Maryland Institute, Baltimore, Md.; The Houghton Library, Library of Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.; The Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, N. Y.; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Mass.; The Museum of Modern Art, New York, N. Y.; National Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C.; Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia Penna.; The Phillips Collection, Washington, D. C.; The Pierpont Morgan Library, New York, N. Y.; Rhode Island School of Design, The Museum of Art, Providence, R. I.; Smith College Museum of Art, Northampton, Mass.; Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, Conn. The Walters Art Gallery, Baltimore, Md.

more

In addition to two anonymous lenders, private collectors who have made works available are: Mr. and Mrs. Winslow Ames, Saunderstown, R. I.; Curtis O. Baer, New York, N. Y.; Walter Cummings Baker, New York, N. Y.; Dr. and Mrs. Harry Bakwin, New York, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bareiss, Greenwich, Conn.; Alexander M. Bing, New York, N. Y.; Mrs. John Nicholas Brown, Providence, R. I.; Mrs. Hubert Chanler, Washington, D. C.; Stephen C. Clark, New York, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. Richard S. Davis, Minneapolis, Minn.; T. Edward Hanley, Bradford, Penna.; Mr. and Mrs. Philip Hofer, Cambridge, Mass.; Siegfried Kramarsky, New York, N. Y.; Mrs. Siegfried Kramarsky, New York, N. Y.; Mrs. Phyllis B. Lambert, New York, N. Y.; Robert Lehman, New York, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. Alex M. Lewyt, New York, N. Y.; Mrs. Francis MacVeagh, St. Helena, Calif.; Mr. and Mrs. Samuel A. Marx, Chicago, Ill.; Mrs. Chauncey McCormick, Chicago, Ill.; John S. Newberry, New York, N. Y.; Estate of Pauline K. Palmer, Chicago, Ill.; Henry Pearlman, New York, N. Y.; Erich Maria Remarque, New York, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. John Rewald, New York, N. Y.; Lessing J. Rosenwald, Jenkintown, Penna.; Mrs. Lessing J. Rosenwald, Jenkintown, Penna.; Arthur Sachs, Paris, France; Paul M. Segal, Washington, D. C.; Mr. and Mrs. Norton Simon, Los Angeles, Calif.; Mr. and Mrs. Germain Seligman, New York, N. Y.; Mrs. Louise Smith, New York, N. Y.; Mrs. C. I. Stralem, New York, N. Y.; Mrs. Herbert N. Straus, New York, N. Y.; Mrs. Jesse Isidor Straus, New York, N. Y.; John S. Thacher, Washington, D. C.; Mr. and Mrs. Edward M. M. Warburg, New York, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. John W. Warrington, Cincinnati, O.; Forsyth Wickes, Newport, R. I.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE EXHIBITION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE HEADQUARTERS FOR THE EXHIBITION OF FRENCH DRAWINGS FROM AMERICAN COLLECTIONS, 21 West 53 Street, New York 19, New York, Telephone Circle 5-8900, Extension 202.