MASTERWORKS FROM THE LOUISE REINHARDT SMITH COLLECTION

May 4 - August 22, 1995

Kirk Varnedoe, Chief Curator, Department of Painting and Sculpture, The Museum of Modern Art

This exhibition and its accompanying publication are made possible by a generous grant from Dorothy and Lewis Cullman in honor of their friendship with Louise Reinhardt Smith.

An exhibition drawn from the collection of Louise Reinhardt Smith, a Life Trustee of The Museum of Modern Art, comprises a wide-ranging selection of exceptional paintings, drawings, sculptures, and prints. The exhibition celebrates the superb array of gifts and promised gifts Mrs. Smith has made to The Museum of Modern Art. When they are eventually merged into the painting and sculpture collection of the Museum, these gifts will further expand and enrich the Museum's chronological record of the history of modern art. The thirty-six works on view are varied in temperament and nature. Highlights include two extraordinary and historically important paintings by Pablo Picasso -- the large Bather (1908-09) and the powerful Woman Dressing Her Hair (1940); Picture with an Archer (1909), by Vasily Kandinsky, a radiant, exalted imagining of nature; and Alberto Giacometti's Hands Holding the Void (1934-35), which, with its overtones of terror and mystery, is one of the most haunting icons of Surrealist sculpture. Also on view are Henri Matisse's Landscape at Collioure (1905) and Still Life with Aubergines (1911), Claude Monet's Water Lilies with Reflection of a Willow Tree, and Georges-Pierre Seurat's Covered Cart and Dog (c. 1883).

The other artists represented in the exhibition are Georges Braque, Edgar Degas, Aristide Maillol, Henry Moore, Odilon Redon, Auguste Rodin, Edward Steichen, Jacques Villon, and Maurice de Vlaminck.

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