

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
11 WEST 53RD STREET, NEW YORK

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FOR RELEASE TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1940

ITALIAN MASTERPIECES TO BE SHOWN
AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Stephen C. Clark, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Museum of Modern Art, announces that the Museum has signed an agreement with the Royal Italian Government to exhibit the Italian masterpieces brought to this country last year for the San Francisco World's Fair. The loan of the exhibition was arranged through Commendatore Eugenio Ventura, Responsible Trustee of the Royal Italian Government, and Professor Giulio Carlo Argan, Deputy of the Department of National Education. Negotiations were conducted with the aid of the Italian Consul General in New York, Commendatore Gaetano Vecchiotti, and Charles R. Henschel, President of M. Knoedler and Company. The Exhibition of Italian Masters will open to the public at the Museum, 11 West 53 Street, on Friday, January 26, 1940, and will continue approximately two months.

"We have signed the agreement with the Royal Italian Government," Mr. Clark said, "in order to give New York an opportunity to see the masterpieces before they are returned to Italy, where a law has recently been passed to prevent their ever leaving that country again. We accepted the exhibition only after we were informed that, for various reasons, the Metropolitan Museum of Art was not in a position to meet the requirements of the representatives of the Italian Government.

"Our acceptance of this exhibition of Italian masterpieces does not indicate a change in the established policy of the Museum or any shifting of its emphasis on the contemporary arts. Our primary interest is, and will continue to be, in the field of modern art. Great masterpieces of art are not, however, bound by any period and the influence of the Italian Renaissance and Baroque traditions upon the modern artist is fundamental and continuous. We are, therefore, glad to be given the opportunity to show these priceless masterpieces to

the public of New York City.

"The Museum will show simultaneously with the Italian masterpieces an exhibition of the work of some of the greatest modern artists of both the European and American schools. Owing to the large amount of museum space which will be occupied by the Italian masterpieces, this exhibition of modern art will, however, be limited and not in any sense comprehensive."

On account of their tremendous value, the Italian masterpieces will arrive under guard and special precautions will be taken to protect them both by day and by night. The entire second floor of the Museum will be devoted to their exhibition and will be rearranged not only to safeguard the masterpieces but to give the public ample room to view them.

A private preview and reception for members and guests will be held Thursday night, January 25, at the Museum. The exhibition will open to the public Friday morning, January 26, at 10 o'clock and, until it closes some time in March, will be open from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. every day, including Sundays. Admission to the Museum for the period of the exhibition will be the usual 25 cents daily, 10 cents on Sundays, to everything except the galleries reserved for the Italian masterpieces, for which an additional 25-cent fee will be charged. Between the hours of 10 A.M. and noon, however, people will be admitted to those galleries without the additional fee.

The exhibition includes world-famous paintings and sculpture of the Italian Renaissance and Baroque periods. Among the twenty paintings are Botticelli's Birth of Venus; Raphael's Madonna of the Chair; Titian's Portrait of Pope Paul III and Correggio's Madonna and Child. Among the seven pieces of sculpture are such masterpieces as Donatello's Bust of a Young Man, Verrocchio's David, and the marble bas-relief by Michelangelo, Madonna and Child with the Young St. John, which will be the first showing of any sculpture by Michelangelo in New York.

The entire list of paintings and sculpture in the Exhibition of Italian Masters is as follows:

Paintings

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FRA ANGELICO (Giovanni da Fiesole), 1387-1455. School of Florence.

THE NAMING OF ST. JOHN, panel, 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 9 $\frac{7}{16}$ inches.
Lent by the Royal Museum of San Marco, Florence.

- BELLINI, Giovanni, 1430(?)--1516. School of Venice.
MADONNA AND CHILD WITH ST. JOHN AND ST. CATHERINE, panel, $21 \frac{5}{8} \times 30 \frac{1}{4}$ inches. Lent by the Royal Gallery of the Academy, Venice.
- BOTTICELLI (Alessandro di Mariano Filipepi), 1444-1510. School of Florence.
THE BIRTH OF VENUS, tempera on linen, $66 \frac{3}{4} \times 108 \frac{1}{4}$ inches. Lent by the Royal Uffizi Gallery, Florence.
- BRONZINO, Agnolo, 1503-1572. School of Florence.
PORTRAIT OF A LADY, panel, $42 \frac{7}{8} \times 33 \frac{1}{2}$ inches. Lent by the Royal Gallery, Turin.
- CARAVAGGIO (Michelangelo Merisi or Merisio da Caravaggio), 1573-1610. School of Rome.
BOY BITTEN BY A LIZARD, oil on canvas, $25 \frac{1}{4} \times 20$ inches. Lent by Professor Roberto Longhi, Rome.
- CAVALLINO, Bernardo, 1622-1654. School of Naples.
ST. CECILIA, oil on canvas, $24 \times 19 \frac{1}{4}$ inches. Lent by the National Museum, Naples.
- CORREGGIO, Antonio Allegri Da, 1494 or earlier-1534. School of North Italy.
MADONNA AND CHILD, panel, $22 \frac{3}{4} \times 17 \frac{5}{8}$ inches. Lent by the Royal Estense Gallery, Modena.
- GENTILESCHI, Orazio, c.1565-1647 or earlier. School of Rome.
MADONNA AND CHILD, oil on canvas, $39 \frac{3}{8} \times 33 \frac{1}{2}$ inches. Lent by Count Alessandro Contini-Bonacossi, Florence.
- GUERCINO (Giovanni Francesco Barbieri), 1591-1666. School of Bologna.
THE BATH OF DIANA, oil on canvas, $12 \frac{1}{2} \times 20 \frac{1}{2}$ inches. Lent by the Gallery of the Carrara Academy, Bergamo.
- LONGHI, Alessandro, 1733-1813. School of Venice.
PORTRAIT OF GIULIO CONTARINI, oil on canvas, $40 \frac{1}{8} \times 36$ inches. Lent by the Gallery of the Concordi Academy, Rovigo.
- LOTTO, Lorenzo, 1480-1556. School of Venice.
PORTRAIT OF A YOUNG MAN, oil on canvas, $13 \frac{3}{4} \times 11$ inches. Lent by the Municipal Museum in the Sforza Castle, Milan.
- LUINI, Bernardo, c.1475 to between August 2, 1531, and July 15, 1532. School of Milan.
BODY OF ST. CATHERINE BORNE BY ANGELS TO SINAI, fresco transferred to canvas, $47 \frac{5}{8} \times 102 \frac{1}{4}$ inches. Lent by the Royal Brera Gallery, Milan.
- MANTEGNA, Andrea, 1431-1506. School of Padua.
ST. GEORGE, panel, $26 \times 12 \frac{5}{8}$ inches. Lent by the Royal Gallery of the Academy, Venice.
- MASACCIO (Tommaso di Giovanni di Simone Guidi), 1401-1428. School of Florence.
THE CRUCIFIXION, panel, $33 \frac{1}{2} \times 25 \frac{1}{2}$ inches. Lent by the Royal Gallery, Naples.
- PALMA VECCHIO (Jacopo), 1420-1528. School of Venice.
VIRGIN AND CHILD WITH THREE SAINTS, oil on canvas, $49 \frac{1}{2} \times 76 \frac{3}{4}$ inches. Lent by the Royal Gallery of the Academy, Venice.
- PARMIGIANINO (Francesco Mazzola), 1504-1540. School of Parma.
PORTRAIT OF A LADY, called THE COURTESAN, ANTHEA, oil on canvas, $55 \times 33 \frac{5}{8}$ inches. Lent by the Royal Gallery, Naples.

RAPHAEL (Raffaello Sanzio), 1483-1520. School of Central Italy.

MADONNA OF THE CHAIR, panel (circular), 28 inches diameter. Lent by the Royal Pitti Gallery, Florence.

PIOMBO, Sebastiano Del, c.1485-1547. School of Venice.

PORTRAIT OF A LADY, called LA FORNARINA, oil on canvas, $26\frac{3}{4}$ x $21\frac{5}{8}$ inches. Lent by the Royal Uffizi Gallery, Florence.

TIEPOLO, Giovanni Battista, 1696-1770. School of Venice.

A COUNCIL OF THE KNIGHTS OF MALTA, oil on canvas, $40\frac{1}{4}$ x $76\frac{3}{8}$ inches. Lent by the Municipal Museum, Udine.

TINTORETTO (Jacopo Robusti), 1518-1594. School of Venice.

ST. AUGUSTINE HEALING THE PLAGUE-STRICKEN, oil on canvas, $102\frac{3}{4}$ x $68\frac{3}{4}$ inches. Lent by the Municipal Museum, Vicenza.

TITIAN (Tiziano Vecellio), c.1477-1576. School of Venice.

PORTRAIT OF POPE PAUL III, oil on canvas. $41\frac{3}{4}$ x $32\frac{1}{4}$ inches. Lent by the National Museum, Naples.

Sculpture

BERNINI, Lorenzo, 1598-1680. School of Rome.

PORTRAIT OF COSTANZA BUONARELLI, marble; height, $28\frac{3}{8}$ inches. Lent by the National Museum (Bargello), Florence.

DONATELLO (Donato di Nicolò di Betto Bardi), 1386(?)--1466. School of Florence.

BUST OF A YOUNG MAN, called ANTONIO DA NARNI, bronze; height, $16\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Lent by the National Museum (Bargello), Florence.

LAURANA, Francesco, c.1420-1503. School of Naples.

PORTRAIT OF A LADY, called ELEONORA OF ARAGON, marble; height, 17 inches. Lent by the National Museum, Palermo.

MICHELANGELO (Michelangelo Buonarroti), 1475-1564. School of Florence.

MADONNA AND CHILD WITH THE YOUNG ST. JOHN, marble bas-relief (circular); diameter, $38\frac{1}{4}$ inches. Lent by the National Museum (Bargello), Florence.

POLLAIUOLO, Antonio Di Jacopo Del, 1429-1498.

School of Florence.

HERCULES AND ANTAEUS, bronze; height, $17\frac{3}{4}$ inches. Lent by the National Museum (Bargello), Florence.

TELLA ROBBIA, Andrea, 1435-1525. School of Florence.

THE ANNUNCIATION, glazed terra cotta; height of the Virgin, 65 inches; height of the Angel, 62 inches. Lent by a Private Collector.

VERROCCHIO (Andrea di Michele di Francesco Cione), 1435-1488. School of Florence.

DAVID, bronze; height, 48 inches. Lent by the National Museum (Bargello), Florence.