

NEWS RELEASE

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NORTH CAROLINA MUSEUM OF ART PUBLISHES SYSTEMATIC CATALOGUE OF SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY DUTCH AND FLEMISH PAINTINGS

Dennis P. Weller authored work on one of the Museum's most important collections

RALEIGH, N.C.—The Museum announced today the release of *Seventeenth-Century Dutch and Flemish Paintings*, by Curator of Northern European Art, Dennis Weller. The catalogue consists of individual entries on 77 paintings in the NCMA collection; all are illustrated in full color and accompanied by black and white comparative illustrations. Biographies of artists have also been included, as well as up-to-date documentation on the paintings. Noelle Ocon, NCMA conservator, authored the technical notes on each work.

The majority of the works were acquired as part of the original one million dollar state appropriation in 1947 which made North Carolina the first state in the nation to set aside public funds to purchase an art collection in order to establish the NCMA. Masterpieces by Jan Lievens, Govert Flinck, Jacob van Ruisdael, Jan Steen, Jan Brueghel the Elder, Gerard Seghers, Anthony van Dyck, and Jacob Jordeans are among the works in the collection.

Through his research on the collection, Weller made a number of discoveries of previous ownership, compositional changes made by the painters, and the identity a handful of the portrait sitters. He also re-attributed and re-dated a number of works.

"It has been a great pleasure to catalogue such an important and distinguished collection, and I hope the book reflects my enthusiasm for the art," Weller added, "I am also thrilled by Barbara Wiedemann's handsome design of the catalogue."

"We are proud of Dennis' extensive research and intense work to create the definitive publication on this important collection," remarked Director Lawrence J. Wheeler.

(more)

Funds for the research and printing of the catalogue were provided by the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, Thomas S. Kenan III, the Thomas S. Kenan Foundation, and others. It was printed by Classic Graphics, Morrisville, North Carolina. The catalogue is available for purchase through the Museum's Web site and in select North Carolina book stores.

About the North Carolina Museum of Art

The North Carolina Museum of Art's permanent collection spans more than 5,000 years, from ancient Egypt to the present, making it one of the premier visual arts museums in the Southeast. The Museum uses its collection to provide educational, aesthetic, intellectual and cultural experiences for the citizens of North Carolina and beyond. The Museum campus includes a 164-acre Museum Park and 2,700-seat outdoor amphitheater. Offerings include a series of national special exhibitions, adult classes, public lectures, family workshops, as well as films and concerts. The Museum is currently closed in preparation for the opening of its new gallery building on April 24, 2010.

Key NCMA Personnel

Author: Dennis P. Weller
Chief Editor: Karen Kelly

Technical Notes: Noelle Ocon
Photographer: Karen Malinofski

Design: Barbara Wiedemann

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The North Carolina Museum of Art, Lawrence J. Wheeler, director, is located at 2110 Blue Ridge Road in Raleigh. It is the Art Museum of the State of North Carolina, Beverly Eaves Perdue, governor, and an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources, Linda A. Carlisle, secretary. Visit the NCMA's Web site at www.ncartmuseum.org.