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HIGH MUSEUM OF ART TO BRING “GIRL WITH A PEARL EARRING” TO SOUTHEAST FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 2013

Girl with a Pearl Earring: Dutch Paintings from the Mauritshuis

June 23, 2013-September 29, 2013

ATLANTA, January 27, 2012 —The High Museum of Art in collaboration with the Mauritshuis, The Hague, will present a major exhibition of Dutch masterworks in 2013, including Johannes Vermeer’s iconic “Girl with a Pearl Earring,” which has not been on view in the United States for more than 15 years and has never been seen in the Southeast. Drawn from the Mauritshuis’s collection, “Girl with a Pearl Earring: Dutch Paintings from the Mauritshuis” will highlight the artistic genius of Dutch Golden Age painters, including Vermeer, Rembrandt van Rijn, Frans Hals and Jan Steen, through the presentation of more than 35 exceptional paintings. Opening in Atlanta on June 23, 2013, the exhibition will remain on view through September 29, 2013.



Johannes Vermeer (Dutch, 1632–1675), “Girl with a Pearl Earring,” ca. 1665, oil on canvas, 17½ x 15¼ inches, Mauritshuis, The Hague.

“For a selection of works from this renowned collection to be shown in the Southeast is a rare and extraordinary opportunity,” said Michael E.

Shapiro, Nancy and Holcombe T. Green, Jr., Director of the High Museum of Art. “Paintings of this caliber are underrepresented in this part of the country and this exhibition will create an opportunity for our community to study and admire these works of art that rarely travel outside of Europe.”

“We are delighted to have three excellent museums as partners for our U.S. tour,” said Emilie Gordenker, director of the Mauritshuis. “This collaboration allows us to present our collection on both the West and East Coasts of the United States, in large as well as more intimate venues.”

“Girl with a Pearl Earring: Dutch Paintings from the Mauritshuis” will showcase such masters as Johannes Vermeer, Rembrandt van Rijn, Frans Hals, Jan Steen, Jacob and Salomon van Ruysdael, Paulus Potter, Meindert Hobbema and Jan van Goyen. Through landscapes and portraits, the exhibition will explore the idea that Dutch artists more readily embraced genre paintings of secular subjects than their southern European contemporaries and focused on capturing commonplace scenes of daily life. Dutch artists not only recorded representations of the domestic interior, still lifes and revelrous crowds, but often imbued these scenes with moral undertones and humorous, sarcastic wit.

Key paintings featured in the exhibition include:

- Johannes Vermeer, “Girl with a Pearl Earring,” ca. 1665
- Carel Fabritius, “Goldfinch,” 1654
- Rembrandt van Rijn, “‘Tronie’ of a Man with a Feathered Beret,” ca. 1635
- Jan Steen, “The Way You Hear It, Is The Way You Sing It,” ca. 1665
- Jacob van Ruisdael, “View of Haarlem with Bleaching Grounds,” 1670–1675

Exhibition Organization and Tour

“Girl with a Pearl Earring: Dutch Paintings from the Mauritshuis” is organized by the Mauritshuis, The Hague, and will premiere at the de Young Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco (January 26, 2013–June 2, 2013). The exhibition will then travel to the High Museum of Art, Atlanta (June 23, 2013–September 29, 2013), and a condensed version will be on view at The Frick Collection, New York (October 22, 2013–January 12, 2014). Before traveling to the United States, the majority of the works will go to Japan, where they will be exhibited first at the Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum and then at the Kobe City Museum, both in 2012. The exhibition will be accompanied by a full-color catalogue.

About The Royal Picture Gallery Mauritshuis

Housed in a magnificent 17th-century city palace, the museum is celebrated for its masterpieces from the Dutch and Flemish Golden Age, including paintings by Vermeer, Rembrandt, Steen, Hals and Rubens. The works on permanent display provide a magnificent panorama of Dutch and Flemish art from the 15th through 17th centuries, from Flemish primitives to sunlit landscapes; from biblical characters to meticulous still lifes; from calm interiors to humorous genre scenes. The core holdings of the Mauritshuis were acquired by Stadholder William V, Prince of Orange-Nassau (1748–1806), whose son, King William I (1772–1843), presented them to the Dutch nation in 1816. Consisting of nearly 300 paintings in 1822, the holdings of the Mauritshuis have grown to approximately 800 such works today.

High Museum of Art

The High Museum of Art, founded in 1905 as the Atlanta Art Association, is the leading art museum in the southeastern United States. With more than 12,000 works of art in its permanent collection, the High Museum of Art has an extensive anthology of 19th- and 20th-century American and decorative art; significant holdings of European paintings; a growing collection of African American art; and burgeoning collections of modern and contemporary art, photography and African art. The High is also dedicated to supporting and collecting works by Southern artists and is distinguished as the only major museum in North America to have a curatorial department specifically devoted to the field of folk and self-taught art. The High’s media arts department produces acclaimed annual film series and festivals of foreign, independent and classic cinema. In November 2005 the High opened three new buildings by architect Renzo Piano that more than doubled the Museum’s size, creating a vibrant “village for the arts” at the Woodruff Arts Center in Midtown Atlanta. For more information about the High, please visit www.High.org.

The Woodruff Arts Center

The Woodruff Arts Center is ranked among the top four arts centers in the nation. The Woodruff is unique in that it combines four visual and performing arts divisions on one campus as one not-for-profit organization. Opened in 1968, the Woodruff Arts Center is home to the Alliance Theatre, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, the High Museum of Art and Young Audiences. To learn more about the Woodruff Arts Center, please visit www.woodruffcenter.org.

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