



PRESS RELEASE

from

THE FRICK COLLECTION

1 EAST 70TH STREET • NEW YORK • NEW YORK 10021 • TELEPHONE (212) 288-0700 • FAX (212) 628-4417

FRICK OFFERS FREE ADMISSION ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2010 TO MARK ITS 75th ANNIVERSARY AS A PUBLIC MUSEUM

Seventy-five years ago, members of the public took their first look at the museum known as The Frick Collection. The exact anniversary of that opening day will be marked this year with free admission on Thursday, December 16, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. In 1935, journalists wrote of the graceful mansion-turned-museum as a “legacy of beauty” where the quality of its collection was “unsurpassed anywhere.” Decades later, it remains one of New York City’s cultural treasures, drawing approximately 275,000 visitors annually to see masterpieces by Bellini, Fragonard, Gainsborough, Goya, El Greco, Holbein, Houdon, Ingres, Rembrandt, Renoir, Turner, Vermeer, Whistler, and others, as well as related special exhibitions, education programs, and concerts. Anniversary celebrations in 2010 have included a summertime display of archival architectural drawings, lectures and other education programs, anniversary-themed member events, and the debut of a new orientation film.



The West Gallery of The Frick Collection, 1935. Photo: The Frick Collection/Frick Art Reference Library Archives

The free day in December is the culmination of these activities and will feature access to the permanent collection and special exhibition galleries, the opportunity to view never-publicly-shown Frick archival footage, as well as a full day of 75th-anniversary-related gallery talks. For further information, consult

<http://www.frick.org/anniversary>.

ABOUT THE FRICK COLLECTION

Henry Clay Frick (1849-1919), the coke and steel industrialist, philanthropist, and art collector, left his residence on 70th Street and his remarkable collection of Western paintings, sculpture, and decorative arts to the public “for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a gallery of art, [and] of encouraging and developing the study of fine arts and of advancing the general knowledge of kindred subjects.” Designed and built for Mr. Frick in 1913 and 1914 by Thomas Hastings of Carrère and Hastings, the mansion provides a grand domestic setting reminiscent of the noble houses of Europe for the masterworks from the Renaissance through the nineteenth century that it contains. Also part of the institution is the Frick Art Reference Library, founded in 1920 by Helen



Sir Gerald Kelly, Portrait of Mr. Frick in the West Gallery, 1925, Oil on canvas, 48 x 40 inches, Frick Art & Historical Center

Clay Frick as a memorial to her father. The mission of the Library was, and remains, to make available to a broad community of researchers materials for the study of art in the Western tradition from the fourth to the mid-twentieth century. The Library (located on the same block as the museum, but with its entrance on 71st Street) also celebrates a 75th anniversary in 2010, having moved into the present building in 1935.

BASIC INFORMATION

General Information Phone: (212) 288-0700

Web site: www.frick.org

E-mail: info@frick.org

Where: 1 East 70th Street, near Fifth Avenue.

Hours: open six days a week: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesdays through Saturdays; 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sundays. Closed Mondays, New Year's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day. Limited hours (11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) on Lincoln's Birthday, Election Day, and Veterans Day.

Admission: \$18; senior citizens \$12; students \$5; “pay as you wish” on Sundays from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE TO YOUR READERS: Children under ten are not admitted to the Collection.

Subway: #6 local (on Lexington Avenue) to 68th Street station; **Bus:** M1, M2, M3, and M4 southbound on Fifth Avenue to 72nd Street and northbound on Madison Avenue to 70th Street; crosstown M72 stopping eastbound on Madison at 70th Street or westbound on Fifth Avenue at 72nd Street or 69th Street

Tour Information: included in the price of admission is an audio tour of the permanent collection, provided by Acoustiguide. The tour is offered in six languages: English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish.

Gallery Talks and Education Programs: an array of docent-led discussions and other gallery talks are now offered, many included with admission. Please refer to our website for further information.

Museum Shop: the shop is open the same days as the Museum, closing fifteen minutes before the institution.

Group Visits: Please call (212) 288-0700 for details and to make reservations.

#167, November 30, 2010

For further press information, please contact Heidi Rosenau, Manager of Media Relations & Marketing, or Alexis Light, Media Relations & Marketing Coordinator

Media Relations Phone: (212) 547-6844

Fax: (212) 628-4417

E-mail address: mediarelations@frick.org