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from

THE FRICK COLLECTION

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COLIN B. BAILEY APPOINTED CHIEF CURATOR OF THE FRICK COLLECTION

**BAILEY TO BRING SUPERB SCHOLARLY CREDENTIALS AND AN IMPRESSIVE
BACKGROUND OF EXPERIENCE AT NORTH AMERICAN MUSEUMS**

Colin B. Bailey has been appointed to the position of Chief Curator of The Frick Collection. Dr. Bailey, who will join the staff on October 2, 2000, takes on a position held only by one other person since the institution's public opening in 1935, the recently-retired Curator Edgar Munhall. Mr. Bailey comes to The Frick Collection from the National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, where he has been Deputy Director and Chief Curator since January 1998, and was Chief Curator since 1995. He has held a variety of other posts in museums across the United States, among them the Kimbell Art Museum, Fort Worth, where he was Senior Curator from 1990 to 1994 and Curator of European Painting and Sculpture from 1989 to 1990; the Philadelphia Museum of Art, as Assistant Curator for European Painting and Sculpture from 1985 to 1989; and the J. Paul Getty Museum, Malibu where was a Fellow from 1983 to 1984.

Director Samuel Sachs II comments, "It is with great satisfaction that we announce the appointment of Colin B. Bailey to this vital position at The Frick Collection. Colin Bailey will bring to the institution an impressive background of scholarship, appropriately ranging from Old Masters to Impressionism, in combination with substantial administrative experience, both aspects deriving from his years at major museums throughout North America. Tremendously appealing is his breadth of experience working at national institutions with peers we admire, and we anticipate benefiting from the wisdom and energy he will offer The Frick Collection as a scholar and esteemed colleague."

Colin Bailey adds, "As an art historian, I find absolutely thrilling and irresistible the opportunity to work among the incredible treasures that comprise The Frick Collection. While an amazing foundation of

scholarship on the Collection exists, there remains an exciting potential for new contributions, insights, and study. I share The Frick Collection's profound commitment to the value of connoisseurship and scholarship, which is evident through the seamless quality of its paintings, sculpture, and decorative arts, as well as the remarkable and ever-expanding holdings and technological services of the Frick Art Reference Library. Furthermore, I embrace the institution's ongoing efforts, through increased exhibition programming, educational initiatives, fundraising, membership cultivation, publicity, and cultural collaboration, to offer the public and scholarly community resources that are more accessible, welcoming, and inspirational than ever before."

COLLABORATIONS BETWEEN COLIN BAILEY AND THE FRICK COLLECTION

Colin Bailey recently guest-curated The Frick Collection's critically-acclaimed exhibition *French and English Drawings of the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries from the National Gallery of Canada*. On view from February 9 through April 25, 1999, the presentation of approximately seventy works on paper demonstrated the strength and evolution of the Canadian collection and presented works that had seldom traveled or been published and were largely unknown to the general public.

In the winter of 1989, Colin Bailey brought to The Frick Collection a special exhibition of some of the most beloved masterpieces from The Kimbell Art Museum, which had been inspired, at its formation, by the example of The Frick, itself. During Mr. Bailey's tenure, the Kimbell continued to model itself after the Frick, and the presentation of paintings by artists including Caravaggio, Fra Angelico, Goya, La Tour, Murillo, Rubens, Saenredam, and Tiepolo was a fulfilling and satisfying collaboration.

A RANGE OF CURRENT PROJECTS

Currently on view at the National Gallery of Canada is a major exhibition organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and curated by Dr. Bailey, *Monet, Renoir, and the Impressionist Landscape*, which remains on view through August 27, 2000. The exhibition of sixty-nine works outlines the development of the genre from the 1850s through the 1890s and features work by Boudin, Cézanne, Monet, Pissarro, Renoir, Sisley, and others. He has also been organizing the exhibition *Gustav Klimt (1862-1918): Modernism in the Making*, to appear at the National Gallery of Canada from June 15 through September 16, 2001. The exhibition of forty paintings and eighty works on paper brings together, for the first time in

North America, the components of this great Symbolist's art, from portraiture to history painting to landscapes.

A FREQUENTLY PUBLISHED AUTHOR

A noted specialist in French eighteenth- and nineteenth-century painting, Bailey is an authority on Renoir. A frequently published author, he has been responsible for an impressive list of catalogues and books, among them *Renoir's Portraits: Impressions of an Age (1997)*; *The Loves of the Gods: Mythological Painting from Watteau to David (1992)*; *Masterpieces of Impressionism and Post Impressionism: The Annenberg Collection (1989)*, co-authored with Joseph J. Rishel for the Philadelphia Museum of Art; and *The First Painters of the King: French Royal Taste from Louis XIV to the Revolution (1985)*. Among his recent essays are contributions toward the catalogues for *Chardin 1699-1779*, edited by Pierre Rosenberg and published by the Musées Nationaux and The Metropolitan Museum of Art for the 1999/2000 tour; and for *Watteau and His World*, edited by Alan Wintermute for the 1999 exhibition organized by the American Federation of Arts that traveled to The Frick Collection and the National Gallery of Canada. Mr. Bailey is also a frequent contributor to scholarly journals, including *Apollo*, *The Art Bulletin*, *The Burlington Magazine*, *Gazette des Beaux-Arts*, *L'Oeil*, *On Paper*, and *The Oxford Art Journal*. From 1982 to 1984, he served on the editorial board of the latter publication while preparing to receive his Doctorate from Oxford University. In 1994, he was awarded the Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French government.

ABOUT THE FRICK COLLECTION

The Frick Collection features masterpieces of Western art from the early Renaissance through the late nineteenth century. Important works by Bellini, El Greco, Rembrandt, Titian, Turner, Vermeer, Whistler, and many others are housed in one of the great mansions remaining from the Gilded Age. These paintings are complemented by one of the world's finest collections of Renaissance bronzes and by French sculpture of the eighteenth century, in addition to outstanding furniture and decorative art works from the ateliers of Riesener, Lacroix, Boulle, Carlin, Gouthière, and Sèvres. Each year more than 250,000 visitors from New York, across America, and around the world come to the Collection at 1 East 70th Street, once the residence of Henry Clay Frick (1849-1919). Designed by Thomas Hastings of Carrère and Hastings and constructed in 1913-1914, the building was changed after Mrs. Frick's death in 1931, with alterations and additions made by the architect John Russell Pope. In 1935 the Collection opened to the public. A new Reception Hall, built in 1977, was designed by John Barrington Bayley, Harry van Dyke, and G. Frederick Poehler, as well as two temporary exhibition galleries. The Frick Collection also operates the Frick Art Reference Library at 10 East 71st Street, both a research library and

a photoarchive. The Library is one of the world's great repositories for the documentation and study of Western art and has served the international art world for more than seventy-five years.

BASIC INFORMATION

General Information Phones:

Collection (212) 288-0700

Library (212) 288-8700

Website: www.frick.org

E-mail: info@frick.org

Where: The Collection is located at 1 East 70th Street, near Fifth Avenue.

The Library is around the corner at 10 East 71st Street.

Museum Hours: 10am to 6pm Tuesdays through Saturdays, and from 1pm to 6pm Sundays. Closed Mondays, New Year's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, December 24, and December 25. Limited hours (1:00 to 6:00pm) on Lincoln's Birthday, Election Day, and Veterans Day.

Library Hours: 10am to 4:45pm, Monday through Friday; 9:30am to 12:45pm on Saturday.

Closed August and on Saturdays in June and July. Please call for holiday closure schedule.

Museum Admission: \$7, general public; \$5, students & senior citizens. See updated "Tour Information."

PLEASE NOTE TO YOUR READERS: Children under ten are not admitted to the Collection, and those under sixteen must be accompanied by an adult.

Library Admission: free.

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

Tour Information: now included in the price of admission is an Acoustiguide INFORM® Audio Tour of the permanent collection, provided by Acoustiguide. The tour is offered in five languages: English, French, German, Japanese, and Spanish. An Italian version will be introduced later this year.

Museum Shop: the shop closes at 5:45pm, and is open otherwise the same days and hours as the Museum.

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

Public Programs: A calendar of events is published regularly and is available upon request.

25, June 9, 2000

For further press information, please contact Heidi Rosenau, Communications Officer

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