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**COLIN B. BAILEY, CHIEF CURATOR OF THE FRICK COLLECTION,  
AUTHORS A NEW BOOK ABOUT ART PATRONAGE  
IN EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY FRANCE**

***PATRIOTIC TASTE: COLLECTING MODERN ART IN  
PRE-REVOLUTIONARY PARIS***

During the final decades of the ancien régime, prominent collectors in Paris commissioned and collected French paintings of the period, works by Greuze, Fragonard, David, and others that together comprised “l’École Française”—the French School. On October 3, 2002, Yale University Press released **PATRIOTIC TASTE: *Collecting Art in Pre-Revolutionary Paris***, by Colin B. Bailey. In this book, eminent art historian Colin B. Bailey discusses six of these figures and the collections they assembled, showing that private patronage in this period was revitalized by this patriotic desire to collect contemporary art.

Bailey explains why a taste for modern art emerged at this time and how it was encouraged and fostered. Examining the relationship between artist and patron, he discusses the degree of influence these enlightened patrons and collectors expected to exercise when new works were being commissioned. Bailey shows that collectors of eighteenth-century French painting seem not to have made rigid distinctions between the various genres or styles of the Academy’s practitioners. Instead, history paintings and genre paintings—both rococo and neo-classical—were exhibited proudly on their walls as superb examples of the French School. Colin B. Bailey, Chief Curator of The Frick Collection, New York, is also the author of *Renoir’s Portraits: Impressions of an Age*, published by Yale University Press, and *The Loves of the Gods: Mythological Painting from Watteau to David*, published by Rizzoli. *Patriotic Taste* is available through the Museum Shop of The Frick Collection at (212) 288-0700 and online via the museum’s website ([www.frick.org](http://www.frick.org)).

**For further information on the book**, please contact Brian A. McKay, Yale University Press (YALEBOOKS.COM) at 203.432.0971 or [BRIAN.MCKAY@YALE.EDU](mailto:BRIAN.MCKAY@YALE.EDU)

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