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from

THE FRICK COLLECTION

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RAEBURN'S "THE REVEREND ROBERT WALKER SKATING ON DUDDINGSTON LOCH"

***FROM THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF SCOTLAND
ON TEMPORARY LOAN AT THE FRICK COLLECTION***

DECEMBER 5, 2000 THROUGH JANUARY 21, 2001

In another of its ongoing series of single-picture exhibitions, The Frick Collection will display Sir Henry Raeburn's celebrated skating minister on loan from the National Gallery of Scotland from December 5, 2000 through January 21, 2001. The presentation of this painting, one of the most beloved works in the Edinburgh museum's collection, is held in conjunction with a major exhibition of eighty works on paper, *The Draftsman's Art: Master Drawings from the National Gallery of Scotland* (December 12 through February 25, 2001). *The Reverend Robert Walker Skating on Duddingston Loch* will be presented at The Frick Collection, along with two other examples of Raeburn's work from The Frick Collection.

The painting of the Reverend Walker was completed around 1784, and depicts the minister of the Canongate Kirk, an avid member of the Skating Society. The graceful figure elegantly clad in black and silhouetted against a luminescent, late afternoon sky effectively conveys the subject's sense of pleasure and ease in his solitary activity.

Sir Henry Raeburn (1756-1823) received his early training as a goldsmith's apprentice, and may have gotten his start as a draftsman producing miniatures for the jeweler's lockets. By age twenty, he had painted his first full-length portrait in oils, but little is known about this early period of his career. In 1784 Raeburn spent two months in Joshua Reynolds's studio in London and then, on the master's advice, traveled to Rome to broaden his experience. He returned to Edinburgh in 1786 and soon earned a reputation as the foremost Scottish portrait painter. The Royal

Academy elected Raeburn to membership in 1815, and in 1822 he was knighted by George IV and named His Majesty's Limner for Scotland. Raeburn was the subject of a comprehensive exhibition at The National Portrait Gallery, London in 1997.

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 Phone: (212) 288-0700

Website: www.frick.org

E-mail: info@frick.org

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

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.

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.

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 six languages: English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish.

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.

30, October 18, 2000

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

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