

NATIONAL GALLERIES ANNOUNCE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE HIGH MUSEUM IN ATLANTA

The National Galleries of Scotland (NGS) is delighted to announce a major new partnership with The High Museum of Art in Atlanta. The NGS will be sending a series of exhibitions over the next four years to Atlanta and to other institutions in the US to raise the profile of the NGS and its collection in North America. The NGS wants to attract attention to the world-class quality of its holdings and to broaden its international base of support. The National Galleries also hope to help raise awareness in the US of the importance of Scotland as a centre for the visual arts.

The first exhibition will be “*Venetian Masterpieces from the National Galleries of Scotland*” and will comprise 13 paintings and 12 drawings from the NGS collection. The exhibition will showcase some of the highlights from the NGS including the newly acquired *Diana and Actaeon*, *Diana and Callisto*, *Virgin and Child with St. John the Baptist and an Unidentified Male Saint* and *Venus Rising from the Sea* by Titian; Lorenzo Lotto’s *Virgin and Child with Saints Jerome, Peter, Francis and an Unidentified Female Saint*; and Jacopo Tintoretto’s *Christ Carried to the Tomb*.

The exhibition will travel to the High Museum, Atlanta from 16 October 2010 to 2 January 2011 and then on to Minneapolis Institute of Arts (5 February to 1 May 2011) and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (21 May to 14 August 2011).

This is the first exhibition in a series that will unfold over the next four years. Further touring exhibitions highlighting differing aspects of the NGS collections are under development.

John Leighton, Director-General of the National Galleries of Scotland said: “*While we have shown works from our collections in the past in the US, this is the first time that we have entered into a extended collaboration with an international partner. Through this partnership with the High we will be bringing works from our collections to a huge audience in different parts of North America and this will be a major boost to our international profile. The sustained relationship also provides a platform from which we hope to attract interest and support for our projects and activities back in Scotland.*”

Michael E. Shapiro, Nancy and Holcombe T. Green, Jr. Director of the High Museum of Art, said: “*For centuries, these paintings have mesmerized the public and influenced generations of artists. In the 65 years that the Titians have been on public display in Edinburgh, people have made pilgrimages to Scotland to see them and other works in the National Galleries’ exquisite Venetian collection. Now, the people of Atlanta and*

the southeast region, as well as other parts of the U.S., can see these great works from the height of the Venetian Renaissance. With this exhibition, we hope to help raise awareness of how vital it is to keep masterpieces like these accessible to the public. It also continues our program of bringing great works of art from around the world to Atlanta and then to other cities across the U.S.”

Fiona Hyslop MSP, Minister for Culture and External Affairs: *“This is the beginning of a significant partnership between NGS and their counterparts in North America. The tour reflects the important role our national collections play in representing Scotland overseas. It will undoubtedly increase interest in, not only these national treasures, but our wider cultural history and heritage.”*

The High Museum in Atlanta has instigated other partnerships of this kind in recent years, most notably with the Louvre in Paris.

For further information and images please contact Patricia Convery on 0131 624 6325 or pressinfo@nationalgalleries.org or www.nationalgalleries.org

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Notes to Editors:

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. Opening 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.

List of works to be included in *Venetian Masterpieces from the National Galleries of Scotland:*

Paintings

Jacopo Bassano *The Adoration of the Kings*
Paris Bordon *Venetian Women at their Toilet*
Paris Bordon *Rest on the Return from Egypt*
Giovanni Cariani *Portrait of a Young Woman as St Agatha*
Lorenzo Lotto *Virgin and Child with Saints*
Jacopo Tintoretto *Christ carried to the Tomb*
Follower of Jacopo Tintoretto, *Portrait of a Gentleman*.
Titian *Venus Anadyomene*
Titian *Diana and Actaeon* (jointly owned with the National Gallery, London)
Titian *Diana and Callisto* (Bridgewater Loan)
Titian *Virgin and Child with St John the Baptist and an Unidentified Male Saint* (Bridgewater Loan)
Paolo Veronese *Mars and Venus*
Paolo Veronese *St Anthony Abbot as Patron of a Kneeling Donor*

Drawings

Domenico Campagnola *Landscape with Juno and Callisto*
Battista Franco *God the Father*
Battista Franco *The Baptism of Christ with Sts Bernardino of Siena and Francis*
Palma Giovane *St Martin and the Beggar*
Palma Giovane *Allegorical Figures of Painting and Sculpture* (recto);
Annunciation and other figure studies (verso)
Lorenzo Lotto *Portrait of a Bearded Man*
Pordenone, *The Continenence of Scipio*
Jacopo Tintoretto, *A Man with Outstretched Arms*
Titian (attributed to) *A Composition of Three Figures*
Palma Vecchio *Self-portrait*
Venetian School, *Landscape with Wooded Bluffs and a Watermill*
Paolo Veronese *Studies for a Baptism of Christ*

Acquisition of Diana and Actaeon

Diana and Actaeon was acquired for the nation by the NGS and the National Gallery in London in February 2009, following a large scale public and private fundraising campaign. The painting was bought for £50 million from the Duke of Sutherland with generous contributions from private and public donations, Scottish Government, the National Heritage Memorial Fund, The Monument Trust and The Art Fund, along with National Gallery, London and NGS funds.