



Johannes (Jan) Vermeer
Christ in the House of Martha and Mary, c.1654-55
National Gallery of Scotland

THE YOUNG VERMEER

8 December 2010 – 13 March 2011

NATIONAL GALLERY COMPLEX, The Mound, Edinburgh, EH2 2EL

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Three paintings from Johannes Vermeer's early career will be reunited in a rare display at the National Galleries of Scotland in December 2010. *The Young Vermeer* will present a unique opportunity to compare directly these three works and discover more about the development of this celebrated artist.

Johannes Vermeer (1632-75) is world-renowned for his meticulous paintings of Dutch interiors, which reflect his fascination with optical effects and serenely balanced compositions. He produced few works – of which less than forty survive – during his career in Delft. The National Gallery of Scotland is one of only 17 galleries worldwide that holds a work by Vermeer in its collection. Whilst his later work concentrates on domestic interiors, his early paintings seem to have focused primarily on traditional subjects derived from the Bible and classical mythology.

The Young Vermeer will show three paintings created between 1653 and 1656: The National Galleries of Scotland's *Christ in the House of Martha and Mary*, (c.1654-55); *The Procuress* (1656) from Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden; and *Diana and her Companions* (c.1653-54) from Mauritshuis, the Royal Picture Gallery in The Hague. While these early works differ greatly from his later paintings in terms of subject-

matter, size, and style they already show Vermeer's interest in the depiction of colour, light, and texture.

For further information and images please contact the National Galleries of Scotland's press office on 0131 624 6325/6247/6314/6332 or pressinfo@nationalgalleries.org.

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Exhibition Tour

12th May – 22 August 2010 Mauritshuis, The Royal Picture Gallery, The Hague
3rd September – 28 November 2010 Staatliche Kunstsammlungen, Gemäldegalerie
Alte Meister, Dresden
10th December 2010 – 13th March 2011 National Gallery of Scotland, Edinburgh