

The Gallery's collections have been built up along international lines and give the people of Canada an indication of the origins from which their own traditions are developing. The collection of Canadian art, the most extensive and important in existence, is continually being augmented. Over 60% of all new acquisitions since 1966 have been Canadian. There are now more than 12,200 works of art in the collections. Included are many Old Masters, 12 having been acquired from the famous Liechtenstein collection. The Massey collection was presented to the Gallery during 1946-50 by the Massey Foundation. The Vincent Massey Bequest of 100 works was received in 1968. In 1974 an important gift of drawings was donated by Mrs. Samuel Bronfman of Montreal in memory of her husband. There is a growing collection of contemporary art, prints and drawings, and diploma works of the Royal Canadian Academy. The services of the Gallery include the operation of a reference library open to the public containing more than 45,000 volumes and periodicals on the history of art and other related subjects.

A program of exhibitions, lectures, films and guided tours is maintained for visitors to the Gallery in Ottawa. The interests of the country as a whole are served by circulating exhibitions, lecture tours, publications, reproductions and films prepared by the National Gallery staff. Promotion of and information on art films are handled by the Canadian Centre for Films on Art, and their distribution by the Canadian Film Institute. The Gallery promotes interest in Canadian art abroad by participating in international exhibitions such as the Biennials of Venice and Paris, and by preparing major exhibitions of Canadian art for showing in other countries in collaboration with the Department of External Affairs. It also brings important exhibitions from abroad for showing in Canada.

The most important development of 1974 was the government's approval in principle of a new building for the National Gallery in Ottawa.

Major exhibitions in Ottawa included The Bronfman Gift of Drawings, William de Kooning: Drawings and Sculptures, Moshe Safdie: for everyone a Garden, Alberto Giacometti: a Retrospective, The Changing Image: Prints by Francisco Goya, and Canadian Painting in the Thirties. The Gallery's National Programme organized and circulated 23 exhibitions (including 11 new ones) in Canada and abroad to 63 bookings in 34 cities.

The major acquisition of the year was Bernini's Bust of Urban VIII. Purchase of a 17th century table ascribed to the Dutch artist Leonardo Van der Vinne represented a development of the Gallery's policy into the decorative arts, and the National Gallery Association's donation of an American Colonial kneehole desk dating from 1780-90 marked a new role for this non-profit volunteer group in supporting such a collection. The environmental sculpture "Bedroom" by contemporary American artist Claes Oldenburg was also purchased.

The National Museum of Natural Sciences has seven divisions: Botany, Vertebrate Zoology, Invertebrate Zoology, the Canadian Oceanographic Identification Centre (for identification of marine and freshwater organisms), Mineral Sciences, Palaeontology and Interpretation and Extension. The Museum also maintains the Zooarchaeology Research Centre which identifies animal remnants from archaeological digs.

During 1974 numerous specimens were added to the mineral, fossil, plant and animal collections, gathered through scientific expeditions, purchases, exchanges and gifts. The Museum staff were engaged in extensive field work in all regions of Canada and abroad. In all, 86 research projects were undertaken. Seventy-five manuscripts were prepared.

Scientific support programs were carried out by the Canadian Oceanographic Identification Centre. A large number of specimens were sorted and identified for government and university scientists.

The National Museum of Man reopened on October 2, 1974, after being closed for five years for renovations. Through its six divisions — Archaeological Survey of Canada, Canadian Ethnology Service, Canadian Centre for Folk Culture Studies, Canadian War Museum, History and Communications — the National Museum of Man conducts research in Canadian studies, collects and preserves artifacts of material culture and extends the museum's programs across Canada through travelling exhibits and educational loans.

The Canadian Centre for Folk Cultural Studies is both a research institute and a repository of the largest archive in Canada of folk culture materials. The Canadian War