

plementation of the policy and programs under the National Museum Policy. This committee is composed of people from all regions of the country, who are representative of museum users.

The National Gallery of Canada

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The beginnings of the National Gallery of Canada are associated with the founding of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts in 1880. The Marquis of Lorne, then Governor General, had recommended and assisted in the founding of the Academy and among the tasks he assigned to that institution was the establishment of a National Gallery at the seat of government. Until 1907 the National Gallery was under the direct control of a Minister of the Crown but in that year, in response to public demand, an advisory arts council consisting of three persons outside government was appointed by the government to administer grants to the National Gallery. Three years later, the first professional curator was appointed.

In 1913, the National Gallery was incorporated by Act of Parliament and placed under the administration of a board of trustees appointed by the Governor General in Council; its function was to encourage public interest in the arts and to promote the interests of art throughout the country. Under this management, the gallery increased its collections and developed into an internationally recognized art institution. Today, a board of trustees reporting to the Secretary of State administers all the National Museums of Canada, including the National Gallery, under the National Museums Act (RSC 1970, c.N-12).

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 acquisitions since 1966 have been Canadian. There are now more than 13,000 works of art in the collections, excluding photographs. 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 gallery's collection of photographs, built up since 1967, contains 6,000 works. The services of the gallery include the operation of a reference library open to the public containing more than 50,000 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.

Major exhibitions in Ottawa in 1975-76 included works of the American sculptor Donald Judd; High Victorian Design; photographs from the collection; Some Canadian Women Artists; recent acquisitions of European prints; *El Dorado: The Gold of Ancient Columbia*; and the *Age of Louis XV*.

The major acquisition of the year was a 16th century Italian painting, *The Madonna with Saints Sebastian and Roche* by Lorenzo Lotto. The National Gallery also purchased its first surrealist painting by Salvador Dali called *Gala and The Angelus of Millet*.

Important gifts received during the year included a marble *Bust of General James Wolfe* by Joseph Wilton, donated by the Earl of Rosebery; a Ming bowl donated