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from

THE FRICK COLLECTION

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## MEDIA ALERT

### ***COYPEL'S DON QUIXOTE: ILLUSTRATING A SPANISH NOVEL IN EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY FRANCE***

**EXHIBITION OF TAPESTRIES, PAINTINGS, AND PRINTS  
TO BE ACCOMPANIED BY A RICH SERIES OF PROGRAMS**

February 25, 2015, through May 17, 2015



Workshop of Peter van den Hecke (Flemish, 1680–1752) after Philippe de Hondt (Flemish, 1683–1741), *Arrival of the Shepherdesses at the Wedding of Camacho* (detail), 1730–45 (before 1748), wool and silk, The Frick Collection, New York (1965.10.20), photo: Michael Bodycomb

A masterpiece of comic fiction, Cervantes's *Don Quixote* (fully titled *The Ingenious Gentleman Don Quixote of La Mancha*) enjoyed great popularity from the moment it was published, in two volumes, in 1605 and 1615. Reprints and translations spread across Europe, captivating the continental imagination with the escapades of the knight Don Quixote and his companion, Sancho Panza. The novel's most celebrated episodes inspired a multitude of paintings, prints, and interiors. Most notably, Charles Coypel (1694–1752), painter to Louis XV, created a series of twenty-eight paintings (also called cartoons) to be woven into tapestries by the Gobelins manufactory in Paris.

Twenty-seven were painted between 1714 and 1734, with the last scene realized just before Coypel's death in 1751. In 2015 (a year that marks the four-hundredth

anniversary of the publication of the second volume of *Don Quixote*), the Frick will bring together a complete series of Coypel's scenes, which will be shown in the Oval Room and East Gallery. The exhibition will include five of Coypel's original paintings—never before seen in New York—on loan from the Palais Impérial de Compiègne and the Musée



Charles Coypel (French, 1694–1752), *Don Quixote at Don Antonio Moreno's Ball*, 1731, oil on canvas, Palais Impérial de Compiègne; long-term loan from the Musée du Louvre, Paris (3566), © RMN-Grand Palais / Art Resource, NY

Jacquemart-André, Paris. These will be joined by three Gobelins tapestry panels from the J. Paul Getty Museum and two Flemish tapestries inspired by Coypel from The Frick Collection, which have not been on view in more than ten years. The series is completed by eighteen prints and books from the Hispanic Society of America, New York.



Louis Surugue père (French, 1686–1762) after Charles Coypel (French, 1694–1752), *Don Quixote, Led by Folly, Sets out from His Home to Become a Knight Errant*, 1723–24, engraving, The Hispanic Society of America, New York (LQ 1679), photo: George Koelle

An accompanying catalogue will explore Coypel’s role in illustrating *Don Quixote* and the circumstances of his designs becoming the most renowned pictorial interpretations of the novel. It will also map the process of Coypel’s *Don Quixote* tapestries, from cartoons and engravings to looms in Paris and Brussels. Rich education programs will include a series of lectures on eighteenth-century Flemish tapestries, Charles Coypel, and *Don Quixote* illustration over the centuries. Further programs will explore the history of the novel and its influence on artists working in a variety of media, including film, ballet, and opera. The exhibition is organized by the Frick’s Associate Curator of Decorative Arts, Charlotte

Vignon and is made possible by The Florence Gould Foundation with additional support from the Grand Marnier Foundation.

## **ABOUT THE FRICK COLLECTION AND FRICK ART REFERENCE LIBRARY**

Henry Clay Frick (1849–1919), the coke and steel industrialist, philanthropist, and art collector, left his New York residence and his remarkable collection of Western paintings, sculpture, and decorative arts to the public “for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a gallery of art, [and] of encouraging and developing the study of fine arts and of advancing the general knowledge of kindred subjects.” Designed and built for Mr. Frick in 1913 and 1914 by Thomas Hastings of Carrère and Hastings, the mansion provides a grand domestic setting reminiscent of the noble houses of Europe for the masterworks from the Renaissance through the nineteenth century that it contains. Of special note are paintings by Bellini, Constable, Corot, Fragonard, Gainsborough, Goya, El Greco, Holbein, Ingres, Manet, Monet, Rembrandt, Renoir, Titian, Turner, Velázquez, Vermeer, Whistler, and other masters. Mr. Frick’s superb examples of French eighteenth-century furniture, Italian Renaissance bronzes, and Limoges enamels bring a special ambiance to the galleries, while the interior garden and the amenities created since the founder’s time in the 1930s contribute to the serenity of the visitor’s experience. The Frick Collection also is renowned for its small, focused exhibitions and for its highly regarded concert series and dynamic education program.

Adjoining The Frick Collection is the Frick Art Reference Library, founded more than ninety years ago by Henry Clay Frick's daughter, Helen Clay Frick. Housed in a landmarked building at 10 E. 71st Street, the Library is one of the world's leading institutions for research in the fields of art history and collecting. More than a quarter of its specialist book stock is not held by any other library. It includes extensive archives and a photo archive that make it an important resource for provenance research. Its catalog, finding aids, and many full-text documents and images are available online at <http://arcade.nyarc.org>. The Library also supports the Center for the History of Collecting, which organizes symposia and awards fellowships. The Frick Art Reference Library is open to the public free of charge.

## **BASIC INFORMATION**

**General Information Phone:** 212.288.0700

**Web site:** [www.frick.org](http://www.frick.org)

**E-mail:** [info@frick.org](mailto:info@frick.org)

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

**Museum Hours:** open six days a week: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesdays through Saturdays; 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sundays. Closed Mondays, New Year's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day. **Limited hours** (11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) on Lincoln's Birthday, Election Day, and Veterans Day

**Admission:** \$20; senior citizens \$15; students \$10; "pay what you wish" on Sundays from 11 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

<p><b>PLEASE NOTE TO YOUR READERS: Children under ten are not admitted to the Collection.</b></p>
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**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:** included in the price of admission is an Acoustiguide Audio Tour of the permanent collection. The tour is offered in six languages: English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish.

**Shop:** the shop is open the same days as the Museum, closing fifteen minutes before the institution.

**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.

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For further press information, please contact Alexis Light, Manager of Media Relations & Marketing

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