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THE FRICK COLLECTION

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**Unprecedented Touring Exhibition of Drawings by Greuze
Opens at The Frick Collection in New York
Greuze the Draftsman**

May 14, 2002 through August 4, 2002

This exhibition is the first devoted exclusively to the drawings of **Jean-Baptiste Greuze** (1725-1805), the remarkable French eighteenth-century painter and draftsman. Organized by Edgar Munhall, Curator of The Frick Collection from 1965 to 1999, this unprecedented exhibition brings together at each of its two venues approximately sixty works on paper culled from international collections such as the Musée du Louvre, Paris; Musée des Beaux-Arts, Dijon; Musée des Beaux-Arts, Lyon; the Historisch Museum, Amsterdam; the Albertina, Vienna; the Staatliche Kunsthalle, Karlsruhe; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; the National Gallery of Art, Washington; The Art Institute of Chicago; and others. Among the many eighteenth-century admirers of Greuze's work were Catherine the Great and members of the Russian court. Several of her closest advisors and associates purchased drawings from the artist, and an impressive number of them were transferred in 1769 to the Imperial Academy of Fine Arts. These works are now in the State Hermitage Museum, and Dr. Munhall has selected roughly twenty fine examples, which have seldom left St. Petersburg, for inclusion in the exhibition.

Greuze the Draftsman has been made possible through the generosity of Michel David-Weill, The Florence Gould Foundation, The Isaacson-Draper Foundation, Mrs. Russell B. Aitken, Jean A. Bonna, James Fairfax, Joseph Koerner, Diane A. Nixon, Stephen K. Scher, and Melvin R. Seiden, with additional support from the Fellows of The Frick Collection.

MUCH-NEEDED PUBLICATION FILLS A NEED

A fully illustrated catalogue accompanies the exhibition. It represents the first publication ever devoted to Greuze's work as a draftsman, and the only book on this artist since Edgar Munhall's exhibition catalogue of 1976. *Greuze the Draftsman* includes a comprehensive introduction and summary biography of the artist by Munhall, as well as in-depth entries on ninety-five works, all of which are reproduced in color – many with additional comparative illustrations. The catalogue also features an essay by Irina Novosselskaya, Head of the Department of European Art of The State Hermitage Museum, recounting for the first time in English the history of that institution's important ensemble of 125 drawings by Greuze, of which thirty-three are reproduced. The exhibition and book will introduce the artist in terms of his greatest achievements to a public unfamiliar with his work as well to as knowing connoisseurs.

FREE PUBLIC LECTURE

Date: Wednesday, May 22, 2002, 5:30pm
Speaker: **Edgar Munhall, exhibition curator**
Title: **Making the Exhibition *Greuze the Draftsman***

The behind-the-scenes timeline required for developing an exhibition -- from conception to installation -- is an extremely long one, and the many steps involved in creating such a presentation are seldom apparent to museum visitors. This interesting process -- particularly complex when such a large group of international lenders is involved -- will be recounted in this lecture by the exhibition's organizer Edgar Munhall, Curator Emeritus of The Frick Collection.

THE EXHIBITION TRAVELS TO LOS ANGELES IN FALL 2002

Following its debut in New York in the spring of 2002, *Greuze the Draftsman* travels to Los Angeles where it will be on view from September 10 through December 1, 2002, at The J. Paul Getty Museum.

BASIC INFORMATION

General Information Phone: (212) 288-0700

Website: www.frick.org

E-mail: info@frick.org

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

Hours: 10am to 6pm Tuesdays through Saturdays, and from 1pm to 6pm Sundays. Closed Mondays, New Year's Day, Independence Day, Thanksgiving, December 24, and December 25. Limited hours (1 to 6pm) on Lincoln's Birthday, Election Day, and Veterans Day.

Admission: \$10 (students and senior citizens, \$5)

PLEASE NOTE TO YOUR READERS: Children under ten are not admitted to the Collection, and those under sixteen must be accompanied by an adult.

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 INFORM® Audio Tour of the permanent collection, provided by Acoustiguide. The tour is offered in six languages: English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, and Spanish.

Museum Shop: the shop closes at 5:45pm, and is open otherwise the same days and hours as the Museum.

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.

January 29, 2002

For further press information, please contact Heidi Rosenau, Manager of Media Relations & Marketing, or Stephanie Ruggiero, Media Relations & Marketing Coordinator

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