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from

THE FRICK COLLECTION

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The Frick Collection Publishes First Spanish-Language Guidebook

Based on Director Samuel Sachs's II dedication to multi-language programming, The Frick Collection is pleased to announce that, in conjunction with Scala Publishers, it has recently published a **Spanish** version of its guidebook, *La Colección Frick: Una visita*. The new Spanish-language guidebook is part of a 6-language series of publications – including English, French, German, Italian, Japanese – which present the same texts recorded for the immensely popular Acoustiguide, also offered in each of the 6 languages. Comprised of succinct and lively commentaries on the most important works at The Frick Collection, the guidebook also serves as a visual diary to visitors, featuring views of some of the remarkable interiors in which the works are housed. Initially released in three languages (English, French, and German), the guidebook has been a runaway "Best Seller" in the Museum Shop of The Frick Collection, as the projected two-year supply flew off the shelves in well under half that time. It was also honored in the 1999 Design Competition sponsored by the American Association of Museums.

Written by former Curator Edgar Munhall, with Curator Susan Grace Galassi, former Curatorial Assistant Ashley Thomas, and the Acoustiguide Corporation staff, each commentary provides key art historical information and a fresh interpretive viewpoint. In addition, a short biography is provided on each artist, or supplementary information on the historical background, and elements of architecture and decoration.

The recent success of the exhibition *Velázquez in New York Museums* and the current exhibition *El Greco: Themes and Variations*, are indicative of the institution's interest in programming that highlights the work of these great masters. The guidebook now allows Spanish-speaking visitors to enjoy

reading -- in their language -- about masterpieces in the Collection by artists of their own country and elsewhere.

The Spanish *La Colección Frick: Una visita* -- along with other versions in English, French, German, Italian, Japanese -- is available in the Museum Shop in softcover for \$19.95, or by calling (212) 288-0700 x 848 during regular museum hours.

ABOUT THE FRICK COLLECTION

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 and exterior gardens and the amenities created since the founder’s time in the 1930s and 1970s contribute to the serenity of the visitor’s experience. Renowned for its small, focused exhibitions and for its highly regarded concert series and lectures, The Frick Collection also operates the Frick Art Reference Library, founded by Henry Clay Frick’s daughter, Miss Helen Clay Frick, located in an adjoining building at 10 East 71st Street. Both a research library and a photo archive, the Frick Art Reference Library is one of the world’s great repositories of documents for the study of Western art. It has served the international art world for more than seventy-five years.

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 (1:00 to 6:00pm) on Lincoln’s Birthday, Election Day, and Veterans Day.

Admission: \$10, general public; \$5, students & senior citizens. See updated “Tour Information.”

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 Ave to 72nd Street and northbound on Madison Avenue to 70th Street

Tour Information: now 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.

#41 – July 17, 2001

For further press information, contact Stephanie Ruggiero, Coordinator of Media Relations & Marketing

Direct Phone: (212) 547-6844

Fax: (212) 628-4417

E-mail: Ruggiero@Frick.org or mediarelations@frick.org

Website: www.frick.org