

CORCORAN

GALLERY OF ART • COLLEGE of ART + DESIGN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE CORCORAN'S 1869 SOCIETY PRESENTS ARTINI 2010!

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Starting March 1, the Corcoran Gallery of Art's 1869 Society presents ARTINI, a month-long special event to benefit ArtReach, the Corcoran's community outreach program. ArtReach extends the resources of the Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design to underserved communities in Washington, D.C. through free high-quality arts education programs. Throughout the month of March, 12 of the city's most creative mixologists will compete to make the most artistic martini inspired by pieces from the Corcoran's permanent collection, recently installed in the galleries. The public is invited to sample "artinis" at the participating Washington venues and vote for their favorite on the web site of ARTINI press partner *Washingtonian* Magazine at www.washingtonian.com/artini. On Saturday, March 27, the winning venue will be announced at the culminating event at the Corcoran.



Throughout the month, venues will host "Feature Nights"—when Washingtonians will taste-test "artinis" at a discounted price. Participating restaurants include POV at the W Hotel, Wisdom, Tabard Inn, PS7's Restaurant, Rasika, Art and Soul, The Gibson, Farmers & Fishers, Mei n Yu, Bourbon, J&G Steakhouse, and SEI Restaurant & Lounge.

"Artinis" will be inspired by works of art from the Corcoran's newly opened *A Love of Europe: Highlights from the William A. Clark Collection*, on view through April 11, 2010. As an example, Justin Guthrie of POV at the W Hotel will create an "artini" after Henri Fantin-Latour's *Arcadia, Women Bathing*. Similarly, Gina Chersevani of PS7's Restaurant will create an "artini" inspired by Edgar Degas' *The Dance Class*.

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On Saturday, March 27, the Corcoran will host the ARTINI event from 8 p.m. to midnight. The event will offer a sampling of the “artinis,” a cocktail bar, music and dancing provided by DJ Chris Nitti, and a tour of the museum’s two special exhibitions *Turner to Cézanne: Masterpieces from the Davies Collection, National Museum Wales* and *A Love of Europe: Highlights from the William A. Clark Collection*. Tickets for the event cost \$85 for 1869 Society members and \$100 for non-1869 Society members.

All proceeds from ARTINI will support ArtReach.

The ARTINI co-chairs are Matthew Donohue and Barbara

Merola. ARTINI is sponsored by *Washingtonian*, Cointreau, Piper Sonoma Sparkling Wine, Remy Martin VSOP, Absolut Vodka, Plymouth Gin, Mount Gay Rum, Pernod Absinthe, Pilsner Urquell, Peroni, and Ridgewells Catering. For more information and the ARTINI “Feature Nights” schedule, visit www.corcoran.org/artini.

ABOUT THE 1869 SOCIETY

The 1869 Society is a dynamic young professionals group in Washington, D.C. The group provides exclusive networking and socializing opportunities with other up-and-coming art patrons ages 25 to 42. Members of the 1869 Society have access to private exhibition previews and receptions at the museum, invitations to and discounts on 1869 Society events, unlimited free admission to temporary and permanent exhibitions, guest passes, discounts at the Corcoran Café and the Corcoran Shop, and reduced fees for Continuing Education classes at the Corcoran College of Art + Design.

ABOUT ARTREACH

Celebrating its 17th year, ArtReach extends the resources of the Corcoran Gallery of Art and the Corcoran College of Art + Design to underserved communities in Washington, D.C. through free high-quality arts education programs. Using the Gallery’s collections as a primary resource, ArtReach makes a special effort to foster the creativity and visual literacy skills of individuals while helping them develop meaningful connections between art and their lives. Serving more than 150 student artists (ages 8–18) and their families each year, ArtReach provides visual arts instruction and programming in local community centers, including after-school and summer classes as well as open family workshops.

ABOUT TURNER TO CÉZANNE

From January 30 to April 25, 2010, the Corcoran Gallery of Art presents the exhibition *Turner to Cézanne: Masterpieces from the Davies Collection, National Museum Wales*, an outstanding group of 19th and 20th century paintings and works on paper from the National Museum Wales—home to an internationally acclaimed collection of Impressionist and Post-Impressionist art. The exhibition has been selected exclusively from the extraordinary collection of Gwendoline and Margaret Davies, who collected during a crucial moment in the history of art when European painting was undergoing a revolution in style, theme and technique.

Turner to Cézanne traces the evolution of early modern art—beginning with examples of dramatic Romanticism exemplified by Turner through the expressionist Post-impressionism of van Gogh. Spanning the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the exhibition contains masterworks of Realism, Naturalism, and Impressionism, by their greatest exponent.

The exhibition will feature 53 works—many of which have rarely been exhibited outside of Europe—including masterpieces by Paul Cézanne, Jean-Baptiste-Camille Corot, Honoré Daumier, Augustus John, Edouard Manet, Jean-François Millet, Claude Monet, Camille Pissarro, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, J.M.W. Turner, and Vincent van Gogh.

ABOUT A LOVE OF EUROPE

In 1926 Senator William A. Clark of Montana bequeathed his personal collection of over 800 works of art to the Corcoran Gallery of Art. The life of Senator Clark was surprisingly parallel with that of David Davies, who built the fortune left to Gwendoline and Margaret Davies. They lived through the same tumultuous period; both were self-made men; both were industrialists with interests in mining; both became politicians. And ultimately, the wealth of both went to the enrichment of major galleries of art.

Ranging from ancient Antiquities to Impressionist paintings, Senator Clark's collection today forms the core of the Corcoran's holdings of European art. Timed to coincide with *Turner to Cézanne: Masterpieces from the Davies Collection, National Museum Wales*, *A Love of Europe* displays Clark's particular enthusiasm for 19th-century French painting. The exhibition will include works by Jean-Baptiste-Camille Corot, Jean-François Millet, and Edgar Degas.

The Corcoran Gallery of Art and College of Art + Design is located at 500 Seventeenth St., NW, Washington, D.C. Please visit, www.corcoran.org for more information.

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