

NEW DISPLAY OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY'S PERMANENT COLLECTION THE JOHN MADEJSKI FINE ROOMS

Three of the John Madejski Fine Rooms have been re-hung, exhibiting fresh, key works from the Royal Academy's Collection, many of which have never been shown together. The restored John Madejski Fine Rooms are dedicated to the display of highlights from the Royal Academy's Collection of art, architecture and sculpture dating from the mid 18th century to the present day. The Royal Academy's Collection comprises mostly British works, and includes works by renowned painters such as Reynolds, Gainsborough, Constable, Turner, Stanley Spencer and David Hockney.

LANDSCAPE PAINTINGS FROM THE ROYAL ACADEMY COLLECTION

7 January - 17 December 2006

To coincide with Jacob van Ruisdael: Master of Landscape, The John Madejski Fine Rooms have been re-hung with a display of more than 20 landscape paintings drawn from the Royal Academy's Collection. Ranging from JMW Turner's Dolbadern Castle (1800) to Dafydd Williams on the Mountain (c. 1970) by Sir Kyffin Williams, via rarely-seen diploma works by Victorian masters of the genre, the display also includes works by Sir Winston Churchill, John Singer Sargent, Wilfrid de Glehn, Frederick Gore and Sir Roger de Grey.

COUNCIL & REYNOLDS ROOMS

THE RISE AND FALL OF THE PICTURESQUE LANDSCAPE PRINTS FROM THE ROYAL ACADEMY COLLECTION

2 February - 28 May 2006

This display explores the development of a peculiarly English vision of the landscape through prints and books of the 18th and 19th centuries, drawn from the RA Collection. Tracing the topographical origins of the English landscape tradition in estate maps, via picturesque engravings of the Peak District by Thomas Smith of Derby, the display explores the influence of Dutch and Italian painting on Richard Wilson and Thomas Gainsborough (represented by rare etchings), and the culmination of the English landscape tradition in prints by and after three great 19th-century masters of the genre: JMW Turner, John Constable and Samuel Palmer. Complementing the graphic material will be two oil sketches by Constable and Gainsborough's large painting, the *Romantic Landscape* (c. 1783).

TENNANT ROOM

The Royal Academy's Collection is a little-known national treasure comprising some 1000 paintings, 350 sculptures, 16,000 prints, drawings and photographs, a unique archive of artists' correspondence, as well as nationally important collections of rare books, silver and plaster casts. The works on display range in date from not long after the founding of the Academy in 1768, right up to examples by artists working today emphasising an unbroken link between the Royal Academy and British art history over the past three centuries. Named in recognition of a major donation towards their renovation by John Madejski, the suite of six rooms have been restored to their former Neo-Palladian glory and reopened in March 2004.

The John Madejski Fine Rooms are open 1pm - 4.30pm Tuesday to Friday, 10am – 6pm on Saturday and Sunday and closed on Monday. Admission is free.

For further press information, please contact Catherine Mason on 020 7300 5615 or email press.office@royalacademy.org.uk

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