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Terra Foundation Celebrates 35th Anniversary with \$550,000 Funding for UK Exhibitions in 2013



The Terra Foundation for American Art continues its long-standing involvement in the United Kingdom by dedicating \$550,000 in support of four major exhibitions that will run concurrently in London in early 2013. Since 2006, the Foundation has committed approximately \$3.3 million to American art exhibitions, academic programmes, and professorships throughout the UK.

"These exhibitions not only represent a welcome convergence of interest in the visual arts of the United States in London but also the ongoing partnerships we have forged with some of the United Kingdom's most respected institutions to present American art to international audiences," explained Elizabeth Glassman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Terra Foundation.

In early 2011, for example, the Foundation partnered The National Gallery on An American Experiment: George Bellows and the Ashcan Painters, which featured paintings

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by the artist and his contemporaries never before exhibited in the United Kingdom, and drew close to 100,000 visitors in twelve weeks.

According to a report prepared by The National Gallery, "The most unforeseen outcome of the exhibition was the universal acceptance, almost without a murmur, of the American painting tradition as having a rightful home in Trafalgar Square. This is no small matter as The National Gallery owns only two American paintings."

The four exhibitions supported by the Terra Foundation in London in 2013 are:

- *Through American Eyes: Frederic Church and the Landscape Oil Sketch* (The National Gallery, 6 February to 28 April), which explores the artist's remarkably fresh and spontaneous oil sketches, the second in a series of three focused exhibitions.
- *Lichtenstein: A Retrospective* (Tate Modern, 21 February to 27 May), which brings together the largest group of the artist's works ever assembled – more than 160 drawings, paintings, and sculptures. Additionally, a Terra Foundation pre-exhibition convening grant brought together scholars from the US and Europe to plan the show, and a research travel grant enabled Tate Modern curator Dr Iria Candela to conduct research at the Roy Lichtenstein Foundation in New York.
- *George Catlin: American Indian Portraits* (National Portrait Gallery, 7 March to 23 June), the first major exhibition of Catlin's portraits to be held in Europe since the 1840s.
- *George Bellows (1882-1925): Modern American Life* (Royal Academy of Arts, 16 March to 9 June), which presents the first comprehensive exhibition of the artist's work in the UK.

Dr Nicholas Penny, Director of the National Gallery, commented: "Collaboration with the Terra Foundation for American Art has enabled the National Gallery to introduce great American painters – notably George Bellows and the Ashcan School, and now also Frederic Church – to the British public. Exhibiting these painters in the National Gallery also enables those who are familiar with their art to see it in a different light."

Moreover, since 2009 the Foundation has awarded postdoctoral teaching fellowships and visiting professorships at London's Courtauld Institute of Art, supporting advanced inquiry in American art history.

The Terra Foundation has also funded conferences and symposia at University College London, University of Nottingham, and University of York, as well as having supported a survey of American Art in British public collections as part of the National Inventory Research Project at the University of Glasgow.

Terra Foundation for American Art

Established in 1978, the Terra Foundation for American Art is dedicated to fostering the exploration, understanding, and enjoyment of the visual arts of the United States. With financial resources of more than \$250 million, an exceptional collection of American art from the colonial era to 1945, and an expansive grant programme, it is one of the leading foundations focused on American art, and devotes approximately \$12 million annually in support of American art exhibitions, projects, and research worldwide.

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