Half a million spent to bring American art to UK

Terra Foundation has helped sponsor a slew of shows in London

By Emmanuel Rivetti, Web only
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The Chicago-based Terra Foundation for American Art is embarking on a new round of exhibition sponsorship to promote lesser-known American artists to an international public. This year the foundation is spending $500,000 to sponsor four exhibitions of American artists in London. Some of the shows are travelling from other cities, where most have also been sponsored by Terra.

The "Lichtenstein: a Retrospective" exhibition is coming to Tate Modern (21 February-27 May). Terra also sponsored the show when it was up at the Art Institute of Chicago last year, as well as the forthcoming version at the Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris.

Through American Eyes: Frederic Church and the Landscape Oil Sketch will be on show at the National Gallery (6 February-26 April). The show is the fruit of a continuing partnership between the foundation and London's National Gallery which started in 2011 with the exhibition "An American Experiment: George Bellows and the Ashcan Painters".

Meanwhile, the National Portrait Gallery will host "George Catlin: American Indian Portraits" (7 March-23 June) and "George Bellows: Modern American Life" will run at the Royal Academy (16 March-9 June), having already been sponsored by Terra at the National Gallery of Art, in Washington, DC.

The foundation has been introducing British audiences to American artists since 2005, and has spent around $3.3m so far. The Terra Foundation for American Art was established in 1978 by Daniel Terra, a businessman, art collector and US ambassador-at-large for cultural affairs. Now headed up by Elizabeth Glassman, the foundation has spent $7.5m on grants in 2012, and celebrates its 35th birthday this year.

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