

MEDIA RELEASE
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NATIONAL GALLERY ANNOUNCES NEW DATES FOR EUROPEAN MASTERS EXHIBITION

The National Gallery of Australia will present one of the first major international exhibitions in the Southern Hemisphere post the COVID-19 pandemic, *Botticelli to Van Gogh: Masterpieces from the National Gallery, London*.

Exclusive to Canberra, the exhibition will now open on 5 March 2021 and will include works of art by 57 of Europe's most revered artists and spans 500 years of art making, from the 15th century to the turn of the 20th century.

Originally planned for November 2020, National Gallery of Australia Director Nick Mitzevich said the gallery was delighted to secure new dates for the exhibition for Australian audiences.

The largest group of works to ever travel outside of the United Kingdom in the National Gallery's 192-year history, *Botticelli to Van Gogh* includes highlights such as Rembrandt's *Self-portrait at the age of 34* 1640, Vermeer's *A young woman seated at a virginal* c 1670 and Van Gogh's much-loved *Sunflowers* 1888.

"We are thrilled to be able to welcome visitors exclusively to the nation's capital, to see these world-class paintings in Australia," Mr Mitzevich said. "I am grateful to the Director of the National Gallery, London, Gabriele Finaldi, for his generosity in lending some of the most significant works in their collection, providing our audiences with this very special opportunity."

The National Gallery, London, Director Gabriele Finaldi said sharing these exceptional paintings with the National Gallery of Australia was a remarkable event for his institution, which houses one of the finest collections of western European paintings in the world.

“We are delighted that *Botticelli to Van Gogh: Masterpieces from the National Gallery, London* will be seen by visitors to the National Gallery of Australia in Canberra,” he said. “This is the largest group of works to travel outside the United Kingdom in our history, so this is an unprecedented opportunity to share the breadth of our collection and expertise with Australian visitors. We hope we will inspire in everyone who comes to the exhibition a passion for these great paintings.”

Mr Mitzevich said *Botticelli to Van Gogh* would enable people to see the National Gallery’s unrivalled collection up close – a cherished experience at any time but particularly when the ability to travel outside Australia was limited.

“Van Gogh’s *Sunflowers* 1888 is one of the world’s most popular and widely recognised works of modern art,” Mr Mitzevich said. “*Sunflowers* has only been lent outside the British capital on two occasions since its acquisition by the National Gallery, London, in 1924 and now audiences will be able to see it in Canberra.”

Presented in partnership with the National Gallery, London, and Art Exhibitions Australia, the exhibition features 60 paintings by 57 of the world’s most famous and admired artists including Botticelli, Titian, Rembrandt, Vermeer, El Greco, Velazquez, Goya, Turner, Constable, Van Dyke, Gainsborough, Renoir, Cézanne, Gauguin and Van Gogh.

Botticelli to Van Gogh: Masterpieces from the National Gallery, London opens for its exclusive Canberra season on 5 March 2021 and runs until 14 June 2021. Tickets for the exhibition go on sale 1 December 2020. Pre-sale tickets for NGA Members will be released mid-November 2020.

For further information visit nga.gov.au/masterpieces

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Images available for download [HERE](#)

Image: Installation view Vincent van Gogh, *Sunflowers*, The National Gallery, London © The National Gallery, London