

THE COURTAULD COLLECTS! 20 YEARS OF ACQUISITIONS 17 June to 19 September 2010

This special summer display presents a rich selection of works of art acquired by The Courtauld Gallery since it moved to Somerset House twenty years ago. The Courtauld Gallery is sometimes described as a 'collection of collections' and has grown historically through the generosity of private individuals who have endowed it with the remarkable collections which they formed. This grand tradition of philanthropy, initiated at the Gallery by Samuel Courtauld in the 1930s, continues to extend and enhance The Courtauld Gallery's world-famous collections.



John Russell (1745-1806)
A Porter at the Royal Academy
1792
Pastel on paper, 77 x 64 cm
The Courtauld Gallery, London

In 2007 the Gallery was bequeathed a magnificent group of over fifty major British watercolours, including nine works by Turner, assembled by Dorothy Scharf. Alongside such extraordinary acts of philanthropy the Gallery has also grown through gifts of single works of art and, very occasionally, by direct purchases.

The display presents a wide range of works by celebrated masters and lesser-known figures. It includes watercolours by Turner and Constable and others from the Scharf bequest; a portrait of the Baroque sculptor and architect Gian Lorenzo Bernini; a beautiful drawing by Ingres (once owned by Samuel Courtauld) for his celebrated *Grande Odalisque*; fine Victorian watercolours by the esteemed Frederick Walker; a rare 18th century pastel by John Russell showing one of the porters of the Royal Academy at Somerset House; sculptures by Degas and Rodin; and two oil sketches by the great Post-Impressionist painter

Georges Seurat. The display also unveils Sir Joshua Reynolds's late masterpiece *Cupid and Psyche*, which has been undergoing conservation treatment since its acquisition in 2004. Most recently the sculptors Sir Anthony Caro, Phillip King and Richard Long have presented examples of their early work to the Gallery, helping to extend the collections more fully into the second half of the twentieth century.

The display is an opportunity to celebrate and enjoy the achievements of the past twenty years and to look forward to the future development of the collections.

For further information and images, please contact:

Sue Bond Public Relations

Hollow Lane Farmhouse, Thurston, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP31 3RQ, UK
Tel. +44 (0)1359 271085, Fax. +44 (0)1359 271934
E-mail. info@suebond.co.uk, www.suebond.co.uk

FACT SHEET

- Title of display:** **The Courtauld Collects! 20 Years of Acquisitions**
- Dates:** 17 June to 19 September 2010
- Supported by:** The Finnis Scott Foundation
- Location:** The Courtauld Gallery, Somerset House, Strand, London WC2R 0RN
Tel. +44 (0)20 7848 2526, fax. +44 (0)20 7848 2589,
www.courtauld.ac.uk
- Opening hours:** Daily 10 am to 6 pm, last admission 5.30 pm
- Admission:** Included in admission to permanent collection:
Adult: £5.00, concessions: £4.00.
On-line booking www.courtauld.ac.uk/tickets
Free admission: Mondays 10 am to 2 pm, except public holidays,
at all times for under 18s, full-time UK students and unwaged
- How to get there:** The Courtauld Gallery is situated in the North Building of Somerset House, which has entrances from the Strand and the Victoria Embankment. Mainline trains to Charing Cross, Waterloo or Blackfriars; underground stations Temple (District and Circle lines), Covent Garden (Piccadilly line) and Charing Cross (Northern, Bakerloo and Jubilee lines); buses 6, 9, 11, 13, 15, 23, 77a, 91 and 176 to Strand.
- Access:** The Gallery is wheelchair accessible, with level access to most areas and a lift to all floors. Assisted ramp access is available for Room 1.
- Shop:** The Courtauld Shop is open daily during Gallery hours offering catalogues, art books and prints as well as gifts, such as ceramics, textiles and jewellery, inspired by the permanent collection and temporary exhibitions.
Tel. +44 (0)20 7848 2579, shop@sctenterprises.com
Now also available online at www.courtauldshop.com
- Café:** The newly refurbished Courtauld Gallery Café is open daily from 10 am to 5.30 pm serving a new menu of drinks and freshly prepared meals.

For further information and images please contact:

Sue Bond Public Relations, Tel. +44 (0)1359 271085, Fax. +44 (0)1359 271934
E-mail info@suebond.co.uk, Website www.suebond.co.uk