

NATIONAL GALLERY'S FRENCH ART ON TOUR

The National Gallery of Canada recently sent a major exhibition chosen from French paintings in its own collection on a tour of Eastern Canada. *French Paintings 1840-1924* contains 22 paintings by artists from Eugène Delacroix (1798-1863) to Marc Chagall (1877-). The display opened at the Dalhousie Art Gallery, Halifax, Nova Scotia, where it was on view from February 24 to March 17.

The exhibition illustrates the confrontations of styles, personalities and attitudes of the artists represented in the 74 years it covers. From the romanticism of Theodore Chasseriau (1818-1856) to the fantasy of Chagall, it encompasses the work of the impressionist and post-impressionist artists who laid the foundation for the abstract painting of the twentieth century. Included are the National Gallery's *Portrait of Gustave Boyer* (1870/1) by Paul Cézanne; Gustave Courbet's *The Cliffs at Etretat* (1866); Pierre-August Renoir's *Claude and Renée* (1902/3); Camille Pissarro's *A Street Near the Hermitage at Pontoise* (1875), and *Still Life: Flowers (I)* (1886/88) by Vincent Van Gogh.



Still Life: Flowers I

Vincent Van Gogh



Portrait of a Woman

Edgar Degas

Photos on Pages 4 and 5 courtesy of the National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa.

The exhibition is part of the ambitious program of touring displays arranged by the extension staff of the National Gallery. To supplement the fully-illustrated, 36-page catalogue, printed in English and French, a written commentary on each painting has been prepared in both languages by the National Gallery's Education Services; a taped version of these commentaries can be played at intervals during the exhibition; education officers from the National Gallery will assist with the preparation of tours in each centre where the exhibition is seen.

From Halifax the paintings went to the Memorial University Art Gallery, St. John's Newfoundland. They will be seen at the Confederation Art Gallery and Museum Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, the Beaverbrook Art Gallery, Fredericton, New Brunswick and the Musée du Québec, Quebec.