

No. 43 *b*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
THURSDAY, JULY 8, 1965CANADIAN PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMONWEALTH ARTS FESTIVAL

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, announced today that the Government had accepted an invitation from the Commonwealth Arts Festival Society to participate in the "Treasures of Commonwealth Art" exhibition which will take place in London as an integral part of the Commonwealth Arts Festival to be held in Britain:

Her Majesty the Queen has consented to become the patron of the Festival. His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh is the Chairman of the Advisory Council of the Festival, and Mr. Ian Hunter, the initiator and first Director of the Edinburgh Festival, is Director General. The aim of the Commonwealth Arts Festival is to forge cultural links between countries of the Commonwealth to supplement the already existing links in politics, economics, science and other fields. The Festival will seek to reveal the diversity of the cultural traditions which exist in the various countries of the Commonwealth and will cover music, theatre, dancing, visual arts, folk arts and crafts, film and television film, architecture, and industrial design. Festival centres will be London, Cardiff, Liverpool, and Glasgow.

The "Treasures of Commonwealth Art" exhibition will form an important part of the Commonwealth Arts Festival and will be held at Burlington House, London, the home of the Royal Academy.

At the conclusion of the Commonwealth Arts Festival, the exhibition will remain at Burlington House for most of the winter and become the Royal Academy's Winter Exhibition. The Canadian collection consists of oil paintings, water colours, religious sculptures and other church art, and carvings and masks of the Canadian Indians and Eskimos.

Note: It was announced on October 7, 1964 that the Canadian Government had in principle agreed to participate in the Festival which will take place from September 16 to October 2, 1965. On January 13 it was announced that the Government's invitations to represent Canada in the performing arts aspects of the Festival had been accepted by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Le Théâtre du Nouveau Monde, and Les Feux Follets.