

A PICTURESQUE PURSUIT
Scottish Landscapes from the National Gallery of Scotland (Robert Adam to The
Glasgow Boys)

22nd June - 4th September 2004

A Picturesque Pursuit highlights the range and diversity of the Scottish national collection not only through its range of skilled artists but also through the tremendous variety of locations featured in each Scottish landscape. Scenes from as far south as the Borders to as far north as the Highlands are sprinkled with an enjoyable dose of historic castles. Particularly renowned artists include Robert Adam (1728-1794), Alexander Runciman (1736-1785), John Knox (1778-1845), Sir David Wilkie (1785-1841), William Dyce (1806-1864), Horatio McCulloch (1805-1867), William McTaggart (1835-1910), Sir James Guthrie (1859-1930) and Sir David Young Cameron (1865-1945).

Many of the works on paper in the exhibition have not been seen by the wider public and include *The Waning Light* by DY Cameron, c.1905, a superbly atmospheric watercolour work by the artist, *Edinburgh Castle* by Horatio McCulloch and a delightful pastel of *Women Working in a Field* by 'Glasgow Boy' Sir James Guthrie.

A Picturesque Pursuit follows on from the highly successful collaboration between The National Gallery of Scotland and Robert Fleming Holdings in 1995. During The Edinburgh Festival that year, The National Gallery of Scotland held an exhibition, *Hidden Assets: Scottish Paintings from the Flemings Collection*, comprising sixty of the best Scottish paintings and watercolours from the corporate collection of Scottish art built up by Flemings since the mid 1980s. The international success of the *Hidden Assets* exhibition, which was complemented by a selective re-hang of the Gallery's own permanent collection of Scottish painting, has encouraged the Foundation and the Gallery to embark on this second high profile collaboration showcasing part of the Scottish national collection in London.

A Picturesque Pursuit, comprising some fifty to sixty oil paintings, watercolours and drawings, will enable the international and London public to see some of The National Gallery's finest and most important Scottish landscapes by Scottish artists, as well as little known and unusual works.

A Picturesque Pursuit has been selected by Helen Smailes, Senior Curator of British Art at the National Gallery of Scotland –who instigated and co-curated the exhibition *Hidden Assets* in 1995 – and Valerie Hunter, Senior Curator of Prints and Drawings, in collaboration with Christopher Baker, Chief Curator, and Selina Skipwith, Keeper of Art at the Fleming-Wyfold Art Foundation.

The exhibition, which is unique to Flemings and will not travel to any other venue, will be accompanied by an illustrated brochure written by the Gallery's exhibition curators.