



Art Galleries in Sofia

with which Foundation "Humanity collaborates in respect to the realization of the ETNA Project :

Sofia Art Gallery <http://www.sghg.bg/>

Gallery "Europe" www.artgalleryeurope.eu

Gallery "Rakursi" <http://www.rakursi.com/>

Foreign Art Gallery <http://www.foreignartmuseum.bg/en/index.html>

National Art Gallery <http://www.nationalartgallerybg.org/>

Art Gallery "Lessedra" <http://www.lessedra.com/>

The National Art Gallery

The National Museum of Bulgarian Art is the largest and most respectable institution of its kind in Bulgaria. Over the years, it has established its position as a center for national cultural heritage and values. The collection was started in 1892 when the People's Museum of Archeology founded its Department of Art. By virtue of an express resolution of the Council of Ministers in 1948 NMBA (National Art Gallery) was pronounced an independent entity.



НАЦИОНАЛЕН МУЗЕЙ НА БЪЛГАРСКОТО ИЗОБРАЗИТЕЛНО ИЗКУСТВО
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF BULGARIAN VISUAL ARTS

A photograph of a grand, ornate interior hall in the National Museum of Bulgarian Art. The room features high ceilings, large mirrors, and a central chandelier. The walls are decorated with intricate patterns and architectural details.

НОЩ НА МУЗЕИТЕ
NIGHT OF MUSEUMS
18.05.2013

19.00-24.00
Избрано от българската салонна живопис
Bulgarian Saloon Art - selected

Танцов спектакъл на Vaya Dance Studio
Vaya Dance Studio performance

Камерна музика в изпълнение на Пенка Петкова и Георги Леков
Chamber-music concert - Penka Petkova & Georgi Lekov

Документални филми за художници
Documentaries on artists

<http://www.nationalartgallerybg.org/>

The National Art Gallery



The museum's collection of New and Contemporary Bulgarian art from the period since Bulgaria's Liberation in 1878 up to the 1990s consists of more than 30 000 individual pieces of paintings, prints and sculptures. The collection of paintings by Bulgarian masters is the most comprehensive

The collection of black and white drawings is also very rich. The museum's exhibitions feature some of the best achievements of Bulgarian sculptors of the 20th century. Expositions are regularly organized in the halls of the museum.



There are about ten of them held here each year. They are usually dedicated to prominent Bulgarian artist or major issues in the New and Contemporary Bulgarian Art. Mixed expositions by various artists organized on regular basis illustrate the diversity of the artistic process from the first days of independence till the present.

The National Gallery for

Foreign Art was opened on 5 November 1985 as an art gallery of the first international foundation in Bulgaria currently named St. Cyril and St. Methodius. The history of its establishment was related to a decade of collection and organization activity in the 70s and 80s of the last century. Subsequently, the foreign art fund of the National Art Gallery was added to the collection. The donations made through the 13 Centuries Bulgaria Fund and the generous donations by private contributors were of great importance for the completion of the museum collection.



As a general architectural silhouette, the Gallery building is a reconstruction of the old State Printing House designed by the Vienna architect Friedrich Schwanberg which was partially destroyed by bombings during the World War II. Its appearance today, conformed to the functions of a modern gallery, is the work of famous Bulgarian architects, artists, art historians, and arrangers.

The most valuable exhibits of the Gallery funds are displayed on four floors, housed in 19 rooms, with a total exhibition area of approximately 3,200 sqm. The Gallery holds over 10,000 museum items – graphic works, paintings, sculptures, fine arts.

The National Gallery for Foreign Art in Sofia is the only one of its kind in the Balkans. It holds a unique collection of Christian sculpture of the Indian province of Goa which can be found only in Portugal and Great Britain, the Poetic Reality collection which no other museum has to offer, etc.

The Gallery is unique with the character of its collection – the art of distant lands, of exotic tribes and nations, of old and new ages coexists with the modern European tendencies, with traditional and religious pictorial principles in the chronological span of a millennium.

WESTERN EUROPEAN PAINTING AND SCULPTURE 18TH AND THE FIRST HALF OF THE 20TH CENTURY

Here, the most significant works belong to the French fine arts. Dutch and Flemish landscape painting exercised a powerful influence on the development of the French art of painting of the middle of the 18th and the beginning of the 19th century.



SCHOOL OF PARIS. FRENCH ART OF PAINTING BETWEEN THE TWO WORLD WARS

Here are presented some artists whose works are associated with the **School of Paris (Ecole de Paris)** in the period between the two World Wars. Their paintings add up to the concept of the complex situation of arts during that period which manifests, in the highest degree, its international character.

This category includes mostly artists who actively participated in the exhibitions of the *Independent Ones*. These were artists rejecting academism and not committed to a certain modern trend.



MID-20TH CENTURY EUROPEAN ART

This room is devoted to European art of the middle of the 20th century when the ardent debates of Modernism and the impetus of the formal quests of the beginning of the century eventually appeased. They by no means disappeared without a trace, but rather gradually transformed into consistent and fundamental affirmation of the concept of the surrounding world and the manner of its representation, chosen by the artists. In the foreground of a broad geographical panorama we can trace diverse views, styles, trends, individual creative pursuits and ideological convictions.



The Sofia Art Gallery

Opened in 1928 as a museum with three sections: (museum, library and picture gallery, after several replacements, the Sofia Art Gallery (SAG) became an autonomous institution in 1952.

In 1973 the Sofia Art Gallery moved to what used to be the city casino (where it is until present days).

Today the Sofia Art Gallery possesses one of the richest collections of Bulgarian art: 3500 paintings, 800 statues, 2800 graphics and drawings.

In 2004 the Contemporary Art and Photography department was founded in.

The Gallery's chief responsibility is to conserve, maintain and study art heritage. The staff members are specialists who look after the collections and arrange expositions and publish catalogs presenting the works of art to the public.

With 1100 square meters of exposition space divided into four compartments the Gallery arranges some 30 exhibitions every year. Most of them displaying works from the Gallery's collections.

In addition visiting exhibitions of Bulgarian and foreign artists are arranged. Studies on present-day art and work with young artists became a special focus of the Gallery's policy in recent years.

