

April 25, 1997

***NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART HOSTS UNIQUE EDITIONS™
DIGITAL ATELIER
JULY 4 THROUGH JULY 20***

In its continuing exploration of the interaction between art and technology, the National Museum of American Art will house a digital art studio (July 4-20) in the new activity room of its Learning Center. Five leading digital printmakers from around the country will be on-hand to demonstrate techniques in creating art using the latest computer equipment, imaging hardware, and software—generously provided by major suppliers in the field. Visitors to the activity room will be able to observe and interact with the artists, and to create prints of their own. The studio, named Digital Atelier, will be in full operation during regular museum hours from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Admission is free.

Hailing from studios throughout the United States, the artists-in-residence -- Helen Golden, Bonny Lhotka, Judith Moncrieff, Karin Schminke and Dorothy Simpson Krause—are collaboratively known as Unique Editions. Using both traditional studio and media techniques with digital imaging, they produce original fine art and unique editions. They call the blending of traditional and state-of-the-art creative methods "tradigital." In addition to creating digital art, they are advocates for this hybrid medium and have spoken to audiences as varied as the College Art Association and MacWorld.

"We are very pleased to host this hands-on program to introduce our visitors to this experimental medium," said Elizabeth Broun, director of the National Museum of American Art.

The hardware, software, supplies and technical support for the Digital Atelier are made possible by Adobe Systems Incorporated, APS Technologies, Arches, Axis Communications, Inc., AZON Corporation, Cactus, CalComp, Inc., ENCAD, Inc., EPSON, Essapac Products, Ltd., Hewlett-Packard Company, Indigo America, IRIS Graphics, Inc., Loews L'Enfant Plaza, Macromedia, MetaCreations Corporation, Microtek Lab, Inc., Newer Technology, Inc., Olympus America Inc., Paper Technologies/Legion Paper West, Radius Inc., Rexam Graphics, Sentinel Imaging, Splash Technology, Inc., Stella Color, Tangent Color Systems, Tektronix, Inc., UMAX Computer Corporation and VocalTec Inc..

The museum's activity room, which was inaugurated in November 1996, provides a classroom environment within the context of a museum. Hundreds of students around the D.C. area have used the facility.

The National Museum of American Art, which houses the largest collection of American Art in the world, is one of the most active museums in electronically disseminating its images, texts and databases. Housed in the Old Patent Office Building at Eighth and G

Streets, N.W. in Washington, D.C., the museum is located above the Gallery Place Metro station. Hours are from 10 a.m to 5:30 p.m. daily. For more information, call (202) 357-2700; (202) 357-4522 (TTY); (202) 633-9126)

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