

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

NEWS RELEASE

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PARKER LESLEY APPOINTED TO CURATORIAL STAFF OF NATIONAL GALLERY
WASHINGTON, D.C. October 7, 1974. Parker Lesley, Professor of
Art at Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Virginia, has been
appointed a curator at the National Gallery of Art, it was
announced today by J. Carter Brown, Director of the Gallery.

Mr. Lesley's responsibilities at the National Gallery in-
clude acting as a curator of 18th & 19th century European
painting and the decorative arts in the Gallery's collection,
and research on all these.

At Old Dominion University, where he has been Professor
of Art since 1959, Mr. Lesley taught courses in Christian art,
seventeenth-century painting, Oriental art, and American art.
His numerous publications include the highly praised scholarly
volume "Renaissance Jewels and Jewelled Objects" published
by The Baltimore Museum of Art in 1968, and the "Handbook and
Catalogue of the Lillian Thomas Pratt Collection of Russian
Imperial Jewels" in the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts in
Richmond which appeared in 1960. He has also published articles
in Art in America, The Art Bulletin, and The Art Quarterly.

Mr. Lesley was Keeper of the Department of Exhibitions at

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the Cooper-Hewitt Museum of Decorative Arts & Design in New York (formerly the Cooper Union Museum for the Arts of Decoration) from 1950 to 1954. While at the Cooper-Hewitt, he published seven exhibition catalogues on the decorative arts, including "Lacquer: Oriental and Western, Ancient and Modern," "The Prince Regent's Style: Decorative Arts in England 1800-1830," and "Enamel: an Historic Survey to the Present Day."

He was Assistant Professor of Art and Architecture at the University of Minnesota from 1939 to 1942, and Curator of European art at the Detroit Institute of Arts, where he published a handbook of their medieval collection.

Mr. Lesley received his Master of Fine Arts Degree in Art and Archaeology from Princeton and his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Stanford University. He is a Chevalier of The Order of Polonia Restituta, and holds The Honor Medal for Art and Science of the House Order of Orange-Nassau from The Netherlands.

10/7/74