



# NACD

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NEWSLETTER PUBLICATION OF THE NIGERIAN ARTS AND CULTURE DIRECTORY PROJECT  
11th Edition, July 2008

## FEDERAL MINISTRY OF TOURISM, CULTURE AND NATIONAL ORIENTATION:

### Parastatals in focus

### First African Arts and Crafts Expo (AFAC EXPO 2008)

### Comments on the NACD Newsletters





## FROM THE EDITORIAL DESK

The 11th edition of the NACD Newsletter, seeks to revisit that aspect of its mandate, which involves highlighting the activities of relevant agencies and parastatals under the Federal Ministry of Tourism, Culture and National Orientation. As major stakeholders in the sector, an analogy has been drawn on the inter-relationship between each agency and the mother Ministry on one hand, and with one another. The end purpose is to emphasize the inter-dependency and cooperation existing between them.

It goes on to site examples of the National Council for Arts and Culture (NCAC)'s upcoming African Arts and Crafts Expo (AFAC EXPO 2008) scheduled for flag off on the 14th of August. This 10-day event will be all encompassing and focuses on the Arts and Crafts industry in Africa. The different categories of the exhibition have also been enumerated to serve as a guide to our numerous subscribers around the globe. This promises to be an opportunity for practitioners to showcase their skills as well as improve earnings.

Another parastatal which came under spotlight in this edition is the Centre for Black and African Arts and Civilisation (CBAAC), a major supporter of the NACD. CBAAC under the leadership of the erudite scholar, Prof. Tunde Babawale has embarked on numerous enlightenment and re-orientation campaigns meant to bring its mission to the fore as a major driver in the sector. This edition therefore x-rays some of these activities and brings into perspective, its projections for the future up till the end of year 2008.

A unique aspect of this edition however is the inclusion of some comments from readers and subscribers of the NACD Newsletter. These are comments received from readers across the world based on the content and coverage of past editions of the Project's newsletters. As much as possible, the Project's Editorial Team intends to follow up on this practice as a means of encouraging readers' participation in structuring its opinion. We therefore thank those readers who have made it a point of duty to send their comments and encourage others to follow suit. Your views are very important to us. NACD Project monthly Newsletter is currently read by over one hundred million subscribers world wide.

Once again, the Project has tried by this avenue to fulfill its obligation to its partners, collaborators, subscribers and fellow stakeholders world wide and we invite you to join us on another unforgettable journey through the channels of Nigeria's rich Arts, Culture and Tourism sector.



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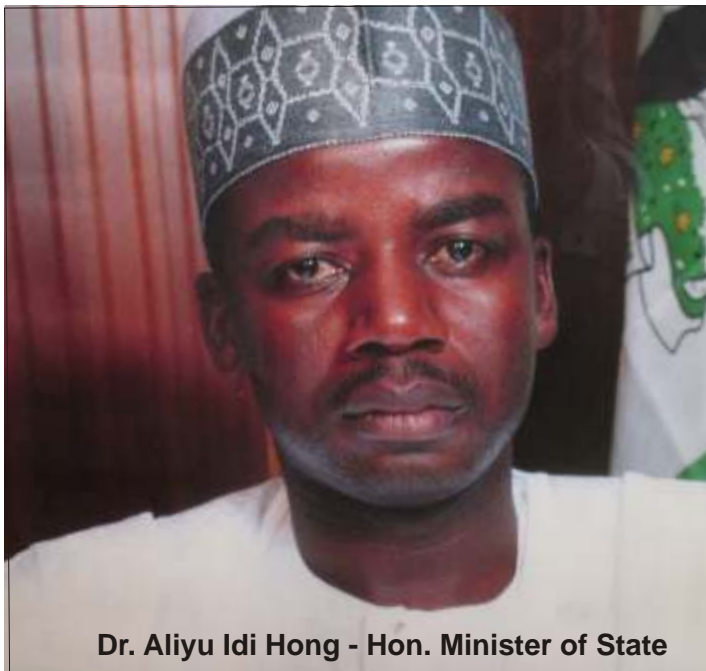
**NATIONAL INSURANCE COMMISSION**





Hon. Minister for Tourism, Culture and National Orientation, Prince Adetokunboh Kayode SAN

The parastatals and agencies that make up the Federal Ministry of Tourism, Culture and National Orientation, nine in number may be described as the pillars on which the Ministry rests. The agencies carry out the Ministry's programmes while it guides and oversees their activities. Without these parastatals/agencies, the Ministry and indeed, the whole arts, culture and tourism sub-sector in Nigeria would be greatly handicapped. Their role in the growth, progress and smooth running of the sector therefore cannot be overemphasized.

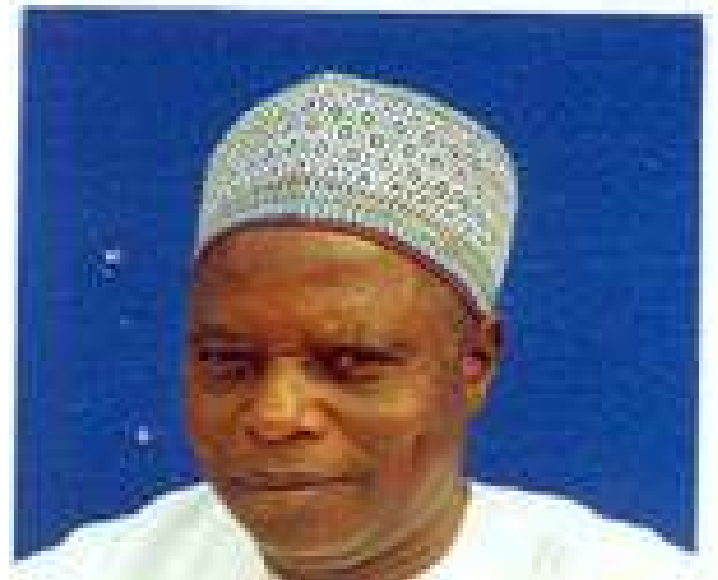


Dr. Aliyu Idi Hong - Hon. Minister of State

## MANDATES AND MISSION STATEMENTS

The mandates, missions and objectives for which these agencies were set up are laudable and target-driven. From the mother Ministry itself, whose core mandate is to promote culture and tourism as a foreign exchange earner, income distributor, major employer of labour, a catalyst for rural development, poverty reduction and a means of fostering peace; down to the last agency, the sector has been strategically positioned to meet international standards and challenges of the millennium.

The National Council for Arts and Culture (NCAC) by its mission is dedicated to the promotion and the preservation of the best of the living Arts and Cultures of the people of Nigeria, using it as resources for national integration and unity as well as to serve as catalyst for sustainable growth and development of the nation.



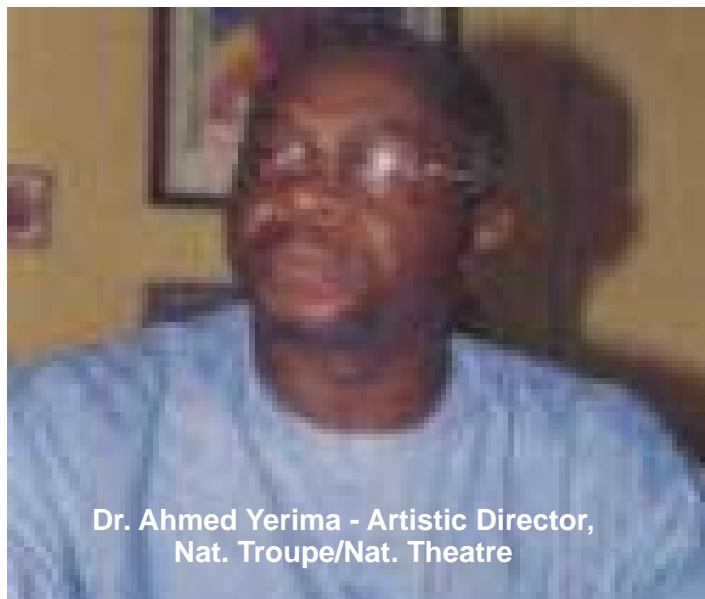
Mr. Mwajim Maidugu - Director/CEO NCAC

The National Gallery of Art has a mission, which is the systematic collection, preservation, research, display, interpretation and appreciation of works of art representing the creative spirit of the peoples of Nigeria both at home and in Diaspora.



Chief Joe Musa - D.G, NGA

The Centre for Black and African Arts and Civilization (CBAAC)'s mission seeks to promote public interest, understanding and appreciation of Black and African Arts and Culture with a view to emphasizing the contributions of Black and African peoples to world civilization. In the same vein, the National Theatre/Troupe was set up with the aim of enhancing the cultural development and artistic creativity of the nation and to establish a national repertory system, which will satisfy the yearnings and aspirations of the professional theatre, dance and music practitioners.



Dr. Ahmed Yerima - Artistic Director,  
Nat. Troupe/Nat. Theatre

The National Institute for Cultural Orientation (NICO) was established to serve as a focus for orientation in cultural matters for Nigerian policy

makers and other government officials, while the National Institute for Hospitality and Tourism, (NIHOTOUR) has the core mandate to provide training and manpower development for the Hospitality and Tourism industry in Nigeria and the entire West African Sub-Region by extension.

Other parastatals such as, The Nigerian Tourism Development Corporation (NTDC), the National Council for Museums and Monuments, etc., all seek by their mandates to achieve different missions and objectives. These are constantly being updated, refined and repositioned to accommodate new challenges as nothing remains constant besides change. It is imperative to note that while similar (and rightly so, being partners in the same direction), the roles of different agencies under the Federal Ministry of Tourism, Culture and National Orientation are by no means overlapping. This wrong impression has been created in many uninformed circles but a close look at the *Ministry and its Parastatals* column on the home-page of the NACD web version ([www.nacdonline.net](http://www.nacdonline.net)) will easily clarify the facts.

## WORKING PARTNERSHIP

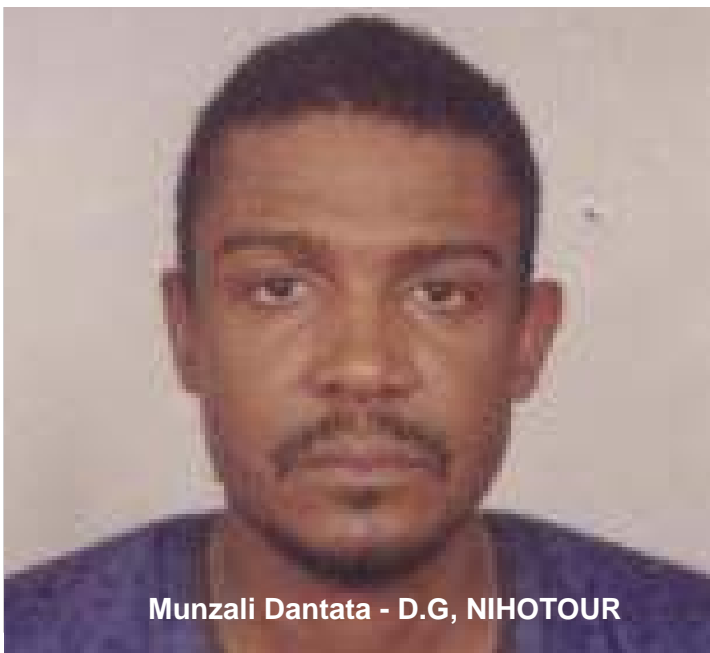
Parastatals and agencies under the Federal Ministry of Tourism, Culture and National Orientation as stakeholders in the Nigerian Arts and Culture Directory Project Initiative have exhibited commitment and support towards the realization of its set objectives in diverse ways. Some have been instrumental to the development of its database, which has made the Project's website the most versatile in the sector to date. This is easily proven as any visitor to the site needs only to click on the '*Ministry and its Parastatals*' column in order to access all necessary information pertaining to each agency. Others have provided logistical and material support towards the success of its programmes, while yet others have advanced technical support in terms of experienced advice. However, the synergy between the Project and





J.B. Yusuff - Executive Secretary, NICO

relevant agencies in the sector can hardly be described as one-sided. No such collaboration ever is. With the advent of its vast information base, the NACD Project has made the sector's job a lot easier. Giving access to quality and valuable information just by a click of the mouse is a great mileage to say the least. This alone, besides any of its other achievements has put the Project in a class of its own and carved for it, a niche in the emerging new face of the Arts, Culture and Tourism sub-sector in Nigeria. The NACD Project has also undertaken as part of its mandate to provide updated information



Munzali Dantata - D.G, NIHOTOUR

on activities and programmes of each parastatal whenever due. This has meant that the Project's Research team, of necessity had to keep track of events within the sector right from their planning stages to their culmination. The immediate past edition of the NACD Newsletter carried as an attachment, the up-coming African Regional Summit on Visual Arts (ARESUA), the first African regional art exhibition of the visual arts sub-sector, planned by the National Gallery of Art, and which would initiate a yearly chain, spanning large areas of the sector's economy and touching numerous and diverse stakeholders within it. This is just one of several events making waves within the sector at the moment. The vibrancy and sharp focus of the Arts, Culture and Tourism sector is once again being brought to the fore by some activities planned as well as being executed by its different agencies, spearheaded by their chief executives. These will form part of the 11<sup>th</sup> edition package of the NACD Project's Newsletter.

THE FIRST AFRICAN ARTS AND CRAFTS EXPO (AFAC EXPO 2008) (Theme: Stimulating Economic Growth Potentials of the Arts and Crafts Sector).

The 1<sup>st</sup> African International Arts and Crafts Expo 2008 is a unique one initiated by the National Council for Arts and Culture (NCAC), led by its Chief Executive; Mr. Mwajim Malgwi Maidugu, with the aim to explore, grow, develop, promote, market and generally leverage our arts and crafts industry as one of the potential and promising sectors that could compliment or become an alternative to the oil economy. By scope, the exhibition will feature the best of the creative ingenuity and heritage of Africans and beyond. Some selected aspects of Arts and Crafts shall be open for competition and prizes while awards will be given to winning entries.

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The Expo shall comprise amongst others; Arts and Crafts unique to each Local Government Area, State and participating country.

The categories include:

- I. Interior décor
- ii. African garments and designs
- iii. Household utensils
- iv. Jewelries
- v. Brass and Metal designs
- vi. Ceramics and Pottery
- vii. African Cuisines
- viii. Traditional African Music/Dance

In a recent interview session with Miss Ann Kanuh; the Assistant Director, Press and Public Relations of the NCAC, the NACD Project Research team was informed that Nigeria with about 140 million people is playing host to one of the largest arts and crafts Expos in the world.



It is envisaged that over five thousand crafts entrepreneurs from Nigeria and most African countries would through this medium, showcase their creativity to the delight of over one million visitors (domestic and foreign) expected during the period of the Expo. The creativity fiesta shall exquisitely highlight and showcase the rich and diverse African crafts, cuisines, fashion and cultural displays from various parts of the African region and all States of the federation. This will no doubt provide great opportunities for effective and focused incentives and mileage for investors, marketers and would-be sponsors. Furthermore, it is a platform that will stimulate the growth of the tourism industry and the economy in general.



Participation at the event is drawn from across Africa and other regions of the world, the 36 States of the federation and the Federal Capital Territory, all 774 Local Government Areas, Artists glee, Nigeria Crafts Council, NGOs specializing in the crafts industry, manufacturers of textiles and garments, investors, the Nigerian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Fashion houses, Institutions, Designers, Medium and Small Scale Industries as well as other relevant stakeholders. The Expo which comes up in August 2008 will take place at the Old Parade Ground, Abuja from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August - a period the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August - a period of ten days.

Details of the 1<sup>st</sup> African Art Expo 2008 will be made available to worldwide subscribers of the NACD Newsletter (soft and physical





copies) in a subsequent edition. The Research team of the NACD Project was given access to the National Council's Gallery, housing its collection of crafts and art works such as calabash crafts, wood crafts, raffia crafts, metal works, cane crafts, ceramics, ivory, beautiful bronze crafts, locally crafted bead jewelry, leather and skin tannery, fabrics weaving and design, clay pottery, wood on fabric, etc. These are among the numerous collections from all over the country which are billed for exhibition at the 1st Art Expo Africa come August 14, 2008. A peep into its wonders has been made possible by this newsletter edition to prepare the public for what is to come.

## THE NEW SECRETARIAT COMPLEX

It may interest readers to know that the new secretariat complex of the National Council for Arts and Culture (NCAC) in Garki II District of Abuja, the nation's capital, so long awaited, has since been completed and put to use. Compared to the cramped spaces which the Council had occupied for years as tenants of the Abuja Council of Arts at the Cyprian Ekwensi Complex in Area 10, Garki Abuja, the new NCAC secretariat is indeed a landmark building of note. The three-storeyed edifice consists of three huge wings, made up of wide airy offices, corridors and balconies, alcoves, cubicles, galleries, show rooms, waiting/reception rooms, rest rooms and a library. It is occupied from ground to its top by the Council. What a relief, one might say.



The new NCAC Secretariat

Bearing in mind that the nature of a working environment contributes immensely to quality and quantity of output, the airy, quiet and conducive atmosphere pervading the new NCAC secretariat can add nothing if not a positive attitude to work among staff, translating into better output in the long run. In fact, the up-coming Art Expo Africa is an indirect result of the Council's move to its new secretariat. Take the art gallery visited by the NACD Research team for instance; it became obvious that this was a recent innovation of the Council, made possible by the availability of more space. By implication therefore, even the realization of the mandate and objectives of the NCAC had been slowed down by this space challenge. It is not out of place then to infer that the NCAC, haven been freed from the shackles of a cramped environment are flying high, not far behind its contemporaries such as the National Gallery of Art, etc., that have recorded landmark innovations in recent times.

## CENTRE FOR BLACK AND AFRICAN ARTS AND CIVILISATION (CBAAC) UNDER THE NACD PROJECT'S SPOTLIGHT

The Centre for Black and African Arts and Civilization (CBAAC), a parastatal of the Federal Ministry of Tourism, Culture and National Orientation and a great supporter of the



Prof. Tunde Babawale

NACD, has been to the Project, what can be described as a pillar of support; haven embraced its concept from the beginning. Headed by the erudite scholar Professor Gabriel Olatunde Babawale, the Centre, by recent and not so recent additions to its calendar of events has merited a major slot in the 11th edition of the NACD Newsletter. As an avenue for showcasing the sector's growth and developmental projects, the NACD Newsletter gives unquantifiable mileage to any of the sector agencies thus featured. The choice of CBAAC by the Project's Editorial Board as an additional feature in this edition is informed, not only by virtue of the Project's obligation to its numerous partners with whom it operates a symbiotic relationship but also as a means of fulfilling its mission as the sector's No. 1 information centre.



CORPORATE AFFAIRS COMMISSION



HOTEL DE VILLE ABA

## THE RECENT PAST

With the mission to promote public interest, understanding and appreciation of Black and African Arts and Culture, with a view to emphasizing the contributions of Black and African peoples to world civilization, CBAAC has not fallen short of this goal. In the later part of 2007 and early 2008, the Centre was a frontrunner of the sector. Of several events which it hosted, co-hosted as well as participated in, the "*Glimpses of FESTAC 77*" exhibition, which it co-hosted with UNESCO from 16<sup>th</sup> October to 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2007 in Paris to commemorate the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of FESTAC '77 in grand style stands out for purpose and mission.

To the viewing public of representatives from 190 countries from across the globe, Nigeria's rich heritage of arts was laid bare by means of such masterpieces as replicas of the long lost Queen Idia mask and the original Benin Head used as logo for FESTAC '77. This had to be a moment of glory for Black and African artists throughout history, whose contributions made the moment possible. In early 2008, precisely in February, CBAAC marked the Black History Month Celebration, a yearly celebration of the achievements of Africa's heroic ancestors, promotion of interest in African history and establishment of a sustainable relationship with the Diaspora. It took place at the



Shadrack Golen - Deputy Director (D.D)  
Finance & Admin (CBAAC)



Banquet/Conference Hall of the National Theatre Iganmu, Lagos, featuring exhibitions and cultural performances.

Other events of early 2008 include the Methodology workshop on African Rock Art in Niamey, Niger Republic, CBAAC's Annual Public Lecture held on 27<sup>th</sup> March, National Workshop on Cultural Rejuvenation for National Integration and Sustainable Development in April, CBAAC'S Annual Children's Day Celebration in May and Inter-School Cultural Quiz/Debate Competition in June, marking the 'Day of the African Child'.

## EVENTS UP-COMMING

1. Haven hosted last year, the Summit of African Agencies and organizations involved in the Management and Promotion of African Arts and Culture, CBAAC will this August participate in the same event in Yaounde, Cameroon. The theme of last year's edition, which was held in Lagos was 'Developing Proactive Strategies for Dealing Effectively with the Challenges Facing the Management and Promotion of African Arts and Culture'. Representatives from seven agencies and institutions (from Nigeria and other African countries) participated in the summit.

### 2. INTERNATIONAL YOUTH SUMMIT: OCTOBER 2008

By its mandate, the responsibility for re-orientating the youth and reawakening their consciousness on their role in arts and culture development lies with CBAAC. This programme was designed as part of efforts to continuously remind youths of the subsisting virtues in African culture and their desirability in the face of current realities.

3. An international conference on 'Teaching and Propagating African History to the Diaspora and doing same of the Diaspora to Africa' is scheduled to hold in Brazil, come November. For mutual relationship between continental

Africans and African Diaspora, there is every need to study and understand one another's historical events, activities and experiences. This would facilitate a build-up on our need to study and understand one another's historical events, activities and experiences. This would facilitate a build-up on our common heritage appreciation of our collective contributions to the world's civilizations. The colloquium scheduled for Rio de Janeiro, will bring Academics and experts from Africa and the Diaspora to chart a new course of cross continental teaching of African related studies at both secondary and tertiary levels.

### 4. CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CULTURAL FESTIVAL: 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2008

To re-establish traditional arts, culture and confidence of Black and African peoples in Nigerian youths, CBAAC would organize a one-day cultural festival on the 13th of December at the Banquet Hall of the National Theatre Iganmu, Lagos. The event's ultimate aim is to rekindle the interest of the youth in culture. The festival will feature an art exhibition, traditional fashion parade, cultural performances, cultural quiz, traditional dance competition, clips of FESTAC '77, and raffle draw. A large number of Primary and Secondary School pupils and students (not less than 700) are usually in attendance.





## READERS COMMENTS

1. Fantastic work  
Femi Oye (Innervail Limited)

Thanks Femi for your encouragement.

2. There are areas you need to update. For instance, the seventh function of NCAC seems obsolete (to assist the Antiquities Commission established under section...). We don't have such a commission. I am sure you mean National Commission for Museums and Monuments. The events and achievements of NCAC do not reflect those of last year and first half of this year. Not even new programmes like AFAC Expo, Art Expo Lagos and Aresuva for NGA. As for NGA, you still retain Odeh George Ichakpa and Martins as Directors after over one year they left the service. I also tried to search using your search column for artist Akin Onipede, but no response. However, the total package is okay; layout, design and photographs. Keep the flag flying.

Ozolua Uhakheme  
Asst. editor (Arts)  
The NATION Newspaper, Lagos.

Dear Ozolua, your observations is a mark of your interest towards the enhancement of the arts and tourism sector which we set out to achieve. However, we wish to assure you that the corrections pointed out have been effected. On the issue of Akin Onipede works being inaccessible through the site, please be informed that we have not received any work from the artists and thus cannot display such. However, the site remains open to artists who wish to display their works to the international community.

Watch out for the ARESUVA story in our September Newsletter for a complete package. Thanks for your objective views, continue to visit the site for any information on Nigeria's arts, culture and tourism sector.

3. I want to say thank you for the opportunity and privilege given to me to read the February edition of the NACD Project Newsletter.

I am a Nigerian that is always of the opinion that the boat has left the terminal. We must get to the other side of the bridge on a brighter side.

When I was reading the Newsletter, it was a thing of joy and made me remember that in Africa lies the greatest expanse of untapped resources. Some of those resources were those colourful paintings. I wish the directorate good months and years ahead as we march into holistic stability.

Mcleish Ukomatimi Otuedon  
(Middlesex University, Hendon, London).

Thanks Mcleish for your views and encouragement. We will continue to fly the flag and hope our brothers in diaspora will in their own ways, contribute towards making Nigeria a global destination of arts, culture and tourism in the near future.

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## National Gallery of Art

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