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POSTED ON
03 JUL 2011

National Gallery Alexandros Soutzos Museum



The National Gallery was founded in 1900 by a law in which provision was also made for the assignment of a chief curator of the Foundation. **In 1954, the National Gallery merged with the Alexandros Soutzos Estate, hence its double name.**

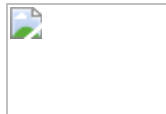
The institutional role of the National Gallery is to **collect, safe-keep, preserve, study and exhibit works of art** towards the aesthetic training of the public, the on-going education through art and the recreation that it is able to provide, as well as the self-awareness of the Greek people through the history of art, which expresses the national history on a symbolic level.

Its early collections came from the National Technical University and the University of Athens. **Today, the National Gallery collections comprise more than 20,000 works of painting, sculpture, engraving and other forms of art; this is the treasury of Modern Greek art, encompassing the period from the post-Byzantine times until today.** Approximately 3,000 works have been added to the National Gallery collections in recent years. Moreover, the National Gallery owns a remarkable collection of Western European paintings. The National Gallery Alexandros Soutzos Museum also houses an extensive **library** with invaluable archival material and specialised conservation laboratories, equipped with up-to-date scanning, examination and restoration systems.

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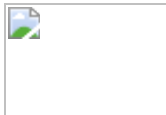
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BY JORDI BALTÀ PORTOLÉS
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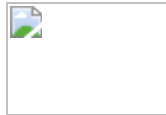
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