

Originally Processed With FOIA(s):

S

FOIA Number:

2011-2184-F

# FOIA MARKER

**This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the George Bush Presidential Library Staff.**

---

**Record Group/Collection:** George H.W. Bush Presidential Records  
**Collection/Office of Origin:** Speechwriting, White House Office of  
**Series:** Speech File Draft Files  
**Subseries:** Chron File, 1989-1993

---

**OA/ID Number:** 13512  
**Folder ID Number:** 13512-002

---

**Folder Title:**  
Presentation of National Medal of the Arts Awards 11/17/89 [OA 3540]

---

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
<b>G</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>

---

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

November 17, 1989

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT  
DURING PRESENTATION OF  
NATIONAL MEDAL OF THE ARTS AWARDS

The East Room

12:12 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Excuse the delay. We've been out there trying to calm the national turkey, which has all worked out very well. (Laughter.) No double entendres around here about that, either. (Laughter.)

Thank you -- all of you -- for being here today for the fifth annual presentation of the National Medal of the Arts. It is a great pleasure and an honor for Barbara and me to welcome you to the White House. I just want to thank the National Council on the Arts -- the Committee on the Arts and Humanities, as well as John Frohnmayer, our new and distinguished chairman of the NEA, and of course, Hugh Southern, for the support and encouragement of America's cultural life.

Dante once wrote that "Art imitates nature as well as it can, as a pupil follows his master; and thus it is a sort of grandchild of God." Well as this, "grandchild of God," art embraces our values in history, gives meaning to our existence and illuminates the basic human truths which give us purpose. In a way, art defines our civilization.

But in another more personal way, art opens entire new worlds for each of us, letting us see and hear and even feel life through the mind of someone else -- from new perspectives. And instead of seeing a single world, we can see as many worlds as there are artists and writers, dancers and musicians.

The diversity of art in this nation is truly a product of the diversity of our democracy. The American arts, like a many-faceted mirror, have been a colorful reflection of this nation's history. The music of the frontier led to the blues of the bayou, and the swing bands of the cities. The primitivism of the early painters gave way to the romanticism of the Hudson River school and later, American impressionism and abstract expressionism. In architecture, Americans see everything from the Federal style to post-modernism. Modern photography and filmmaking have their roots in the tintypes of the Civil War era. And from our earliest writings to this week's best seller list, we've seen American poetry, novels, short stories earn a unique place in the literature of the entire world. Cities like New York and Los Angeles have become art capitals of international importance, and regional orchestras, museums, dance troupes and opera companies have enjoyed spectacular successes.

We need to make this great diversity of art more a part of the lives of all Americans. And we need to begin this effort in our schools so that our young people will have a sense of their heritage and the creativity of the present. We need to make special efforts to reach out to those who do not regularly participate. The work of the National Endowment is especially important in these areas.

MORE

Today, we honor a group of men and women whose creative ideas, talent and passion have added so much to the rich tapestry that is our Nation's cultural heritage. Their work is not just of the mind, but of the heart and of the soul. And some have challenged us, some have amazed us. And some have brought remarkable beauty of sight and sound to us. But all have helped us to thank and to dream and to understand ourselves and our world a little better.

Today, we honor Alfred Eisenstaedt for his photography, Dizzy Gillespie for his jazz innovations, John Updike for his prose. Katherine Dunham for her dance and choreography, Walker Hancock for his sculpture, Czeslaw Milosz for his poetry, Robert Motherwell for his paintings, and Leopold Adler for his historic preservation. And we honor someone whose great talent and energy will live on, long after the sounds of his music has faded -- and that is the late Vladimir Horowitz.

And we honor the patrons of the arts -- those who understand that without the artistic creativity of its people, no nation can be whole -- and those whose dedication, energy and commitment have sustained that creativity over the years. We honor Martin Friedman of the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, Leigh Gerdine of Webster University in St. Louis, and the Dayton Hudson Corporation.

And now, I will ask John Frohnmayer if he will read the citations for the National Medal of the Arts to our recipients. John, all yours.

MR. FROHNMAYER: Thank you, Mr. President.

Leopold Adler, II is a nationally recognized expert in historic preservation, one who has changed the face of his hometown, Savannah, Georgia. He was the driving force behind two remarkable revitalization experiments: one refurbished the historic section of Savannah; and the other renovated low-income housing in the Victorian district. Mr. Adler has also served as a trustee for almost a decade for the National Trust for Historic Preservation. (Applause.)

The citation reads: To Leopold Adler for his civic leadership in preserving for all time the beauty of Savannah, Georgia, and for making that city a model of the art of historic preservation.

Katherine Dunham is an outstanding dancer and choreographer. The Dunham Company, the first black professional dance company in America, performed throughout the world from 1938 through 1963, presenting the dance, music and folklore of Third World countries and the United States. For over 30 years, Ms. Dunham has maintained the only permanently self-subsidized dance troupe in America. She also founded the Dunham School of Arts and Research in New York City. (Applause.)

The citation reads: To Katherine Dunham for her pioneering explorations of Caribbean and African dance, which have enriched and transformed the art of dance in America.

Alfred Eisenstaedt is the quintessential photojournalist who pioneered the introduction of the candid camera technique into news reporting. After emigrating from West Prussia in 1935, he joined the original photography staff of the new magazine "Life." Mr. Eisenstaedt's most famous photo is that of a sailor kissing a nurse in Time Square at the end of World War II. As a photographer, he has won almost every major national professional award.

The award is received by his long-time friend and photo editor, Bobbie Baker Burrows. (Applause.)

The citation reads: To Alfred Eisenstaedt for the

MORE

extraordinary photographs that document the tragedies and triumphs he has witnessed over a lifetime. (Applause.)

John Berks "Dizzy" Gillespie is a virtuoso musician, pioneer, composer and bandleader who has been a pivotal figure in 20th century American music. The founder of the jazz "bebop" movement, he developed a radical new approach to improvisation that was to change the course of modern music-making. For more than 40 years he has explored the varied music of different cultures. Mr. Gillespie has performed before countless world leaders and has won numerous awards. Dizzy Gillespie. (Applause.)

The citation to John Berks "Dizzy" Gillespie for his trailblazing work as a musician who helped elevate jazz to an art form of the first rank and for sharing his gift with listeners around the world." (Applause.)

Walker Kirtland Hancock is a renowned sculptor whose work spans a period of 70 years. He began by sculpting the bust of an orphan and was awarded a Prix de Rome while still an apprentice. He has spent a lifetime sculpting over 268 pieces, many of them portraits, busts, monuments and medals in the heroic Renaissance style of Florence. Mr. Hancock has sculpted busts of American heroes and presidents. He has said that just as the ancient Greeks did in their sculpture, celebrating heroes is still one of the worthy functions of sculpture today. Walker Hancock. (Applause.)

The citation, "To Walker Hancock for his extraordinary contribution to the art of sculpture and for demonstrating the enduring beauty of the classical tradition." (Applause.)

Vladimir Horowitz was a consummate pianist and a genius who was known for the controlled thunder and the electricity of his performances. Appropriately, Mr. Horowitz's first home was on Music Street in Kiev. He left the Soviet Union as a musical sensation in 1925 to play in Berlin, Paris and, ultimately, in America at Carnegie Hall. He returned to Carnegie Hall 25 years later at the height of his popularity and returned to play in the Soviet Union in 1986. Vladimir Horowitz's music had a colorful blazing quality and technical excellence -- truly, he was a man with no equals. The award will be delivered to Madame Horowitz upon her return from Italy, and the citation reads: To Vladimir Horowitz for his extraordinary achievements and distinctive style as a pianist whose concerts brought pleasure to audiences everywhere and whose contributions to music made him a citizen of the world. (applause)

Czeslaw Milosz is a poet and educator, whom Joseph Brodsky called "One of the greatest poets of our time, perhaps the greatest." Mr. Milosz was born in Lithuania in 1911, and became a naturalized citizen of the United States in 1970. As one of the leaders in the avant-garde poetry movement in Poland during the 1930's, he edited an anti-Nazi anthology called "Invincible Song." Mr. Milosz won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1980, for his poetry on life in this century. Czeslaw Milosz. (Applause.) The citation to Czeslaw Milosz for glorious poetry and prose that celebrates the freedom-loving spirit, not only of his native Poland, but that of his adopted country, the United States. (Applause.)

Robert Motherwell is an artist of global stature. Renowned as one of the founders of the American Abstract Expressionism school, the first American art movement to receive recognition internationally as being on the leading edge of world art. He is best known for a series of monumental paintings on the "Spanish Eulogy" theme, for abstract paintings in the open series, and as a master of collage. He has received a multitude of honors in five decades of a very distinguished career. Robert Motherwell. (Applause.) The citation to Robert Motherwell for reflecting in his art the very essence of American Freedom with paintings that have found a distinguished place in collections everywhere. (Applause.)

John Updike is the author of over 30 books of poetry, novels, short stories and essays. Mr. Updike is one of the best chroniclers of American small town life in literature. He began as a writer for the New Yorker magazine and then authored the novels, The Poorhouse Fair, Rabbit, Run, and among many others, The Centaur and the Witches of Eastwick. Among many other awards, in 1982 Mr. Updike received the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction for Rabbit is Rich. John Updike. (Applause.)

The citation reads: To John Updike, for novels and stories that, over a 40-year career, have given us a wryly affectionate, yet penetrating analysis of the complexity of life in today's America. (Applause.)

Martin Friedman is one of our Nation's most innovative and scholarly museum directors. Mr. Friedman has served as Director of the Walker Arts Center in Minneapolis since 1961, making it into one of the premiere small museums in this country, in exhibitions as well as in the performing arts. In addition to his activism in the arts community, he has written extensively on contemporary art and recently, helped create the new Minneapolis Sculpture Garden. (Applause.) The citation -- to Martin Friedman for opening the doors of his museum to the best of all of the arts in our time -- from painting and sculpture to film, video and performance -- and for opening our eyes to the vital connections between these forms of expression.

Leigh Gerdine is an outstanding civic leader who has paved the way for development of every major cultural institution in St. Louis. Mr. Gerdine is a 40-year resident of that city, and for 18 years has been President of Webster University. He has been deeply involved in the St. Louis Symphony, the St. Louis Repertory Company, and was founding Chairman of the St. Louis Opera Theater, now one of the most widely-acclaimed companies in the country.

Mr. Gerdine. (Applause.)

The citation to Leigh Gerdine for his distinguished career as a musician and educator, and for the enlightened patronage which has earned him the title of "spiritual father of the arts in St. Louis." (Applause.)

Dayton Hudson Corporation has been a leader in corporate giving for 43 years. Since 1980, the corporation has contributed nearly \$70 million to arts programs in the United States. Dayton Hudson has targeted support to programs that, on a long-term basis, make a community a more vital place in which to live.

During 1988 alone, Dayton Hudson generously awarded \$7.4 million to 580 arts programs in 37 states and the District of Columbia. Accepting is Mr. Kenneth Macke, CEO of Dayton Hudson Corporation. (Applause.) The citation to Dayton Hudson Corporation for helping to forge a vital partnership between the corporate sector and the arts community and for demonstrating how both can benefit in the process. (Applause.)

THE PRESIDENT: Well, let me just say in conclusion first, thank you, John Frohnmayer, and to all of you recipients, congratulations for your achievements, for the passion you bring to the arts. You have honored this country. Your nation is grateful to you. And congratulations to all of you. Barbara and I are just thrilled that you're here at the White House. And now, I'd like all of our Medal winners to join us up here for just a minute, if we could, for one quick -- what they call in the trade -- a photo op. (Laughter.) Please.

END

12:34 P.M. EST

NATIONAL MEDAL OF THE ARTS / EAST ROOM  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1989 / 12:00 NOON

*File*

THANK YOU, ALL OF YOU, FOR BEING HERE TODAY FOR THE FIFTH ANNUAL PRESENTATION OF THE NATIONAL MEDAL OF THE ARTS. IT'S A GREAT PLEASURE AND AN HONOR FOR BARBARA AND ME TO WELCOME YOU TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

- 2 -

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS, THE COMMITTEE ON THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES, AS WELL AS JOHN FROHNMAYER, [FRONE-MY-ER] OUR NEW AND DISTINGUISHED CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS, AND, OF COURSE, HUGH SOUTHERN, FOR THE SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF AMERICA'S CULTURAL LIFE.

DANTE ONCE WROTE THAT "ART IMITATES NATURE AS WELL AS IT CAN, AS A PUPIL FOLLOWS HIS MASTER; THUS IT IS A SORT OF GRANDCHILD OF GOD."

AS THIS "GRANDCHILD OF GOD," ART EMBRACES OUR VALUES AND HISTORY, GIVES MEANING TO OUR EXISTENCE AND ILLUMINATES THE BASIC HUMAN TRUTHS WHICH GIVE US PURPOSE. IN A WAY, ART DEFINES OUR CIVILIZATION.

BUT IN ANOTHER, MORE PERSONAL WAY, ART OPENS ENTIRE NEW WORLDS FOR EACH OF US, LETTING US SEE AND HEAR AND EVEN FEEL LIFE THROUGH THE MIND OF SOMEONE ELSE -- FROM NEW PERSPECTIVES.

INSTEAD OF SEEING A SINGLE WORLD, WE CAN SEE AS MANY WORLDS AS THERE ARE ARTISTS AND WRITERS, DANCERS AND MUSICIANS.

THE DIVERSITY OF ART IN THIS NATION IS TRULY A PRODUCT OF THE DIVERSITY OF OUR DEMOCRACY. THE AMERICAN ARTS, LIKE A MANY-FACETED MIRROR, HAVE BEEN A COLORFUL REFLECTION OF OUR NATION'S HISTORY. THE MUSIC OF THE FRONTIER LED TO THE BLUES OF THE BAYOU, AND THE SWING BANDS OF THE CITIES.

THE PRIMITIVISM OF THE EARLY PAINTERS GAVE WAY TO THE ROMANTICISM OF THE HUDSON RIVER SCHOOL AND LATER, AMERICAN IMPRESSIONISM AND ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONISM. IN ARCHITECTURE, AMERICANS SEE EVERYTHING FROM THE FEDERAL STYLE TO POST-MODERNISM. MODERN PHOTOGRAPHY AND FILMMAKING HAVE THEIR ROOTS IN THE TINTYPES OF THE CIVIL WAR ERA.

AND FROM OUR EARLIEST WRITINGS TO THIS WEEK'S BESTSELLER LIST, WE'VE SEEN AMERICAN POETRY, NOVELS AND SHORT STORIES EARN A UNIQUE PLACE IN THE LITERATURE OF THE WORLD. CITIES LIKE NEW YORK AND LOS ANGELES HAVE BECOME ART CAPITALS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE, AND REGIONAL ORCHESTRAS, MUSEUMS, DANCE TROUPES AND OPERA COMPANIES HAVE ENJOYED SPECTACULAR SUCCESSES.

WE NEED TO MAKE THIS GREAT DIVERSITY OF ART MORE A PART OF THE LIVES OF ALL AMERICANS.


WE NEED TO BEGIN THIS EFFORT IN OUR SCHOOLS SO THAT OUR YOUNG PEOPLE WILL HAVE A SENSE OF THEIR HERITAGE AND THE CREATIVITY OF THE PRESENT. AND WE NEED TO MAKE SPECIAL EFFORTS TO REACH OUT TO THOSE WHO DO NOT REGULARLY PARTICIPATE. THE WORK OF THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT IN THESE AREAS.

TODAY, WE HONOR A GROUP OF MEN AND WOMEN WHOSE CREATIVE IDEAS, TALENT AND PASSION HAVE ADDED SO MUCH TO THE RICH TAPESTRY THAT IS OUR NATION'S CULTURAL HERITAGE. THEIR WORK IS NOT JUST OF THE MIND BUT OF THE HEART AND OF THE SOUL.

SOME HAVE CHALLENGED US. SOME HAVE AMAZED US. SOME HAVE BROUGHT REMARKABLE BEAUTY OF SIGHT AND SOUND TO US.

**BUT ALL HAVE HELPED US TO THINK AND TO DREAM AND TO UNDERSTAND OURSELVES AND OUR WORLD A LITTLE BETTER.**

**TODAY, WE HONOR ALFRED EISENSTAEDT [I-ZEN-STAHT] FOR HIS PHOTOGRAPHY, DIZZY GILLESPIE FOR HIS JAZZ INNOVATIONS, AND JOHN UPDIKE FOR HIS PROSE. KATHERINE DUNHAM FOR HER DANCE AND CHOREOGRAPHY, WALKER HANCOCK FOR HIS SCULPTURE, CZESLAW [SAYS-LOV] MILOSZ [ME-LOSHE] FOR HIS POETRY, ROBERT MOTHERWELL FOR HIS PAINTINGS, AND LEOPOLD ADLER FOR HIS HISTORIC PRESERVATION.**



**AND WE HONOR SOMEONE WHOSE GREAT TALENT AND ENERGY WILL LIVE ON, LONG AFTER THE SOUND OF HIS MUSIC HAS FADED -- THE LATE VLADIMIR HOROWITZ.**

**AND WE HONOR THE PATRONS OF THE ARTS -- THOSE WHO UNDERSTAND THAT WITHOUT THE ARTISTIC CREATIVITY OF ITS PEOPLE, NO NATION CAN BE WHOLE -- AND THOSE WHOSE DEDICATION, ENERGY AND COMMITMENT HAVE SUSTAINED THAT CREATIVITY OVER THE YEARS.**

WE HONOR MARTIN FRIEDMAN OF THE WALKER ART CENTER IN MINNEAPOLIS, LEIGH [LAY] GERDINE [JER-DINE] OF WEBSTER UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS, AND THE DAYTON HUDSON CORPORATION. AND NOW, JOHN FROHNMAYER WILL READ THE CITATIONS FOR NATIONAL MEDAL OF THE ARTS TO OUR RECIPIENTS.

((FROHNMAYER READS CITATIONS, FIRST LADY HANDS MEDALS TO YOU TO PRESENT TO RECIPIENTS.))

((BACK TO THE PRESIDENT)) THANK YOU, JOHN. I CONGRATULATE EACH OF YOU, FOR YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS, YOUR DREAMS AND YOUR PASSION. YOU HAVE HONORED THIS NATION, AND AMERICA IS GRATEFUL TO YOU. GOD BLESS YOU, AND GOD BLESS AMERICA. CONGRATULATIONS ONCE AGAIN. AND NOW I'D LIKE ALL OF OUR MEDAL WINNERS TO JOIN US UP HERE FOR A MOMENT.

# # #

## **NATIONAL MEDAL OF THE ARTS AWARDS**

**LEOPOLD ADLER, II IS A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED EXPERT IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION, ONE WHO HAS CHANGED THE FACE OF HIS HOME TOWN, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA. HE WAS THE DRIVING FORCE BEHIND TWO REMARKABLE REVITALIZATION EXPERIMENTS: ONE REFURBISHED THE HISTORIC SECTION OF SAVANNAH; AND THE OTHER RENOVATED LOW INCOME HOUSING IN THE VICTORIAN DISTRICT. MR. ADLER HAS ALSO SERVED AS A TRUSTEE FOR ALMOST A DECADE FOR THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION.**

**- 2 -**

**TO LEOPOLD ADLER FOR HIS CIVIC LEADERSHIP IN PRESERVING FOR ALL TIME THE BEAUTY OF SAVANNAH, GEORGIA, AND FOR MAKING THAT CITY A MODEL OF THE ART OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION.**

**KATHERINE DUNHAM IS AN OUTSTANDING DANCER AND CHOREOGRAPHER. THE DUNHAM COMPANY, THE FIRST BLACK PROFESSIONAL DANCE COMPANY IN AMERICA, PERFORMED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD FROM 1938 THROUGH 1963, PRESENTING THE DANCE, MUSIC AND FOLKLORE OF THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES AND THE U.S. FOR OVER THIRTY YEARS, MS. DUNHAM MAINTAINED THE ONLY PERMANENTLY SELF-SUBSIDIZED DANCE TROUPE IN AMERICA. SHE ALSO FOUNDED THE DUNHAM SCHOOL OF ARTS AND RESEARCH IN NEW YORK.**

---

**TO KATHERINE DUNHAM FOR HER PIONEERING EXPLORATIONS OF CARIBBEAN AND AFRICAN DANCE WHICH HAVE ENRICHED AND TRANSFORMED THE ART OF DANCE IN AMERICA.**

- 5 -

**ALFRED EISENSTAEDT [I-ZEN-STAHT] IS THE QUINTESSENTIAL PHOTOJOURNALIST WHO PIONEERED THE INTRODUCTION OF THE CANDID CAMERA TECHNIQUE INTO NEWS REPORTING. AFTER EMIGRATING FROM WEST PRUSSIA IN 1935, HE JOINED THE ORIGINAL PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF OF THE NEW LIFE MAGAZINE. MR. EISENSTAEDT'S MOST FAMOUS PHOTO IS THAT OF A SAILOR KISSING A NURSE IN TIMES SQUARE AT THE END OF WORLD WAR II. AS A PHOTOGRAPHER, HE HAS WON ALMOST EVERY MAJOR PROFESSIONAL AWARD.**

- 6 -

**TO ALFRED EISENSTADT FOR THE EXTRAORDINARY PHOTOGRAPHS THAT DOCUMENT THE TRAGEDIES AND TRIUMPHS HE HAS WITNESSED OVER A LIFETIME.**

**JOHN BIRKS "DIZZY" GILLESPIE IS A VIRTUOSO MUSICIAN, PIONEER, COMPOSER, AND BANDLEADER WHO HAS BEEN A PIVOTAL FIGURE IN 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MUSIC. A FOUNDER OF THE JAZZ "BEBOP" MOVEMENT, HE DEVELOPED A RADICAL NEW APPROACH TO IMPROVISATION THAT WAS TO CHANGE THE COURSE OF MODERN MUSIC MAKING. FOR MORE THAN FORTY YEARS, HE HAS EXPLORED THE VARIED MUSIC OF DIFFERENT CULTURES. MR. GILLESPIE HAS PERFORMED BEFORE COUNTLESS WORLD LEADERS, AND HAS WON NUMEROUS AWARDS.**

**TO JOHN BIRKS "DIZZY" GILLESPIE FOR HIS TRAIL-BLAZING WORK AS A MUSICIAN WHO HELPED ELEVATE JAZZ TO AN ART FORM OF THE FIRST RANK, AND FOR SHARING HIS GIFT WITH LISTENERS AROUND THE WORLD.**

- 9 -

**WALKER KIRTLAND HANCOCK IS A RENOWNED SCULPTOR WHOSE WORK SPANS A PERIOD OF 70 YEARS. HE BEGAN BY SCULPTING THE BUST OF AN ORPHAN AND WAS AWARDED A PRIX DE ROME WHILE STILL AN APPRENTICE. HE HAS SPENT A LIFETIME SCULPTING OVER 268 PIECES -- MANY OF THEM PORTRAIT BUSTS, MONUMENTS AND MEDALS -- IN THE HEROIC RENAISSANCE STYLE OF FLORENCE. MR. HANCOCK HAS SCULPTED BUSTS OF AMERICAN HEROES AND PRESIDENTS. HE HAS SAID THAT JUST AS THE ANCIENT GREEKS DID IN THEIR SCULPTURE, CELEBRATING HEROES IS "STILL ONE OF THE WORTHY FUNCTIONS OF SCULPTURE" TODAY.**

- 10 -

**TO WALKER HANCOCK FOR HIS EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTION TO THE ART OF SCULPTURE, AND FOR DEMONSTRATING THE ENDURING BEAUTY OF THE CLASSICAL TRADITION.**

- 11 -

**VLADIMIR HOROWITZ WAS A CONSUMMATE PIANIST AND GENIUS WHO WAS KNOWN FOR THE "CONTROLLED THUNDER" AND ELECTRICITY OF HIS PERFORMANCES. APPROPRIATELY, MR. HOROWITZ' FIRST HOME WAS ON MUSIC STREET IN KIEV. HE LEFT THE SOVIET UNION AS A MUSICAL SENSATION IN 1925, TO PLAY IN BERLIN, PARIS, AND FINALLY IN AMERICA AT CARNEGIE HALL. HE RETURNED TO CARNEGIE HALL 25 YEARS LATER AT THE HEIGHT OF HIS POPULARITY, AND RETURNED TO PLAY IN THE SOVIET UNION IN 1986. VLADIMIR HOROWITZ'S MUSIC HAD A COLORFUL, BLAZING QUALITY AND TECHNICAL EXCELLENCE. TRULY, HE WAS A MAN WITH NO EQUALS.**

- 12 -

**TO VLADIMIR HOROWITZ FOR HIS EXTRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENTS AND DISTINCTIVE STYLE AS A PIANIST, WHOSE CONCERTS BROUGHT PLEASURE TO AUDIENCES EVERYWHERE AND WHOSE CONTRIBUTIONS TO MUSIC MADE HIM A CITIZEN OF THE WORLD.**

**CZESLAW MILOSZ [SAYS-LOV ME-LOSHE] IS A POET AND EDUCATOR, WHOM JOSEPH BRODSKY HAS CALLED "ONE OF THE GREATEST POETS OF OUR TIME, PERHAPS THE GREATEST." MR. MILOSZ WAS BORN IN LITHUANIA IN 1911 AND BECAME A NATURALIZED CITIZEN IN 1970. AS ONE OF THE LEADERS IN THE AVANT-GARDE POETRY MOVEMENT IN POLAND DURING THE 1930'S, HE EDITED AN ANTI-NAZI ANTHOLOGY, "INVINCIBLE SONG." MR. MILOSZ WON THE NOBEL PRIZE FOR LITERATURE IN 1980, FOR HIS POETRY ON LIFE IN THIS CENTURY.**

**TO CZESLAW MILOSZ FOR GLORIOUS POETRY AND PROSE THAT CELEBRATES THE FREEDOM-LOVING SPIRIT NOT ONLY OF HIS NATIVE POLAND BUT THAT OF HIS ADOPTED COUNTRY, THE UNITED STATES.**

- 15 -

**ROBERT MOTHERWELL IS AN ARTIST OF GLOBAL STATURE, RENOWNED AS ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF AMERICAN ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONISM -- THE FIRST AMERICAN ART MOVEMENT TO RECEIVE RECOGNITION INTERNATIONALLY AS BEING ON THE LEADING EDGE OF WORLD ART. HE IS BEST KNOWN FOR A SERIES OF MONUMENTAL PAINTINGS ON THE "SPANISH ELEGY" THEME, FOR ABSTRACT PAINTINGS IN THE "OPEN" SERIES, AND AS A MASTER OF COLLAGES. HE HAS RECEIVED A MULTITUDE OF HONORS IN THE FIVE DECADES OF HIS CAREER.**

- 16 -

**TO ROBERT MOTHERWELL FOR REFLECTING IN HIS ART THE VERY ESSENCE OF AMERICAN FREEDOM, WITH PAINTINGS THAT HAVE FOUND A DISTINGUISHED PLACE IN COLLECTIONS EVERYWHERE.**

**JOHN UPDIKE IS THE AUTHOR OF OVER 30 BOOKS OF POETRY, NOVELS, SHORT STORIES AND ESSAYS. MR. UPDIKE IS ONE OF THE BEST CHRONICLERS OF AMERICAN SMALL TOWN LIFE IN LITERATURE. HE BEGAN AS A WRITER FOR THE NEW YORKER MAGAZINE, THEN AUTHORED THE NOVELS THE POORHOUSE FAIR, RABBIT, RUN, AND AMONG MANY OTHERS, THE CENTAUR AND THE WITCHES OF EASTWICK. AMONG MANY OTHER AWARDS, IN 1982 MR. UPDIKE RECEIVED THE PULITZER PRIZE FOR FICTION FOR RABBIT IS RICH.**

**TO JOHN UPDIKE FOR NOVELS AND STORIES THAT OVER A FORTY-YEAR CAREER HAVE GIVEN US A WRYLY AFFECTIONATE YET PENETRATING ANALYSIS OF THE COMPLEXITY OF LIFE IN TODAY'S AMERICA.**

- 19 -

**MARTIN FRIEDMAN IS ONE OF OUR NATION'S MOST INNOVATIVE AND SCHOLARLY MUSEUM DIRECTORS. MR. FRIEDMAN HAS SERVED AS DIRECTOR OF THE WALKER ART CENTER IN MINNEAPOLIS SINCE 1961, MAKING IT INTO ONE OF THE PREMIER SMALL MUSEUMS IN THIS COUNTRY -- IN EXHIBITIONS AS WELL AS PERFORMING ARTS. IN ADDITION TO HIS ACTIVISM IN THE ARTS COMMUNITY, HE HAS WRITTEN EXTENSIVELY ON CONTEMPORARY ART, AND RECENTLY HELPED CREATE THE NEW MINNEAPOLIS SCULPTURE GARDEN.**

---

- 20 -

**TO MARTIN FRIEDMAN FOR OPENING THE DOORS OF HIS MUSEUM TO THE BEST OF ALL OF THE ARTS OF OUR TIME -- FROM PAINTING AND SCULPTURE TO FILM, VIDEO AND PERFORMANCE - - AND FOR OPENING OUR EYES TO THE VITAL CONNECTIONS BETWEEN THESE FORMS OF EXPRESSION.**

- 21 -

**LEIGH GERDINE [LAY JER-DINE] IS AN OUTSTANDING CIVIC LEADER WHO HAS PAVED THE WAY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF EVERY MAJOR CULTURAL INSTITUTION IN ST. LOUIS. MR. GERDINE IS A 40-YEAR RESIDENT OF THAT CITY, AND FOR 18 YEARS, HAS BEEN PRESIDENT OF WEBSTER UNIVERSITY. HE HAS BEEN DEEPLY INVOLVED IN THE ST. LOUIS SYMPHONY, THE ST. LOUIS REPERTORY COMPANY, AND WAS FOUNDING CHAIRMAN OF THE ST. LOUIS OPERA THEATER, NOW ONE OF THE MOST WIDELY ACCLAIMED COMPANIES IN THE COUNTRY.**

- 22 -

**TO LEIGH GERDINE FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED CAREER AS A MUSICIAN AND EDUCATOR, AND FOR THE ENLIGHTENED PATRONAGE WHICH HAS EARNED HIM THE TITLE OF "SPIRITUAL FATHER OF THE ARTS IN ST. LOUIS."**

**DAYTON HUDSON CORPORATION HAS BEEN A LEADER IN CORPORATE GIVING FOR 43 YEARS -- SINCE 1980, THE CORPORATION HAS CONTRIBUTED NEARLY 70 MILLION DOLLARS TO ARTS PROGRAMS IN THE UNITED STATES. DAYTON HUDSON HAS TARGETED SUPPORT TO PROGRAMS THAT, ON A LONG-TERM BASIS, MAKE A COMMUNITY A MORE VITAL PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE. DURING 1988 ALONE, DAYTON HUDSON GENEROUSLY AWARDED \$7.4 MILLION TO 580 ARTS PROGRAMS IN 37 STATES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.**

---

**TO DAYTON HUDSON CORPORATION FOR HELPING TO FORGE A VITAL PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE CORPORATE SECTOR AND THE ARTS COMMUNITY, AND FOR DEMONSTRATING HOW BOTH CAN BENEFIT IN THE PROCESS.**

**# # #**

# WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 11/16/89 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: ----

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL MEDAL OF THE ARTS

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>ROGERS</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>WINSTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PINKERTON</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>PORTER ROSE</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>FIRESTONE</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>HODSOLL</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**REMARKS:**

The attached has been forwarded to the President.

**RESPONSE:**

James W. Cicconi  
Assistant to the President  
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
Ext. 2702

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

1989 NOV 15 PM 7:43

November 15, 1989

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH:           CHRISS WINSTON *CW*  
FROM:               MARY KATE GRANT *MKG*  
SUBJECT:            NATIONAL MEDAL OF THE ARTS AWARDS

I. SUMMARY

Attached are proposed remarks for the National Medal of the Arts Awards ceremony, to be held Friday, November 17, at 12 noon in the East Room (lunch will follow in the State Dining Room.) The First Lady has agreed to the format set during the previous Administration: You will deliver opening remarks from cards; she will read the biographies and medal citations; you will hand the recipients their medals and shake hands; then you will thank the participants and end the ceremony.

II. DISCUSSION

This is the fifth annual presentation of the National Medal of the Arts, begun under President Reagan. They honor great artists as well as patrons of the arts; a posthumous medal will also be awarded to Vladimir Horowitz. Your remarks discuss the role of the arts in our society and the unique place they hold in American history.

The attached biographies will be sent to Mrs. Bush on Thursday.

Grant/Simon  
November 15, 1989  
Draft three  
A:medal

REMARKS: NATIONAL MEDAL OF THE ARTS  
AWARDS LUNCHEON / EAST ROOM  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1989  
12:00 NOON

Thank you, all of you, for being here today for the fifth annual presentation of the National Medal of the Arts. It's a great pleasure and an honor for Barbara and me to welcome you to the White House. I would like to thank the National Council on the Arts, the Committee on the Arts and Humanities, as well as John Frohnmayer, chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, and, of course, Hugh Southern, for the support and encouragement of America's cultural life.

Dante once wrote that "Art imitates nature as well as it can, as a pupil follows his master; thus it is a sort of grandchild of God." As this "grandchild of God," art embraces our values and history, gives meaning to our existence and illuminates the basic human truths which give us purpose. In a way, art defines our civilization.

But in another, more personal way, art opens entire new worlds for each of us, letting us see and hear and even feel life through the mind of someone else -- from new perspectives. Instead of seeing a single world, we can see as many worlds as there are artists and writers, dancers and musicians.

The diversity of art in this Nation is truly a product of the diversity of our democracy. The American arts, like a many-

faceted mirror, have been a colorful reflection of our Nation's history. The music of the frontier led to the blues of the bayou, and the swing bands of the cities. The primitivism of the early painters gave way to the romanticism of the Hudson River school and later, American impressionism and abstract expressionism. In architecture, Americans see everything from the Federal style to post-modernism. Modern photography and filmmaking have their roots in the tintypes of the Civil War era. And from our earliest writings to this week's bestseller list, we've seen American poetry, novels and short stories earn a unique place in the literature of the world. Cities like New York and Los Angeles have become art capitals of international importance, and regional orchestras, museums, dance troupes and opera companies have enjoyed spectacular successes.

We need to make this great diversity of art more a part of the lives of all Americans. We need to begin this effort in our schools so that our young people will have a sense of their heritage and the creativity of the present. And we need to make special efforts to reach out to those who do not regularly participate. The work of the National Endowment for the Arts is especially important in these areas.

Today, we honor a group of men and women whose creative ideas, talent and passion have added so much to the rich tapestry that is our Nation's cultural heritage. Their work is not just of the mind but of the heart and of the soul.

Some have challenged us. Some have amazed us. Some have brought remarkable beauty of sight and sound to us. But all have helped us to think and to dream and to understand ourselves and our world a little better.

Today, we honor Alfred Eisenstaedt for his photography, Dizzy Gillespie for his jazz innovations, and John Updike for his prose. Katherine Dunham for her dance and choreography, Walker Hancock for his sculpture, Czeslaw Milosz for his poetry, Robert Motherwell for his paintings, and Leopold Adler for his historic preservation. ((And we honor someone whose great talent and energy will live on, long after the thunder of his music has faded -- the late Vladimir Horowitz.)

And we honor the patrons of the arts -- those who understand that without the artistic creativity of its people, no nation can be whole -- and those whose dedication, energy and commitment have sustained that creativity over the years. We honor Martin Friedman of the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, Leigh Gerdine of Webster University in St. Louis, and the Dayton Hudson Corporation. And now, Barbara will read the citations for National Medal of the Arts to our recipients.

((FIRST LADY READS CITATIONS.))

((BACK TO THE PRESIDENT)) Thank you, Barbara. I congratulate each of you, for your achievements, your dreams and your passion. You have honored this Nation, and America is grateful to you. God bless you, and God bless America. Congratulations once again.

## NATIONAL MEDAL OF THE ARTS AWARDS

((THE FIRST LADY))

Leopold Adler, II is a nationally recognized expert in historic preservation, and a native of Savannah, Georgia. Mr. Adler changed the face of his home town and demonstrated for many other civic leaders how to revitalize an old city with great potential. He was the driving force behind two remarkable experiments in inner city revitalization: one resulted in the designation of the historic section of Savannah as a "National Historic District"; and the other in the renovation of low income housing in the Victorian district of the city. Mr. Adler has also served as a trustee for almost a decade for the National Trust for Historic Preservation. To Leopold Adler for his civic leadership in preserving for all time the beauty of Savannah, Georgia, and for making that city a model of the art of historic preservation.

Katherine Dunham is an innovative and outstanding dancer and choreographer. Born in Chicago, she founded the Ballet Negre [NAY-grh] there in 1931. The Dunham Company, the first Black professional dance company in America, performed throughout the world from 1938 through 1963, presenting the dance, music and folklore of Third World countries and the U.S. For over thirty years, Ms. Dunham maintained the only permanently self-subsidized dance troupe in America. She also founded the Dunham School of Arts and Research in New York. The Dunham Technique is described as a "style of dance and a philosophy of life," reflected in many of our present day works on stage and screen. To Katherine

Dunham for her pioneering explorations of Caribbean and African dance which have enriched and transformed the art of dance in America.

**Alfred Eisenstaedt** is the quintessential photojournalist who pioneered the introduction of the candid camera technique into news reporting. After emigrating from West Prussia in 1935, he joined the original photography staff of the new Life Magazine. The photo of a sailor kissing a nurse in Times Square at the end of World War II, is Eisenstaedt's most famous photo and it embodies America's joy and relief. As a photographer, he has won almost every major award given to those in his profession. Now, at the age of 90, he has left us as his legacy a photographic record of the writers, musicians, statesmen, scientists, educators and people of our time, and the historic events surrounding them. To Alfred Eisenstadt for the extraordinary photographs that document the tragedies and triumphs he has witnessed over a lifetime.

**John Birks "Dizzy" Gillespie** is a world famous jazz trumpeter, who began working with a trumpet at the age of 12. Mr. Gillespie is a pivotal figure in 20th Century American music, and an innovator in the "bebop" movement in modern jazz. While playing with Earl "Fatha" Hines, he developed a radical new approach to improvisation that was to change the course of modern music making. Over the years, he has been the featured trumpeter with many of America's leading swing orchestras. Dizzy Gillespie is credited with introducing Afro-Cuban rhythms into jazz in 1947 and the South American bossa nova to the United States. To John

Berks "Dizzy" Gillespie for his trail-blazing work as a musician who helped elevate jazz to an art form of the first rank, and for sharing his gift with listeners around the world.

**Walker Kirtland Hancock** is a renowned sculptor whose work spans a period of 70 years. He began it by sculpting the bust of an orphan and was awarded a Prix de Rome while still an apprentice. He has spent a lifetime sculpting over 268 pieces -- many of them portrait busts, monuments and medals -- in the heroic Renaissance style of Florence. Mr. Hancock has sculpted busts of John Paul Jones, President Abraham Lincoln, Vice President Hubert Humphrey, then-Vice President Gerald Ford, and Chief Justice Warren Burger. Commenting on the similarity of his philosophy on sculpture with that of the Greek civilization -- he observed that the Greeks made heroes of ordinary mortals making heroes of them. He said that celebrating heroes was "still one of the worthy functions of sculpture." To Walter Hancock for his extraordinary contribution to the art of sculpture, and for demonstrating the enduring beauty of the classical tradition.

((Vladimir Horowitz biography to come))

**Czeslaw Milosz** is a poet and educator, whom Joseph Brodsky has called "one of the greatest poets of our time, perhaps the greatest." Mr. Milosz was born in Lithuania in 1911 and emigrated to the U.S. in 1960, becoming a naturalized citizen in 1970. Known as one of the leaders in the avant-garde poetry movement in Poland during the 1930's, Mr. Milosz served in the Resistance during World War II and edited an anti-Nazi anthology, "Invincible Song." He has written several works in English, and in 1980 he won the Nobel Prize for Literature. To Czeslaw Milosz for glorious poetry and prose that celebrates the freedom-loving spirit not only of his native Poland but that of his adopted country, the United States.

**Robert Motherwell** is a great painter known throughout the world as a leader in the New York School of Abstract Expressionism. Mr. Motherwell's first shows occurred in Paris in 1939 and in this country in New York in 1944. By the 1960's and 1970's, his work was featured in most of the major museums and galleries in the United States. In the 1940's, Mr. Motherwell created "monumental canvases" from his collages, often in stark black and white. By the 1960's he was producing large scale works, such as the "Open" series done with a monochromatic palette. To Robert Motherwell for reflecting in his art the very essence of American freedom, with paintings that have found a distinguished place in collections everywhere.

**John Updike** is the author of over 36 books of poetry, novels, short stories and essays. He began as a writer for the New Yorker Magazine, then authored the novels The Poorhouse Fair, Rabbit, Run, and among many others, The Centaur. His 1984 novel, The Witches of Eastwick was made into a major motion picture. In 1982 Mr. Updike received the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction as well as the American Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle Award for writing Rabbit is Rich. To John Updike for novels and stories that over a forty-year career have given us a wryly affectionate yet penetrating analysis of the complexity of life in today's America.

**Martin Friedman** is one of our Nation's most innovative and scholarly museum directors. Mr. Friedman has served as Director of the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis since 1961, making that institution into one of the premier small museums in this country -- in exhibitions as well as a major presenter of performing arts. He has served as a Presidentially appointed member of the National Council on the Arts, and was made an Officier des Arts et Lettres by the French Ministry of Culture in 1984. To Martin Friedman for opening the doors of his museum to the best of all of the arts of our time -- from painting and sculpture to film, video and performance -- and for opening our eyes to the vital connections between these forms of expression.

**Leigh Gerdine** is an outstanding civic leader who has paved the way for the development of every major cultural institution in St. Louis. A 40-year resident of that city, he was professor and chairman of the Department of Music at Washington University; for the last 18 years, he has been president of Webster University. Leigh Gerdine has helped shape the cultural activities of St. Louis and has provided a level of leadership which has enabled the city to become a major arts center. Mr. Gerdine has been deeply involved in the St. Louis Symphony, the St. Louis Repertory Company, and was the founding chairman of the St. Louis Opera Theater, now one of the most widely acclaimed companies in the country. To Leigh Gerdine for his distinguished career as a musician and educator, and for the enlightened patronage which has earned him the title of "spiritual father of the arts in St. Louis."

**Dayton Hudson Corporation** has been a leader in corporate giving for 42 years -- giving five percent of its Federally taxable income for worthwhile community programs and currently forty percent of that figure to the arts. Dayton Hudson's has targeted support to programs and projects that increase, on a long-term basis, a community's resources making it a more vital place in which to live. Artistic leadership and increased access to the arts are primary goals of the funding. Dayton Hudson's dollar support for the arts ranks among the top five art supporters in the country -- having contributed over the last ten years \$60 million to art programs in 48 states and the District of Columbia. To Dayton Hudson Corporation for helping to forge a

vital partnership between the corporate sector and the arts community, and for demonstrating how both can benefit in the process.

CLOSE HOLD

Document No. 090144 ss

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 11/14/89

ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: 11/15/89 2:00 PM

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: NATIONAL MEDAL OF THE ARTS

	ACTION FYI			ACTION FYI	
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MCCLURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SUNUNU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NEWMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SCOWCROFT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PORTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DARMAN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGICH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BATES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	UNTERMAYER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CARD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CICCONI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	WINSTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DEMAREST	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	PINKERTON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FITZWATER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PORTER ROSE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GRAY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	FIRESTONE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HAGIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HODSOLL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

Please forward any comments directly to Chriss Winston, Rm. 122, x2930, no later than 2:00 PM, Wednesday, November 15, with a copy to my office. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

CLOSE HOLD

*MC*

89 OCT 16 4 9 : 55

James W. Cicconi  
Assistant to the President  
and Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
Ext. 2702

1989 NOV 14 PM 5:19

Grant/Simon  
November 14, 1989  
Draft two  
A:medal

REMARKS: NATIONAL MEDAL OF THE ARTS  
AWARDS LUNCHEON / EAST ROOM  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1989  
12:00 NOON

Thank you, all of you, for being here today for the fifth annual presentation of the National Medal of the Arts. It's a great pleasure and an honor for Barbara and me to welcome you to the White House. I would like to thank the National Council on the Arts for its list of nominees; and the Committee on the Arts and Humanities, as well as John Frohnmayer, chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, for all their hard work.

Dante once wrote that "Art imitates nature as well as it can, as a pupil follows his master; thus it is a sort of grandchild of God." As this "grandchild of God," art embraces our values and history, gives meaning to our existence and illuminates the basic human truths which give us purpose. In a way, art defines our civilization.

But in another, more personal way, art opens entire new worlds for each of us, letting us see and hear and even feel life through the mind of someone else -- from new perspectives. Instead of seeing a single world, we can see as many worlds as there are artists and writers, dancers and musicians.

The diversity of art in this Nation is truly a product of the diversity of our democracy. The American arts, like a many-faceted mirror, have been a colorful reflection of our Nation's

history. The music of the frontier led to the blues of the bayou, and the swing bands of the cities. The primitivism of the early painters gave way to the romanticism of the Hudson River school and later the abstract expressionism of recent times. In architecture, Americans see everything from neoclassicism and modernism. Modern photography and filmmaking have their roots in the tintypes of the Civil War era. And from our earliest writings to this week's bestseller list, we've seen American poetry, novels and short stories earn a unique place in the literature of the world. Cities like New York and Los Angeles have become art capitals of international importance, and regional orchestras, museums, dance troupes and opera companies have enjoyed spectacular successes.

Today, we honor a group of men and women whose creative ideas, talent and passion have added so much to the rich tapestry that is our Nation's cultural heritage. Their work is not just of the mind but of the heart and of the soul.

Some have challenged us. Some have amazed us. Some have brought remarkable beauty of sight and sound to us. But all have helped us to think and to dream and to understand ourselves and our world a little better.

Today, we honor Alfred Eisenstaedt for his photography, Dizzy Gillespie for his jazz innovations, and John Updike for his prose. Katherine Dunham for her dance and choreography, Walker Hancock for his sculpture, Czeslaw Milosz for his poetry, Robert Motherwell for his paintings, and Leopold Adler for his historic

building renovations. ((And we honor someone whose great talent and energy will live on long after the thunder of his music has faded, the late Vladimir Horowitz.)

And we honor the patrons of the arts -- those who understand that without the artistic creativity of its people, no nation can be whole -- and those whose dedication, energy and commitment have sustained that creativity over the years. We honor Martin Friedman of the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis, Leigh Gerdine of Webster University in St. Louis, and the Dayton Hudson Corporation. And now, Barbara will award the National Medal of the Arts to our recipients.

((FIRST LADY PRESENTS AWARDS. SEE ATTACHED CITATIONS))

((BACK TO THE PRESIDENT)) Thank you, Barbara. I congratulate each of you, for your achievements, your dreams and your passion. You have honored this Nation, and America is grateful to you. God bless you, and God bless America. Congratulations once again.

# # #

**NATIONAL MEDAL OF THE ARTS AWARDS**

**((THE FIRST LADY))**

1989 NOV 14 PM 5:19

**Leopold Adler, II** is a nationally recognized expert in historic preservation, and a native of Savannah, Georgia. Mr. Adler changed the face of his home town and demonstrated for many other civic leaders how to revitalize an old city with great potential. He was the driving force behind two remarkable experiments in inner city revitalization: one resulted in the designation of the historic section of Savannah as a "National Historic District"; and the other in the renovation of low income housing in the Victorian district of the city. Mr. Adler has been active nationally, and served as a trustee for almost a decade for the National Trust for Historic Preservation. ((Read Citation on Medal))

**Katherine Dunham** is an innovative and outstanding dancer and choreographer. Born in Chicago, she founded the Ballet Negre there in 1931. The Dunham Company, the first Black professional dance company in America, performed throughout the world from 1938 through 1963, presenting the dance, music and folklore of Third World countries and the U.S. For over thirty years, Ms. Dunham maintained the only permanently self-subsidized dance troupe in America. She also founded the Dunham School of Arts and Research in New York, which became a reservoir of talent for Broadway, Hollywood and the world. The Dunham Technique is described as a "style of dance and a philosophy of life." Many of our present day works on stage and screen reflect her profound influence. ((Citation))

**Alfred Eisenstaedt** is the quintessential photojournalist who pioneered the introduction of the candid camera technique into news reporting. After emigrating from West Prussia in 1935, he became one of the original photography staff of the new Life Magazine. Eisenstaedt's most famous photo is that of the sailor kissing the nurse in Times Square at the end of World War II, and it has come to embody America's joy and relief at the end of the war. As a photographer, he has won almost every major award given to those in his profession. Now, at the age of 90, he can claim to have covered the significant events of the past 50 years and has left us as his legacy a photographic record of the writers, musicians, statesmen, scientists and educators of our time, and the historic events surrounding them. ((Citation))

**John Birks "Dizzy" Gillespie** is a world famous jazz trumpeter, who began working with a trumpet at the age of 12. Mr. Gillespie is a pivotal figure in 20th Century American music, and an innovator in the "bebop" movement in modern jazz. While playing with Earl "Fatha" Hines, he developed a radical new approach to improvisation that was to change the course of modern music making. He was the featured trumpeter with many of America's leading swing orchestras, including the bands of Teddy Hill, Cab Calloway, Ella Fitzgerald, Benny Carter, and Billy Eckstine's legendary orchestra of 1944. Dizzy Gillespie is credited with introducing Afro-Cuban rhythms into jazz in 1947 and the South American bossa nova to the United States. He is the author of "To Be, or Not to Bop." ((Citation))

**Walker Kirtland Hancock** is a renowned sculptor whose work spans a period of 70 years. He began it by sculpting the bust of an orphan and was awarded a Prix de Rome while still an apprentice. He has spent a lifetime sculpting over 268 pieces -- many of them portrait busts, monuments and medals -- in the heroic Renaissance style of Florence. Mr. Hancock has sculpted busts of John Paul Jones, President Abraham Lincoln, Vice President Hubert Humphrey, then-Vice President Gerald Ford, and Chief Justice Warren Burger. In 1971, he commented on the similarity of his philosophy on sculpture with that of the Greek civilization -- he observed that the Greeks were the ones who "began to carve images in honor of ordinary mortals," "making heroes of them." He said that celebrating heroes was "still one of the worthy functions of sculpture." ((Citation))

((Vladimir Horowitz biography to come))

**Czeslaw Milosz** is a poet and educator, whom Joseph Brodsky has called "one of the greatest poets of our time, perhaps the greatest." Mr. Milosz was born in Lithuania in 1911 and emigrated to the U.S. in 1960, becoming a naturalized citizen in 1970. Known as one of the leaders in the avant-garde poetry movement in Poland during the 1930's, Mr. Milosz served in the Resistance during World War II and edited an anti-Nazi anthology, "Invincible Song." He also served in the Polish diplomatic service. He has written several works in English, and in 1980 he won the Nobel Prize for Literature. ((Citation))

**Robert Motherwell** is a great painter known throughout the world as a leader in the New York School of Abstract Expressionism. Mr. Motherwell's first shows occurred in Paris in 1939 and in this country in New York in 1944. By the 1960's and 1970's, his work was featured in most of the major museums and galleries in the United States. Early in his career he found himself surrounded by European artists-in-exile, particularly Surrealists and Cubists. In the 1940's, Mr. Motherwell created "monumental canvases" from his collages, often in stark black and white. By the 1960's he was producing large scale works, such as the "Open" series done with a monochromatic palette. He has earned a place as one of America's great artists. ((Citation))

**John Updike** is the author of over 36 books of poetry, novels, short stories and essays. As a novelist, he has written about his early childhood in Pennsylvania and later as an adult of his experiences in Massachusetts, where he now lives. He began as a writer for the New Yorker Magazine, then authored the novels The Poorhouse Fair, Rabbit, Run, and among many others, The Centaur. His 1984 novel, The Witches of Eastwick was made into a major motion picture. In 1982 Mr. Updike received the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction as well as the American Book Award and the National Book Critics Circle Award for writing Rabbit is Rich. John Updike is one of the best chroniclers of American small town life in literature. ((Citation))

**Martin Friedman** is one of our Nation's most innovative and scholarly museum directors. Mr. Friedman has served as Director of the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis since 1961, making that institution into one of the premier small museums in this country -- in exhibitions as well as a major presenter of performing arts. He has served as a Presidentially appointed member of the National Council on the Arts, and was made an Officier des Arts et Lettres by the French Ministry of Culture in 1984. Mr. Friedman is recognized worldwide as a director of a museum which presents contemporary art, architecture and design as well as innovative film and performing arts presentations. ((Citation))

**Leigh Gerdine** is an outstanding civic leader who has paved the way for the development of every major cultural institution in St. Louis. A resident of that city for nearly four decades, he was professor and chairman of the Department of Music at Washington University in St. Louis from 1950 to 1970; for the last 18 years, he has been president of Webster University in St. Louis. Leigh Gerdine has helped shape the cultural activities of St. Louis and has provided a level of leadership which has enabled the city to become a major arts center in our country. Mr. Gerdine has been deeply involved in the St. Louis Symphony, the St. Louis Repertory Company, and was the founding chairman of the St. Louis Opera Theater, now one of the most widely acclaimed companies in the country. ((Citation))

**Dayton Hudson Corporation** has been a leader in corporate giving for 42 years -- giving five percent of its Federally taxable income for worthwhile community programs and currently forty percent of that figure to the arts. Dayton Hudson's policy in grant making has been targeted to programs and projects that increase, on a long-term basis, a community's resources making it a more vital place in which to live. Artistic leadership and increased access to the arts are primary goals of the funding. Dayton Hudson's dollar support for the arts ranks among the top five art supporters in the country -- having contributed over the last ten years \$59 million to art programs in 48 states and the District of Columbia. Dayton Hudson has generously contributed to both institutional projects as well as individual artists. ((Citation))