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**DELAWARE ART MUSEUM PRESENTS JOHN SLOAN  
IN PHILADELPHIA AND NEW YORK**

Wilmington, DE (February 13, 2009)—The Delaware Art Museum presents *John Sloan in Philadelphia and New York*, a focused exhibition celebrating the return of several of Sloan’s works to the Museum following a tour, on view February 21, 2009 – September 20, 2009. Approximately two-dozen paintings and etchings are featured in this show, including some pieces that were part of the traveling exhibition *Seeing the City: Sloan’s New York*, which was organized by the Delaware Art Museum and on tour in 2008.

John Sloan (1871-1951) made his hometown of Philadelphia the subject of many of his pieces before moving to New York in 1904. His images of pedestrians and public places helped define New York City in the popular imagination. *John Sloan in Philadelphia and New York* examines works created between 1892 and 1928, allowing visitors to see the evolution of Sloan’s vision of city life.

In February of 1908 John Sloan vaulted into the limelight with his paintings of “the everyday New York, the ever changing New York, the neighborhood New York.” One of eight American painters showing his work in a controversial exhibition at Macbeth Galleries, Sloan received both praise and scathing criticism for his pictures of everyday life in the streets, parks, and apartment buildings of lower Manhattan. Although he had lived in New York for less than four years, Sloan’s street-level vision of city life had been evolving—in illustrations, prints, and paintings—for more than a decade.

Raised in Philadelphia, Sloan began working as a newspaper illustrator for the *Philadelphia Inquirer* in the 1890s. He began to take classes at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, and befriended fellow illustrators William Glackens, George Luks, and Everett Shinn. Under the influence of Robert Henri, these young illustrators began to paint what they knew best, the city and people around them. For Sloan this meant a narrow band of Center City, stretching from the Schuylkill to the Delaware River, between

Market and Cypress Streets. Sloan found most of his subjects within a few blocks of his studio on Walnut Street.

When he moved to New York, Sloan continued to take subjects from the streets and parks of his neighborhoods in Chelsea and Greenwich Village. When he exhibited his city paintings, alongside his friends from Philadelphia, in 1908, Sloan asserted that ordinary urban encounters were a legitimate subject for American art.

### **Exhibition-Related Lecture**

- **John Sloan: Becoming an Artist**

**Saturday, April 25, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. | Free with Museum admission**

Dr. Michael Lobel, Associate Professor of Art History, SUNY, Purchase College, will closely analyze some of John Sloan's best-known imagery and consider it in the context of Sloan's lesser-known commercial illustrations in order to offer a revised view of his career as an artist.

### **Sponsor**

In Delaware, this exhibition is made possible, in part, by grants from the Delaware Division of the Arts, a state agency dedicated to nurturing and supporting the arts in Delaware, in partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts.

### **About the Museum**

The Delaware Art Museum, located at 2301 Kentmere Parkway, Wilmington, DE 19806, is open Wednesday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. and Sunday noon – 4:00 p.m. Admission fees are charged as follows: Adults (19 – 59) \$12, Seniors (60+) \$10, Students (with valid ID) \$6, Youth (7 – 18) \$6, and Children (6 and under) free. Admission fees are waived every Sunday thanks to support from AstraZeneca. For more information, call 302-571-9590 or 866-232-3714 (toll free), or visit the website at [www.delart.org](http://www.delart.org).

Founded in 1912, the Delaware Art Museum is best known for its large collection of British Pre-Raphaelite art, works by Wilmington-native Howard Pyle and fellow American illustrators, and urban landscapes by John Sloan and his circle. Visitors can also enjoy the outdoor Copeland Sculpture Garden and a number of major traveling exhibitions throughout the year.

**IMAGES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**

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