



The Museo Thyssen is now the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza

Following the proposal of Íñigo Méndez de Vigo, Spain's Minister for Education, Culture and Sport and President of the museum's Board of Trustees, the word "Nacional" [national] will be added to the museum's name, making it the Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza. At the meeting of the Board of Trustees held yesterday the Minister emphasised that this change falls within the context of the events taking place this year to mark the museum's 25th anniversary.

Following the acquisition of the Collection in 1993, the (now) Museo Nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza, which had opened to the public the previous year, became part of Spain's national artistic heritage, adding to and complementing other holdings of paintings in Madrid through the presence of movements, schools and artists not represented elsewhere in the capital's museums. Over the past 25 years the museum has fulfilled its mission of imparting knowledge and of educating through its Permanent Collection, its extensive temporary exhibitions programme and its extremely wide range of activities.

The addition of the word "Nacional" will also function to emphasise the status of the Thyssen-Bornemisza Collection (which was acquired from Baron Thyssen-Bornemisza by the Spanish State in 1993), making the Museum comparable to other leading Spanish institutions such as the Museo Nacional del Prado and the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía. This change of name does not imply any change in the museum's juridical status.

Baroness Thyssen-Bornemisza and Francesca Thyssen-Bornemisza, Baron Thyssen's daughter, expressed their thanks for this recognition. Francesca Thyssen-Bornemisza noted that she and her brothers are "extremely happy and proud", as their father would also have been.

Photo, from left to right: Evelio Acevedo, Fernando Benzo, Miguel Satrústegui, the Archduchess Francesca von Habsburg-Lothringen, Íñigo Méndez de Vigo, Baroness Thyssen-Bornemisza, María de Corral, Miguel Klingenberg, José Canal, Guillermo Solana

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