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CHILDREN ENCOUNTER GREAT ART

IN *GALLERY GHOST*, FUN NEW BOOK FROM BIRDCAGE PRESS

Art comes alive in a new book from Birdcage Press that challenges kids to search for hidden clues in paintings from the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. In ***Gallery Ghost: Find the Ghost Who Paints the Most!***, the ghosts of famous painters, including Renoir, Manet, and Gauguin, come out to play at night, naughtily wielding their paintbrushes to insert elements from one painting into another. Kids must spot the difference between two pictures that look the same.

Illustrator Richard Sala sets the stage with cartoon-style portraits of each artist. Award-winning author Anna Nilsen then asks readers to find changes that have mysteriously appeared in each painting. Kids will have hours of fun figuring out mischievous changes the ghosts have made. The book comes with a magnifying glass to help kids compare original paintings to the ones with ghostly changes; a score sheet is included for young art sleuths to keep track of which ghost has made the most changes. The challenge of the game will keep children engaged as they pore over the before-and-after pictures, absorbing the details and distinguishing characteristics of a huge range of artistic styles.

Gallery Ghost features an international array of twenty-four artists spanning six centuries. America is represented by such masters as Mary Cassatt, George Catlin, Winslow Homer, Edward Hopper, and more. The French Impressionists are here, along with British painter J.M.W. Turner, Austrian painter Gustav Klimt, Swiss painter Paul Klee, and a selection of early Dutch artists.

Each painting is accompanied by an original poem by Betsy Franco that highlights the painter's philosophy or technique. From these short, impressionistic poems, kids learn about the artist's response to form, color, composition, or subject matter. The book also includes a brief biography of every artist. *Gallery Ghost* provides children with a

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creative, imaginative, multi-faceted approach to art history. It's the perfect gift for art lovers of all ages—one they won't want to put down!

Award-winning author, illustrator, and former art history teacher Anna Nilsen is the author of the bestselling *Art Fraud Detective*, as well as the creator of Birdcage's *Art Shark!* game. She lives in Cambridge, England. Richard Sala, a resident of Berkeley, California, writes and draws the Harvey Award-nominated series *Evil Eye*. His illustrations and comics have appeared in such publications as *The New York Times*, *Newsweek*, *Nickelodeon*, *Esquire*, and *Playboy*. Palo Alto, California, is home to award-winning poet Betsy Franco, who has written more than eighty books for children and young adults.

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Gallery Ghost

Written by Anna Nilsen

In association with The National Gallery of Art

Illustrations by Richard Sala

Poems by Betsy Franco

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