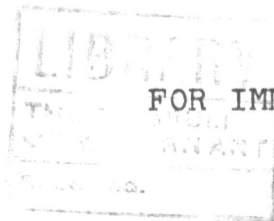


THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

490422 - 30



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW MUSEUM PRINT ROOM, A MEMORIAL TO MRS. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR.,
TO BE INAUGURATED WITH LARGE EXHIBITION OF PRINTS.

John Hay Whitney, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Museum of Modern Art, has announced the opening of a new print room in the Museum named in honor of Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. It will be called the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Print Room and will be inaugurated on May 12 by an exhibition, Master Prints from the Museum Collection, which will be on view in the Museum's first floor galleries until July 10.

At the same time the Museum announced the appointment of William S. Lieberman to the position of Associate Curator in charge of prints and Miss Dorothy Lytle to the position of Custodian of the Print Room.

In connection with the opening of the Print Room Mr. Whitney made the following statement:

"Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., a founder of the Museum of Modern Art, its first Treasurer and for many years its Vice-President, was herself an active collector of modern art, a pursuit which she generously developed to the great benefit of the Museum. Between 1935 and 1939 she gave the Museum not only its first large funds for the purchase of works of art but also her own collections of sculpture, paintings and American folk art.

"One of Mrs. Rockefeller's special but lesser known interests lay in the field of modern prints and drawings. In 1940 the Museum received as her gift some sixteen hundred etchings, lithographs and woodcuts, assembled over the previous dozen years, with the understanding that the Museum would provide a curatorial staff and facilities for the care and exhibition not only of her own collection, but of other gifts of prints and drawings she hoped would follow. During her last years she again turned her attention to prints, and only a few days before her death in 1948 she was planning once more to collect the work of young Americans for the Museum's print room.

"Remembering Mrs. Rockefeller's special interest in prints as well as her general and long sustained enthusiasm for the work of the Museum as a whole, the Trustees have designated the new print room as a memorial to her, naming it the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Print Room."

Mr. Lieberman, the new Associate Curator in charge of prints, has been with the Museum staff since 1944. He graduated from Swarthmore College and studied at Harvard. He has written articles for Art News, Dance Index and The Metropolitan Museum of Art Bulletin. Miss Lytle, the new Custodian, received her training at Vassar College and the Newark Museum. She joined the Museum staff in 1940.