

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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FOR WEDNESDAY RELEASE

PAINTING AND SCULPTURE FROM MUSEUM COLLECTION TO FORM SPECIAL EXHIBITION

A large exhibition of 20th-century painting and sculpture from this country and abroad will occupy the entire 3rd floor of the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, from August 30 through October 15. This is the first opportunity the Museum has had since 1945 to devote two gallery floors to a general showing of its own collection. Especially selected by Dorothy C. Miller, Curator of the Museum Collections, the exhibition will include American, Latin-American, British and German paintings, and a large group of 20th-century portraits. In addition, the present sculpture galleries on the 3rd floor will be considerably augmented, with one room devoted to sculpture by Brancusi.

The exhibition will begin with 2 galleries of 20th-century portraits in oil and watercolor, in sculpture and mosaic, by artists of 8 different nationalities, showing a wide variety of approach and style and indicating the vital interest in portraiture among artists of our time. The group includes many well-known works, among them: Dali's popular Portrait of Gala, Kokoschka's psychological studies of Dr. and Mrs. Tietze and his own Self-portrait, Joseph Brummer painted in 1909 by the Douanier Rousseau, Arthur Dove's symbolic collage, Grandmother, Modigliani's Anna de Zborowska and Picasso's double-faced Portrait of a Lady.

The next gallery is to be devoted to painting from Mexico, Cuba and Brazil. Works by Orozco, Siqueiros, Rufino Tamayo, Antonio Ruiz and the late Julio Castellanos are hung along with works by several younger Mexican painters. Portinari represents Brazil, and Lam and Ponce de León, Cuba.

The 2 galleries following show the Museum's unusually strong collection of modern German art dating chiefly before the Nazi regime and including important early oils by Kirchner, Schlemmer, Hofer and Dix (shown with the portraits). These rooms also display an unusual group of watercolors - by Nolde, Grosz, Dix, Erich Heckel and Schmidt-Rottluff. Dada work of 1919-20 is represented in works by Schwitters, Ernst and Grosz. The paintings of Beckmann occupy nearly all of one

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gallery: the Family Picture of 1920 and the Prodigal Son series, gouache on parchment, of 1921; the great triptych, Departure, 1932-35; and the newly acquired Still Life with Candles painted in New York last year. In the adjoining sculpture galleries will be found works by the Germans Lehbruck, Barlach, Kolbe, Marcks, and by the British sculptor Henry Moore.

The Museum now owns the most complete group of modern British art to be found in any American museum. Younger painters represented include Francis Bacon, Robert Colquhoun and Robert MacBryde. There are works by the well-known artists Stanley Spencer, Graham Sutherland, Edward Burra, John Tunnard, Ben Nicholson and his wife Barbara Hepworth.

The American section will be devoted to both oils and watercolors. Here will be found outstanding canvases such as Jack Levine's powerful The Street; Hyman Bloom's richly painted Synagogue; Ben Shahn's unfortunately timely Pacific Landscape showing a dead sailor, painted in 1945; and paintings by Hopper, O'Keeffe, Feininger, Peter Blume and Kuniyoshi. The Museum's display of American paintings is necessarily curtailed since more than 75 paintings from the Collection are at present on loan to exhibitions in Venice, Amsterdam and various cities in the U.S.

The gallery of American watercolors includes well-known works by Prendergast, Marin, Weber, Demuth, Burchfield, Tobey and several younger artists. Marin's portrait by Lachaise and the two small bronze bulls by Elie Nadelman recently added to the Collection are also shown in this room.

The room newly devoted to sculpture by Brancusi will show the recently acquired 6-foot marble Fish, along with the well-known Bird in Space of 1919 and the egg-shaped bronze, The New-born. Of the two galleries which will augment the present sculpture displays, one will be devoted to newly acquired works such as Theodore Roszak's Spectre of Kitty Hawk and the two bronzes by Giacometti. The other will show well-known earlier works from the Museum Collection, such as the two great figures, Kneeling Woman and Standing Youth by Lehbruck, as well as the Maillol torso, Chained Action, on extended loan from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The show will greatly enlarge the regular exhibition of paintings from the Museum Collection always to be seen on the 2nd floor, and it will offer the public an opportunity to see works which in certain instances have not been shown for some time owing to lack of space.