

# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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

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PRESS PREVIEW

Tuesday, October 10, 2-5 p.m.

FOR WEDNESDAY RELEASE

## ART AS A PASTIME FOR ADULTS - EXHIBITION FROM ORIENTATION CLASSES

Work from special "orientation" classes at the People's Art Center, showing how adults may discover the art or craft they can most enjoy, will be on view at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, from October 11 through November 19 in the Young People's Gallery.

This course is the only one of its kind now being offered. The idea for these orientation classes was derived from courses given by the Army during the last war and was first introduced at the Museum's War Veterans' Art Center, predecessor of the present People's Art Center.

Designed especially to acquaint adults with the great range of possibilities in creative work, this introductory course helps them to discover their particular art aptitudes so that they may obtain the greatest satisfaction from art as a pastime. It also provides a basic foundation in art. The great variety of work by students shown in the exhibition includes oil paintings, collages, linoleum cuts, water-colors, stencils, as well as clay, wood and paper sculpture. The work is not shown with any intention of indicating unusual ability or comparative achievement.

The methods of introducing the students to art expression are shown by examples of experimental work done in the classes: abstract paper sculpture based on natural forms; experiments with space divisions by means of pasting strips of paper and string on paper; attempts to create moods by the use of shapes; manipulations with textures, etc.

"The major objective of these classes," says Victor D'Amico, Director of the People's Art Center, "is to provide creative satisfaction for the layman. A great many people have the desire to work in the arts, but they neither know what they can do nor what possibilities are open to them. We make no attempt to discover talent or to give professional training in this introductory course, because such goals often mislead the beginner and result in disappointment and frustration. Instead we emphasize the various art forms. Frequently the interested amateur becomes discouraged simply because he is trying to work in a field in which he has fewest abilities, whereas he might find great satisfaction in some other form or medium."

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The People's Art Center, sponsored by the Museum of Modern Art, offers day and evening courses for children and adults. In addition to the orientation course, the Center holds classes in painting, ceramics, jewelry making and wood working.

PHOTOGRAPHY SYMPOSIUM - October 20

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Edward Steichen will conduct a symposium on "What Is Modern Photography?" with a panel of 10 major American photographers covering the various and differing tendencies in modern photography.

The symposium will be held in the Museum Auditorium on Friday, October 20, at 8 p.m. The program will be broadcast over WNYC.

Tickets are now on sale at the Museum. Members: \$1.50; non-members: \$2.00.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COMPREHENSIVE EXHIBITION OF WORK BY CHAIM SOUTINE TO OPEN

AT MUSEUM ON NOVEMBER 1

Seventy-five oils by the late well-known Lithuanian painter Chaim Soutine (1894-1943) will be exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art from November 1 through January 7, after which it will be shown at the co-sponsoring institution, The Cleveland Museum of Art. This will be the largest retrospective exhibition of Soutine's work ever assembled. The paintings to be shown cover the whole span of his working life, from 1915 to 1942. They are being brought together from many parts of this country and from numerous collections in France and Switzerland. The exhibition is being organized by Monroe Wheeler, the Museum's Director of Exhibitions, who has also written a profusely illustrated monograph on Soutine to be published simultaneously with the opening of the exhibition.