

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

510620 - 35

FOR WEDNESDAY RELEASE

FIVE IMPORTANT NEW YORK PRIVATE COLLECTIONS OF MODERN PAINTING
AND SCULPTURE TO FORM LARGE SUMMER EXHIBITION

A comprehensive exhibition of painting and sculpture, ranging in period from Toulouse-Lautrec to Motherwell and Baziotes, selected from 5 New York private collections, will occupy the third floor galleries from June 27 through September 9. Containing 87 works selected and installed by Andrew Carnduff Ritchie, Director of the Museum's Department of Painting and Sculpture, this will be by far the largest in the Museum's series of summer exhibitions of works from private collections, the most recent of which was organized in the summer of 1948.

The collectors who have generously agreed to lend their works are Mr. and Mrs. Ralph F. Colin; Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Odets; Mrs. John D. Rockefeller III; Mr. and Mrs. John L. Senior, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. John Hay Whitney.

The generous selections from each collection will be hung together, thus giving an insight into the individual tastes of each collector. The large collections of Mr. and Mrs. Whitney and of Mr. and Mrs. Colin, with their major emphasis on well-known modern French painting, will open the show. Next will be a gallery completely devoted to 21 works by Paul Klee from the collection of Mr. and Mrs. Odets. Mrs. Rockefeller's collection will follow with its emphasis on modern European sculpture and American abstract painting. The last gallery will be completely devoted to Mr. and Mrs. Senior's 12 paintings by Mondrian and one Brancusi sculpture.

A few individual items from these collections have been exhibited before in the Museum, but large selections from the collections have never before been shown.

The first galleries will contain outstanding paintings by Toulouse-Lautrec, van Gogh and Cézanne; the famous "Moulin de la Galette" by Renoir; an important Gauguin self-portrait; 7 Picassos, including a self-portrait; 3 Matisse paintings; the fine "Jungle Scene with Monkeys" by Rousseau; one of Seurat's great landscapes,

"English Channel at Grandcamp"; and "The Salon" by Balthus, generally considered his masterpiece. Choice works by Bonnard, Rouault, Vuillard and Gris are included here, and 3 fine Soutines not shown in the Museum's recent one-man exhibition of this artist's work. Two newly purchased works are indicative of recent revivals of interest: a Derain, reflecting renewed interest in the fauves; and a work by Henri-Edmond Cross, a pointillist follower of Seurat and Signac whose popularity has greatly increased of late.

The room of Paul Klees includes watercolors; gouaches; oils; and ink, brush and pencil drawings, selected from one of the finest private collections of work by this master.

The modern sculpture and painting that follows includes the large bronze "Horse and Rider" by Marino Marini and his watercolor study for the horseman; the 6-foot-high bronze "Man Pointing" by Giacometti; "Reclining Nude with Guitar" in basalt by Lipchitz, and a small marble piece by Arp. American abstract painters represented are Baziotes, Motherwell, Pollock, Rothko and Tomlin. Also in this group are two English works: a watercolor by Henry Moore and a recent oil by John Piper.

A bronze "Bird in Space" by Brancusi - larger than the one owned by the Museum - will be shown in the last gallery with the 12 fine oils by Mondrian.

Mr. Ritchie comments on the exhibition as follows:

This exhibition is the third in a series planned to show the public modern works of art owned by collectors in New York City and vicinity. The Museum is deeply indebted to the lenders who have made the exhibition possible. It is a great privilege to be able to see the cream of five such distinguished and varied collections under one roof.

I am sure the large and appreciative audience that will view the exhibition will join us in thanking the respective collectors for their generosity and self-sacrifice in permitting us to view so many of their treasured possessions during the summer months.

A complete check list by collection will be available at the press preview on Tuesday, June 26, from 2 to 5 p.m.