

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

FOR RELEASE FRIDAY, JULY 13PRESS PREVIEW: THURSDAY,

JULY 12, 2-5 P.M.

510706 - 40

"TWELVE PHOTOGRAPHERS," A SURVEY OF SOME OUTSTANDING WORK
TO BE SHOWN AT MUSEUM

An exhibition of work by 12 well-known photographers, all contemporary except 2, will be shown on the first floor of the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, on Friday, July 13 through August 12. Organized by Edward Steichen, Director of the Department of Photography, these 12 miniature one-man shows have been selected from "Leading Photographers," a series that has been made available for rent throughout the country by the Museum's Department of Circulating Exhibitions and that will be supplemented over the years to provide in time all the leading names and important trends in modern photography. These circulating exhibitions, offering a wide range and variety of photographic shows, are especially designed for other museums, university and school galleries and camera clubs, at prices well below actual cost.

The following photographers will be represented in this selection:

Berenice Abbott: Her realistic photographs of New York portray human dignity and a significant preciseness of the external world. She has also written and illustrated articles and books on science and photography and has devised special equipment, evolved new techniques and processes.

Ansel Adams: As the foremost living photographer of our National Parks, he has caught the moods and patterns of the grandiose scenes and the minute details with brilliant definition.

Eugène Atget (1856-1927): The great French pioneer of modern photography, he photographed a remarkable series on Paris, its streets, shops, people.

Mathew B. Brady (1823-96): America's first master of photography has left a unique record of our Civil War, including famous portraits of such men as Lincoln, Lee and Grant.

Bill Brandt: In his early forties, he is considered by many the outstanding photographer in England today. His early work in Paris was influenced by Atget, Man Ray and surrealist films.

Harry Callahan: An important younger photographer, his delicate sense of pattern is an integral part of his photography. What may look like an abstraction actually stands as an intensified reality. Callahan recently had a one-man show at the Chicago Art Institute.

Henri Cartier-Bresson: Swiftiness of vision and warm intimacy characterize the images of this photographer, particularly in this famous series of the Gandhi funeral that make it seem as if the camera itself had been there as a mourner.

Walker Evans: His incisive comments on the contemporary American scene represent a masterful achievement which is reflected, as a stimulating influence, in the work of some outstanding new photographers.

Lisette Model: Her searching vision continually prods under surface appearances, sometimes with satire, sometimes with sympathetic understanding.

Irving Penn: Clear thinking, precision and understanding are always evident in the work of this photographer of organized arrangements.

Man Ray: An American painter and photographer who is part of the surrealist movement in France, he is a leading experimentalist. His work includes nudes, portraits and the rayograms of his invention.

Edward Weston: One of the very few photographers who is widely recognized as truly great, this Californian portrays the physical and esthetic qualities of his local scenes with utmost exactness, a profound penetration and a remarkable sense of proportion, in sheer photographic beauty.

In commenting on the exhibition, Mr. Steichen says;

"Famous names as well as some lesser known exponents of the medium have contributed to this exhibition. The complex and expanding interest in this medium is reflected by its growing use as a means of communicating ideas as well as the objective representation of man and his environment.

"The augmented series of small one-man shows by leading photographers, old masters and new masters, are designed to make top flight material available to museums, clubs and institutions either singly or in more comprehensive creative exhibitions by larger groupings to illustrate various directions and tendencies that may be of current or local interest. These exhibitions are also assembled to meet requests for work in the fields of reportage, documentation and the experimental movements."