THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y. TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

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The Museum of Modern Art is organizing an exhibition, <u>MASTERS OF BRITISH PAINTING</u>, <u>1800 - 1950</u>, to open in New York October 2, 1956. The exhibition is being presented in collaboration with the City Art Museum of St. Louis and the California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco.

The object of the exhibition is to show the progressive tendencies in British painting from Turner and Constable in the 19th century to Sutherland and Nicholson in the 20th. Selected by Andrew Carnduff Ritchie, Director of the Department of Painting and Sculpture of the Museum of Modern Art, loans from the United Kingdom are being assembled by the British Council under the art-directorship of Mrs. Lilian Somerville. An advisory committee consisting of Sir Philip Hendy, Director of the National Gallery, London; Sir John Rothenstein, Director of the Tate Gallery, London; and Sir Herbert Read, well known British art critic, has assisted Mr. Ritchie in the selection of pictures and in the securing of loans.

All the important museums of Great Britain and many private collectors are lending a selection of their finest pictures for the occasion and consequently this exhibition, dealing with the last century and a half of British painting, promises to be one of the highest quality ever assembled.