

# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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## U.S. REPRESENTATION IN 3RD INTERNATIONAL CONTEMPORARY ART EXHIBITION, INDIA

ORGANIZED BY THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

American participation in the 3rd International Contemporary Art Exhibition, sponsored by the All-India Fine Arts Society with the cooperation of the government of India and opening in New Delhi this week, has been organized by the Museum of Modern Art, New York. René d'Harnoncourt, Director of the Museum announced today. The project was undertaken by the Museum's International Program, directed by Porter A. McCray, at the request of and with financial assistance from the Ford Foundation.

Thirteen paintings of divergent tendencies by nine major American artists have been selected by Sam Hunter, Associate Curator of the Museum's Department of Painting and Sculpture, to constitute the United States representation at this important international art event to which thirty-five countries throughout the world are sending contemporary paintings, drawings and prints. Following its inaugural showing in New Delhi the exhibition will be circulated throughout India on an itinerary including Calcutta, Bombay, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad and Amritsar.

The paintings in the United States section were all executed during the past fifteen years and were chosen to demonstrate a variety of styles, although various modes of abstraction which have not yet been widely exhibited in India and other Oriental countries predominate. The nine American artists whose works are included are Stuart Davis, Arshile Gorky, Adolph Gottlieb, Grace Hartigan, Willem de Kooning, Jackson Pollock, Mark Rothko, Niles Spencer and Mark Tobey. Four museums, six private collectors and an art dealer have cooperated by lending paintings for this occasion. They include: Mr. Samuel A. Berger, New York, New York; The Butler Institute of American Art, Youngstown, Ohio; International Business Machines Corporation, New York, New York; Mrs. H. Gates Lloyd, Haverford, Pennsylvania; The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York; Mr. and Mrs. Roy R. Neuberger, New York, New York; The Phillips Gallery, Washington, D.C.; Lee Krasner Pollock, Springs, New York; Whitney Museum of American Art, New York, New York; Willard Gallery, New York, New York; and Mrs. Virginia Bloedel Wright, Seattle, Washington.

Inaugurated in 1946 to promote cultural understanding between India and foreign countries, the International Contemporary Art Exhibitions organized by the All-India Fine Arts and Crafts Society have gained steadily in size and prestige and are now recognized not only throughout Asia but throughout the world as among the most im-

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portant international events in contemporary art. Thirty-five countries are participating in this year's manifestation as against twenty-six in the second exhibition, held in 1953. It is planned to hold these festivals every three years hereafter.

Under its International Program, the Museum of Modern Art has organized the United States participation in a number of major international exhibitions of contemporary art such as the Biennale at Venice, the Bienal at Sao Paulo, the Second International Art Exhibition of Japan held in 1953, an exhibition of PAINTERS UNDER 35 sponsored by the Congress for Cultural Freedom and circulated in Italy, Belgium and France in 1955, and an International Exhibition of Contemporary Sculpture held at the Musée Rodin in Paris last summer. Since its establishment with the aid of a five-year grant from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund in 1952, the International Program has sent out more than thirty exhibitions in the fields of painting, sculpture, drawings, prints, architecture, design, typographic design and photography. These have been shown in over twenty countries in Europe, Latin America, the Near East, Asia and Africa under the Program's own auspices, those of the United States government or other outside agencies. It has also enabled nine exhibitions containing material from sixteen other countries to be presented in the United States, among them the exhibition of prints by Edvard Munch currently on view at the Museum of Modern Art, which contains important loans lent by the Municipal Art Collections, Oslo, with the cooperation of the Norwegian government and which will be circulated throughout the United States by the International Program on the conclusion of its New York showing.

To ensure continuance of the International Program after the expiration of the original five-year grant in June, 1957, the formation of a newly incorporated International Council at the Museum of Modern Art, under the presidency of Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd, was announced in December. Made up of art patrons and community leaders throughout the United States, this Council has undertaken, with the aid of continuing contributions from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, to raise funds throughout the ensuing five years for the Museum's International Program, directed by Percer A. McCray.