

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

No. 25

March 11, 1957

MUSEUM OF MODERN ART EXHIBITS FIFTY-ONE RECENT AMERICAN ACQUISITIONS

The first floor galleries of the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, will be devoted to a large exhibition of American and Latin-American works of art acquired for the Museum Collection chiefly during the past year. This exhibition, which will be on view from March 13 through April 21, is directed by Dorothy C. Miller, Curator of the Museum Collections. Great variety and a broad range so far as the age and fame of the artists are concerned characterize the exhibition. It contains 31 paintings, 15 sculptures, 4 collages and a rug. The oldest artist whose work is included was born in 1871, the youngest in 1935.

Among the best-known artists represented are Stuart Davis, whose striking "Salt Shaker" was painted in 1931; Gaston Lachaise, whose marble sculpture, "Knees," is the first important work in stone by this artist in the Collection; and Florine Stettheimer, whose "Family Portrait" is perhaps her most distinguished painting. Eugene Berman is represented by one of his fine Neo-Romantic canvases of 1930; Max Ernst by an important surrealist sculpture; Polygnotos Vagis by a monumental head carved from a glacial boulder; ^{Moholy-}~~Melchior~~-Nagy by a subtle form shaped in heavy plexiglas; Fritz Glarner by one of his recent paintings in the circular format which he has made his own; and David Smith by a witty sculpture in forged steel.

Prominent because of their size and impact as well as their quality are works by the Abstract-Expressionist group, chiefly centered in New York. The dean and chief mentor of the group, Hans Hofmann, is represented by a canvas of 1947, and there are excellent paintings by Bradley Tomlin, Robert Motherwell, Willem de Kooning, James Brooks, and Corrado Marca-Relli. Sculpture by Seymour Lipton and a rug designed by Arshile Gorky in 1942 are also shown. The younger generation includes Helen Frankenthaler, John Levee, Hedda Sterne, and Lee Mullican, the last with a construction in wood.

Concern with the expressive use of the human figure may also be found in a number of works of art in the exhibition. Raoul Hague's leaning torso carved in a butternut log seems to stop halfway between tree and figure; Joseph Glasco's small bronze Man Walking has a curious monumentality. Jan Muller has painted a major figure composition in his Faust, the first of two versions of this subject done during the past year.

Ten works by South and Central American artists are included in the exhibition. A typical canvas in white and black by the distinguished Torres Garcia of Uruguay heads the group. The rest are by young painters and sculptors who

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have recently begun to make their reputations outside of their own countries: González Goyri and Ossaye of Guatemala, Otero of Venezuela, José Bermúdez and Milián of Cuba, Ramírez of Colombia, Magalhães of Brazil, Morales of Micaragua and Zañartu of Chile add to the exhibition works of fresh and lively interest.

Donors of works of art in the exhibition were Larry Aldrich; Mr. and Mrs. Armand Bartos; Mr. and Mrs. Allan D. Emil; Mr. and Mrs. Theodore S. Gary; Mrs. Edith G. Halpert; Emilio del Junco; Mr. and Mrs. Sam Kootz; George B. Locke; Mr. and Mrs. John de Menil; Mrs. Roberto Ossaye and her daughter; Mr. and Mrs. Jack I. Poses; Mrs. Bliss Parkinson; Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, 3rd; the late Miss Ettie Stettheimer; Mr. and Mrs. Edward M. M. Warburg; Monroe Wheeler. Purchase funds used were provided by Elizabeth Bliss Parkinson, Blanchette Rockefeller, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bareiss, Mr. and Mrs. Roy R. Neuberger, Katharine Cornell; and the Inter-American Fund.

An annotated checklist and photographs are available from Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, Circle 5-8900, New York City,