

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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MUSEUM OF MODERN ART ORGANIZES U.S. REPRESENTATION AT 4TH INTERNATIONAL ART EXHIBITION OF JAPAN

Recent paintings by 15 young men and women constitute the United States representation at the 4th International Art Exhibition of Japan, opening at the National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo on May 23. One of the most important modern art events in the Far East, this biennial exhibition in which 14 countries are participating this year is sponsored by the Mainichi Newspapers with the cooperation of the Foreign Ministry of Japan. Following its showing in Tokyo it will tour leading cities in Japan for a period of six months.

The United States section has been organized by the International Program of the Museum of Modern Art, New York. While American participation in previous International Art Exhibitions in Japan has provided surveys of relatively well-known styles of contemporary painting, at the request of the Japanese sponsors the present group has been chosen to present to the Japanese public recent work by a number of younger artists. Frank O'Hara of the Museum's International Program, who directed the exhibition, has selected works executed within the past four years and intended to emphasize the vitality and diversity of styles found in American painting today. Included are "pure" abstractions by Sam Francis, Alfred Leslie, Stephen Pace, Raymond Parker and Milton Resnick; abstractions which suggest landscape forms by Richard Diebenkorn, Helen Frankenthaler and Joan Mitchell; still lifes of varying degrees of abstraction by Michael Goldberg and Robert Goodnough; a calligraphic abstraction by Cy Twombly; a vigorously painted portrait by Elaine de Kooning; and three large figurative paintings by Grace Hartigan, Jan Muller and Larry Rivers. Lenders to the exhibition are the Hansa Gallery, Elaine de Kooning, Alfred Leslie, Martin Widdifield Gallery, The Museum of Modern Art, Poindexter Gallery, Stable Gallery and Tibor de Nagy Gallery.

The International Program of the Museum of Modern Art, directed by Porter A. McCray, was initiated in 1952 by a grant from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. During the past five years it has sent approximately 40 exhibitions of contemporary art to Europe, Latin America and Asia and has presented in the United States 9 exhibitions of art from other countries. Previous shows that it has sent to Japan include SEVEN AMERICAN WATERCOLORISTS, which constituted part of the U. S. representation at the II International Art Exhibition in 1953; a MEMORIAL ART EXHIBITION OF THE WORKS OF YASUO KUNIYOSHI, 1954; CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN PHOTOGRAPHY, 1953; and 20TH-CENTURY DESIGN IN EUROPE AND AMERICA: SELECTIONS FROM THE COLLECTION OF THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART, NEW YORK, which following its presentation in Tokyo in February and March this

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year is currently touring other Japanese cities. Exhibitions of Japanese art that the International Program has organized for circulation in the United States include ABSTRACT JAPANESE CALLIGRAPHY, shown in 6 communities, and THE ARCHITECTURE OF JAPAN, a panel exhibition which to date has had 19 showings in museums, universities and colleges throughout the country. Other major recurring international exhibitions for which it has organized the U. S. participation include the Venice Biennale, the São Paulo Bienals, and the International Art Exhibition, India arranged by the All-India Fine Arts and Crafts Society.

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