

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

No. 27
FOR RELEASE
April 2, 1959
Press Preview
March 31, 1959,
9:30 to 4:00

AMERICAN ACQUISITIONS Recent Additions of Prints to the Museum Collection on view at Museum of Modern Art

Fifty-two etchings, lithographs, woodcuts, monotypes and a serigraph by 36 American artists, recently acquired by the Museum of Modern Art, will be on view at the Museum, 11 West 53 Street, from April 2 through May 31 in an exhibition directed by William S. Lieberman, Curator of Prints. More than one third of the artists have not been previously represented in any part of the Museum collection; fifteen are new to the Print Collection.

Among the artists whose work was acquired for the first time the Museum collection are: the 27-year old Robert Birmelin, the youngest artist in the exhibition; Robert Broner of Detroit, represented by two monotypes; Leander Fornas, a young American who lives in Finland; Jan Gelb, whose husband, Morris Margo, invented the cellocut; Clinton Hill, represented by a calligraphic print; Beatrice Grover, whose lithograph is accompanied by the two actual stones from which it was printed; Chaim Koppelman and Richard Tyler of New York; Nathan Oliveira and Jack Zajac of California, and Lithuanian-born Romas Viesulas.

One of the best-known younger artists in the exhibition is Leonard Baskin, whose book Horned Beetle and Other Insects is limited to 30 copies. The volume, consisting of 34 etchings accompanied by eight trial proofs, is the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Rübél.

Only about a dozen of the prints are in color, the rest testifying to the variety of effects that can be achieved in black and white alone. Two are entirely inkless; a large embossed abstraction by Josef Albers and one version of a small image by Max Ernst which is shown in three variant printings.

Other well-known artists of an older generation in the show are: Feininger, represented by two etchings and a lithograph dating from before the first World War; Hopper, represented by two of his first etchings; and John Marin, some of whose New York scenes are shown including his famous Woolworth Building and Brooklyn Bridge. Etchings by Childe Hassam and by the sculptor Nadelman are included as well as a rare monotype by Prendergast and a lithograph by Charles Sheeler which has never before been exhibited anywhere. Ben Shahn made the only serigraph in the exhibition.

"American Acquisitions" is one of a continuing series of reports to the public on the Museum's print collection which now includes more than 4500 single prints, 215 books, 142 portfolios, 200 posters and 22 metal plates, stones and woodblocks.

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As limited gallery space permits only a fraction of this material to be shown on the second floor galleries where a selection of paintings and prints from the collection is always on view, these periodic special exhibitions present a cross section of works recently acquired. The current show complements "10 European Artists," an exhibition of recently acquired European prints which was on view from December 31 through March 15, 1959.

Donors of the prints in "American Acquisitions" are:

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur G. Altschul
Mr. and Mrs. Armand P. Bartos
Heinz Berggruen
Mrs. Lyonel Feininger
Beatrice Grover
Inter-American Fund
International Graphic Arts Society
Mr. and Mrs. E. Powis Jones Fund
The Ingram Merrill Foundation
Mrs. Stanley Resor
Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Fund
Mrs. and Mrs. Peter A. Rùbel
James Thrall Soby Fund
Mrs. Donald B. Straus
Peter Takal
Curt Valentin Bequest
Edward M.M. Warburg Fund

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AMERICAN ACQUISITIONS: Recent Additions of Prints to the Museum Collection
April 2 - May 31, 1959

Checklist

- ALBERS, Josef (b. 1888) Intaglio Duo B. 1959. Inkless intaglio. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Armand P. Bartos
- ALTMAN, Harold (b. 1924) Apart. 1958. Etching. The Ingram Merrill Foundation
Park Bench. 1958. Etching. The Ingram Merrill Foundation
Triolet. 1958. Etching. The Ingram Merrill Foundation
- BASKIN, Leonard (b. 1922) Frightened Boy and His Dog. 1954. Color woodcut. Purchase
Woodblock for Frightened Boy and His Dog. Gift of the International Graphic Arts Society
Horned Beetles and Other Insects. 1958. The book and trial proofs of 8 color etchings. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Peter A. Rübél
- BIRMELIN, Robert (b. 1933) Flying Dog. 1956. Etching. The Ingram Merrill Foundation
Four Animals. 1956. Etching. The Ingram Merrill Foundation
Interior-Living Room. 1956. Etching. The Ingram Merrill Foundation
- BRONER, Robert (b. 1922) Blind Subway Minstrel; Harmonica Player. 1955. Monotype. Mr. and Mrs. E. Powis Jones Fund
Harpichord, Viol and Recorder. 1956. Monotype. Mr. and Mrs. E. Powis Jones Fund
- CADMUS, Paul (b. 1904) The Fleet's In! 1934. Etching. Gift of Mrs. Stanley Resor
- CRAWFORD, Ralston (b. 1906) Nets, Croix de Vie. 1955. Lithograph. Purchase
- ERNST, Max (b. 1891) Hunting of the Snark. 1950. Etching. Gift of Heinz Berggruen
Hunting of the Snark. 1950. Color etching. Gift of Heinz Berggruen
Map of the Ocean. 1950. Color etching. Gift of Heinz Berggruen
- FEININGER, Lyonel (1871-1956) The Old Locomotive. 1906. Lithograph. Gift of Mrs. Lyonel Feininger
The Disparagers. 1911. Etching. Gift of Mrs. Lyonel Feininger
The Gate. 1912. Etching and drypoint. Gift of Mrs. Donald B. Straus
- FORNAS, Leander (b. 1925) The Devil and the Hoop. 1955. Etching. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Peter A. Rübél
The Devil's Funeral. 1955. Etching and aquatint. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Peter A. Rübél

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- FRASCONI, Antonio (b. 1919) The Observer. 1949. Color woodcut. Inter-American Fund
The Fulton Fish Market. 1952. Color woodcut. Inter-American Fund
Sardine Fisherman. 1955. Color woodcut. Inter-American Fund
- GELB, Jan (b. 1906) Space Traveller. 1955. Etching and aquatint. Purchase
- GLARNER, Fritz (b. 1899) Drawing for a Tondo. 1958. Lithograph. The Ingram Merrill Foundation
- GROVER, Beatrice (b. 1910) Goblet. 1957. Color lithograph. Gift of the artist. Two lithographic stones and two color separations for the final print. Gift of the artist.
- HASSAM, Childe (1859-1935) House on Main Street, Easthampton. 1922. Etching. Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Fund
- HILL, Clinton (b. 1922) First Page. 1955. Color woodcut. Purchase
- HOPPER, Edward (b. 1882) Les Deux Pigeons. c. 1915. Etching. Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Fund
Aux Fortifications. c. 1915. Etching. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. E. Powis Jones
- HULTBERG, John (b. 1926) White Landscape. 1956. Lithograph. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Peter A. Rübél
- JONES, E. Powis (b. 1919) Death of Sisera. 1959. Etching and aquatint. Purchase
- JONES, John Paul (b. 1924) Yellow. 1950. Color etching and aquatint. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Armand P. Bartos
- KOHN, Misch (b. 1916) Fishermen. 1950. Wood engraving. Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Fund
- KOPPELMAN, Chaim (b. 1920) Come Sweet Butterflies. 1957. Aquatint and engraving. Purchase
On Meeting Beauty. 1957. Aquatint and roulette. Purchase
- MARIN, John (1870-1953) Brooklyn Bridge, No.6. 1913. Etching. Edward M.M. Warburg Fund
Woolworth Building, New York, No.3. 1913. Etching. Edward M.M. Warburg Fund
Brooklyn Bridge from Brooklyn. 1915. Etching. Edward M.M. Warburg Fund
- MORGAN, Norma (b. 1928) David in the Wilderness. 1955-56. Engraving. Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Fund
- NADELMAN, Elie (1882-1946) Tango. c.1920. Drypoint. Curt Valentin Bequest
High Kick. c.1920. Drypoint. Curt Valentin Bequest

- OLIVEIRA, Nathan (b. 1928) Lisa. 1957. Lithograph. The Ingram Merrill Foundation
- PARIS, Harold (b. 1925) St. John. 1956. Aquatint. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Peter A. Rübél
- PETERDI, Gabor (b. 1915) Cathedral. 1958. Etching. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Armand P. Bartos
- PRENDERGAST, Maurice (1859-1924) Woman with Parasol. 1901. Monotype. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur G. Altschul
- SHAHN, Ben (b. 1898) "Where there is a sword, there is no book." 1950. Serigraph. Purchase
- SHEELER, Charles (b. 1883) Barn Abstraction. 1918. Lithograph. Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Fund
- SUMMERS, Carol (b. 1925) Gethsemane. 1958. Woodcut. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Peter A. Rübél
- TAKAL, Peter (b. 1905) Growth. 1958. Etching. Gift of the artist.
- TYLER, Richard O. (b. 1926) Self Portrait. 1956. Woodcut. The Ingram Merrill Foundation
- VIESULAS, Romas (b. 1918) Wolf, Blind in One Eye. 1957. Color lithograph. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Armand P. Bartos
- ZAJAC, Jack (b. 1929) Procession. 1955. Etching and aquatint. The Ingram Merrill Foundation