

# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART NEW YORK 19

FOR RELEASE  
TUES., MARCH 28, 1961  
NO. 31A

11 WEST 53rd STREET  
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900  
CABLES: MODERNART, NEW-YORK

Edward Steichen, dean of photographers, received a gift from the Photographic Society of Germany, at a dinner celebrating his 82nd birthday last night (March 27) at the Museum of Modern Art. Fritz Gruber, President of the Society, presented the gift, a portfolio of pictures by the famous German photographer, Albert Renger-Patzsch, whose work Mr. Steichen has long admired.

At the same time Henry Allen Moe, Vice-Chairman of the Museum's Board of Trustees, announced that the Photography Center in the new wing, scheduled for completion in 1964, will be named in Steichen's honor. Mr. Steichen has been Director of the Museum's Department of Photography since 1947.

The dinner preceded a preview of 300 photographs taken by Steichen over the last 65 years. The exhibition opened to the public today, (March 28).

Mr. Steichen also received the Silver Progress Medal of the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain. The Medal, the highest honor awarded by the Society, was presented by Alan M. Williams, British Consul General, "in recognition of Mr. Steichen's outstanding contributions, through his leadership, vision and enthusiasm, to the progress of photography as an art form and a medium for communication between people of the world".

William A. Burden, Chairman of the Board of the Museum acted as toastmaster. About 100 guests from various parts of the United States attended.

\*\*\*\*\*

For additional information please contact Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, New York 19, New York.

Full release on exhibition is attached.