

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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Edward Steichen, a Retrospective Exhibition, will be on view at the Museum of Modern Art, New York from March 29 - May 21, 1961. A preview will be held on March 27, Mr. Steichen's 82nd birthday. The one-man show will include about 300 photographs, some not previously published or exhibited. In addition, paintings, geometric compositions in watercolor; designs for textiles and for Steuben glass, and experimental photo-sculptures will be shown. Mr. Steichen, the dean of American photographers, has been Director of the Museum's Department of Photography since 1947.

Selected by Mr. Steichen himself from 30,000 negatives and prints, the photographs to be shown range in date from 1895, "My Little Sister" (now Mrs. Carl Sandburg) to his current studies in color of the Shad-Blow tree at his Connecticut home. Included are examples of Mr. Steichen's earliest works exhibited at the Philadelphia Photographic Salon (1899), at the Royal Photographic Society, London (1900), and at his first one-man show in Paris (1901); the period (1903-17) during which years he initiated the introduction of modern art in the United States at the Photo-Secession gallery directed by Alfred Stieglitz; World War I (1917-18), while he was in charge of American aerial photography; the Condé Nast period (1923-38), when Mr. Steichen was chief photographer for Vanity Fair and Vogue; photographs of his hybrid delphiniums as exhibited live at the Museum of Modern Art (1936); World War II (1941-43), when he was in command of all Navy combat photography; and his most recent work, "The Little Tree" series.

The wide variety of Mr. Steichen's subject matter includes city and landscapes, nature studies, nudes, the "Balzac Moonlight Series" (1909), abstractions, combat scenes, advertising, and personalities. Portraits of prominent figures during the 20's and 30's in the worlds of society, finance, diplomacy and the arts are as diverse as J. P. Morgan, Matisse, Rodin, Brancusi, Epstein, Thomas Mann, Winston Churchill, Theodore Roosevelt, Eugene O'Neill, Eleanore Duse, Helen Hayes, Marlene Dietrich, Greta Garbo, Lillian Gish, and promising young stars like Clark Gable and Gary Cooper.

Mr. Steichen has directed 36 exhibitions for the Museum of Modern Art, among them Road to Victory (1942), Power in the Pacific (1944), In and Out of Focus (1948), The Exact Instant (1949), the Diogenes with a Camera series (from 1952), Post War European Photography (1955), and Photographs from the Museum Collection (1958). His greatest achievement is the Family of Man, which, since its 1955 opening at the Museum, has been seen by 7,000,000 people in 37 countries. It is still being circulated abroad.

Note: A large selection of photographs from the show will be available after January 1st. For further information, please call Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N. Y. CI 5-8900.