

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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

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No. 2

FOR RELEASE

Tuesday, Jan. 10, 1961

"Composers Showcase" and "Jazz Profiles," a series of concerts under the direction of Charles Schwartz, will be presented at The Museum of Modern Art three Thursday evenings each month beginning January 26 and continuing through May.

The first composer whose work will be performed in the "Composers Showcase" series is Aaron Copland who will act as narrator in the concert version of his play-opera "The Second Hurricane" on January 26 and again on February 2. Others whose work will be featured later in the season include Carl Ruggles, Walter Piston and William Schumann. Dizzy Gillespie will lead off the "Jazz Profiles" series in a retrospective concert on February 9.

Tickets for the Thursday evening concerts, \$3.00 each, are now on sale at the Museum, 11 West 53 Street. Museum members receive a 25 per cent discount on two tickets.

Museum galleries will remain open every Thursday evening until 10 p. m. beginning January 26 and dinner and refreshments will be served. Tickets to the concert will include admission to the galleries. Special films will be shown on those Thursdays for which concerts are not scheduled.

"Composers Showcase" and "Jazz Profiles" series are sponsored by Contrasts in Contemporary Music, a non-profit organization. The "Composers Showcase" series of monthly concerts devoted to contemporary music of invited composers was inaugurated in November 1957 and presented at the Nonagon Art Gallery. The "Jazz Profiles" series was initiated a year later. In the beginning of January 1959 the concerts were transferred to the Circle in the Square theatre where they were presented through the Spring of 1960. Together, "Composers Showcase" and "Jazz Profiles" are the only regular concert series entirely devoted to contemporary music and modern jazz.

Composers who have participated in the series in the past include Virgil Thomson, Carlos Chavez, Ernst Krenek, Marc Blitzstein and John Cage. Among the jazz groups in concert presented by "Jazz Profiles" have been The Modern Jazz Quartet and the groups of Dizzy Gillespie and Thelonious Monk.

For additional information contact Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N. Y. CI 5-8900.