

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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

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Aaron Copland's play-opera, The Second Hurricane, narrated by the composer for the first time, will be featured in concert version in an all-Copland program at the Museum of Modern Art, Thursday, January 26, at 8:30 p.m., and again February 2. These are the opening concerts in a series presented at the Museum by "Composers' Showcase," under the direction of Charles Schwartz.

The Second Hurricane, staged by Roger Englander and conducted by Seymour Lipkin, will be performed by 70 students of the School of Music and Art, New York, prepared by Sybil Mandel, Director of the school's Music Department. Bertha Melnik and Paul de Leeuw are the pianists. Edwin Denby wrote the libretto for the 1937 work.

Among other Copland compositions in the program are an early song, "As it Fell Upon a Day" (1923), sung by Dorothy Renzi, soprano, assisted by Julius Baker, flute, and David Glazer, clarinet; "Song" (1927), with an e.e. cummings text, "Vocalize" (1928), and four poems of Emily Dickinson, by Miss Renzi and David Garvey, piano.

Following the concert, Mr. Copland will discuss his work and will answer questions from the audience.

Tickets for the Thursday evening concerts, \$3, are on sale at the Museum, 11 West 53 Street. Museum members receive a 25 per cent discount on two. Tickets include admission to galleries, open every Thursday until 10 p.m., beginning January 26. Dinner and refreshments will be served. Special films will be shown on those Thursdays for which concerts are not scheduled.

The Second Hurricane, conceived as a combined opera and play to be performed by children, involves its principal characters (Butch, Fat, Gyp, Lowrie, Gwen, Queenie and Jeff) in rescue operations after a disaster. It is the initial operatic venture of Mr. Copland, generally regarded as the dean of American composers. Mr. Englander has directed for television several Menotti operas and New York Philharmonic and Philadelphia Orchestra concerts. Mr. Lipkin, a pianist who won the 1948 Rachmaninoff award, was assistant conductor to Leonard Bernstein last season.

"Jazz Profiles," the jazz counterpart of "Composers' Showcase," will present the Dizzy Gillespie Quintet at the Museum on Thursday evening, February 9. "Composers' Showcase" will continue March 2 with a Carl Ruggles 85th birthday concert. Other composers to appear this season include Walter Piston and William Schumann.

Together, "Composers' Showcase" and "Jazz Profiles" are the only regular concert series entirely devoted to contemporary music and modern jazz.

Photographs and further information available from Herbert Bronstein, Associate Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. CI 5-8900