

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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

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THE JAMES THRALL SOBY COLLECTION of works of art pledged or given to the Museum of Modern Art. Introduction by Alfred H. Barr, Jr.; notes by Mr. Soby. 69 pages; 70 plates, 4 in color. Published by the Museum of Modern Art, N. Y. Paper \$1.50.

An illustrated catalog of seventy modern paintings, sculpture and drawings from the James Thrall Soby Collection will be published by the Museum of Modern Art on March 20. The 69-page book includes notes on the works of art by Mr. Soby, well-known scholar and critic as well as collector, and an introduction by Alfred H. Barr, Jr., Director of Museum Collections. It is available at the Museum, 11 West 53 Street, New York City, for \$1.50; \$1.75, by mail.

In the introduction Alfred Barr characterizes Mr. Soby as a collector of excellent and highly personal taste. Most of his paintings are by artists who have worked in the romantic or Surrealist spirit. Among the most outstanding are Picasso's Seated Woman; Miro's unique Self Portrait and Still Life with Old Shoe; an incomparable group of eight canvases by de Chirico; The Street, an early masterpiece by Balthus; two paintings by Francis Bacon and a haunting double self portrait by Christian Bérard. The ten sculptures include a post-Surrealist figure by Giacometti, two nudes by Maillol, a Lehmbruck torso, two bronzes by Marino Marini, and a mobile by Calder.

The works, which have been pledged or in some cases already given to the Museum of Modern Art, were on view last month (February 1 - March 4) at M. Knoedler & Co., Inc. in a special exhibition for the benefit of the Museum's Library.

The seventy illustrations, four of which are in color, are accompanied by Mr. Soby's illuminating analyses of the works of art. Some of the notes have been selected or adapted from his many articles and books, including Giorgio de Chirico, Contemporary Painters, Modern Art and the New Past and Joan Miro. Some are conversations with artists.

In the foreward Mr. Soby pays tribute to the Museum's Library whose resources he has used extensively. The catalog includes, in addition to a list of his books, a list of bibliographies prepared by the Library for 35 non-Museum publications.

Mr. Soby has been a trustee of the Museum of Modern Art since 1942. He is Chairman of the Department of Painting and Sculpture Exhibitions and of the Collections Committee which passes on all works acquired by the Museum. He has directed fourteen exhibitions for the Museum in the past twenty years.

Review copies and photographs are available from Nancy Reed, Assistant Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N. Y. CI 5-8900.