THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

NEW YORK 19

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

> No. 31A FOR RELEASE: Tuesday, March 28, 1961

Edward Steichen, dean of photographers received the Silver Progress Medal of the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain at a dinner Monday, March 27, on his 82nd birthday at the Museum of Modern Art.

At the same time the museum 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 for invited guests of 300 photographs taken by Steichen over the last 65 years. The exhibition opens to the public on Tuesday, March 28.

The British medal, the highest honor awarded by the Royal Photographic Society, was presented by Alan M. Williams, British Consul General, "in recognition of his outstanding contributions, through his leadership, vision and enthusiasm, to the progress of photography as an art form and a medium for communication between peoples of the world."

Henry Allen Moe, Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Museum, announced the future establishment of the Edward Steichen Photography Center at the Museum.

Fritz Gruber, President of the Photographic Society of Germany, presented Mr. Steichen with a portfolio of photographs by Albert Renger-Patzsch, a famous German photographer whose work Mr. Steichen has long admired.

Carl Sandburg, Mr. Steichen's brother-in-law, also paid tribute to the guest of honor as did Mrs. Eugene Meyer, a friend of many years.

William A. M. 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 contact Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, N. Y. CI 5-8900.

To City Editors

Photo Assignment Editors

Edward Steichen, dean of photographers, will receive the Silver Progress Medal of the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain at a dinner to be given tonight, Monday, March 27, on his 82nd birthday at the Museum of Modern Art.

At the same time the Museum will announce that the Photography Center in the new wing, scheduled for completion in 196h, will be named in Steichen's honor.

Mr. Steichen has been Director of the Museum's Department of Photography since 1947.

The dinner precedes a preview for invited guests of 300 photographs taken by Steichen over the last 65 years. The exhibition opens to the public on Tuesday, March 28 (Release on show attached.)

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William A. M. Burden, Chairman of the Board of the Museum, will act as toastmaster.

About 100 guests from various parts of the United States are expected.

Note: If you plan to send a reporter or photographer to cover the dinner, will you please call Elizabeth Shaw, CI 5-8900?

The dinner is scheduled to start at 8 p.m. The speeches will start about 9 p.m. The dinner is being held in the Penthouse of the Museum.

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

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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 Musueum 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 las long admired.

At the same time Henry Allen Moe, Vice-Chairman of the Museum's Board of Trustees, mounced 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 pepartment 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 llan 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 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.