

44

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
11 WEST 53RD STREET, NEW YORK

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 7-7470

FOR RELEASE Thursday, March 26, 1936

32536-9

The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, announces the acquisition of four important modern paintings of the abstract and cubist schools. Three are the gift of the Advisory Committee of the Museum; these are Oval Still Life by Georges Braque, Composition by Juan Gris, and Breakfast by Fernand Léger. The fourth--The Studio by Pablo Picasso--is an individual gift from a member of the Advisory Committee, Walter P. Chrysler, Jr. These acquisitions are now on display at the Museum as part of its current Exhibition of Cubism and Abstract Art, which will remain open to the public through Sunday, April 19.

The paintings are representative examples of the four artists whose work is considered essential to an understanding of the Cubist movement and, more broadly speaking, of the modern tendency toward abstract art. The Braque and Gris, both dating from 1914, form a trio with Picasso's Green Still Life painted the same year, and bequeathed to the Museum by the late Lillie P. Bliss. The quiet refinement and taste of the Braque and Gris contrast with the vigorous color and active design of Léger's Breakfast, painted in 1920. The Picasso Studio, painted in 1928, is a late Cubist work by the most famous of living artists. It is the largest and probably the most important twentieth century painting thus far acquired by the Museum.

The Advisory Committee of the Museum of Modern Art was organized in 1930 as an auxiliary body to provide an extra clearing house for the general discussion of the problems of the Museum and especially to provide a method for giving the Trustees the benefit of the fresh ideas and varying points of view of younger people in New York and elsewhere who are particularly interested in modern art. It meets once a month during the season to discuss and criticize the Museum's exhibitions and matters of policy and to report such criticisms as its members have collected from sources outside the Museum. The Committee also offers advice and suggestions concerning the Museum's exhibitions, policies and educational programs.

(MORE)

At present the Advisory Committee is composed of the following members resident in New York: Mrs. Charles H. Russell, Jr., Chairman, Mrs. Porter Chandler, Walter P. Chrysler, Jr., Michael Cuypers, Mrs. William T. Emmet, Jr., George Gershwin, Miss Ethel Haven, Sidney Janis, Lincoln Kirstein, Mrs. Henry Labouisse, Jr., ~~Mrs. Charles S. Payson~~, Mrs. Ewan MacVeagh, Mrs. Percy D. Morgan, George L. K. Morris, Paul Nitze, Mrs. John Parkinson, Jr., Mrs. Charles S. Payson, Mrs. Duncan Read, Mrs. Stanley Resor, Nelson A. Rockefeller, Charles G. Shaw, Chauncey D. Stillman, St. John Smith, Jr., Miss Nathalie Swan, Mrs. George H. Warren, Jr. Associate members: Mrs. William F. C. Garthwaite of London, England; Mrs. B. E. Hutchinson of Detroit; John Walker, III of Pittsburgh.