THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

305 MEST 53RD STREET, NEW YORK

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 7-7470

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Museum of Modern Art announces the acquisition of four important works by American artists:

John Kane: Self Portrait. 1929. Oil on panel, 36 x 27 inches. Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Purchase Fund.

Fletcher Martin: Trouble in Frisco. 1938. Oil on canvas, 30 x 36 inches. Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Purchase Fund.

Franklin C. Watkins: Boris Blai. 1938. Oil on canvas, 40 x 35 inches. Gift of A. Conger Goodyear.

Gaston Lachaise: Floating Figure. 1927. Bronze (1935), 53 inches high. Given anonymously.

These four new acquisitions will be shown in the Museum's tenth anniversary exhibition Art in Our Time, which opens to the public Thursday, May 11. The entire exhibition, including both American and foreign works, will illustrate the breadth and variety of the Museum's interests: painting, sculpture, graphic arts, architecture and town planning, commercial art, industrial art, photography and moving pictures. Most of the departments or sections of the exhibition, instead of trying to cover the whole field, will have a sharp but narrow focus so as not to distract or exhaust the visitor by too great an effort at comprehensiveness. The sections of painting and sculpture will, however, have a wider scope.

The section devoted to painting will be composed approximately of 240 oils and watercolors and 20 prints. Between 60 and 70 pieces of sculpture will be shown, half of them in the sculpture gallery on the third floor of the new building and the rest in the outdoor garden gallery at the rear of the Museum. It is in the garden gallery that the new Lachaise acquisition Floating Figure will be exhibited.

Art in Our Time will show the work of contemporary artists and designers and of masters of the recent but living past. In the galleries devoted to painting there will be a selection of some of the finest works in the Museum's Permanent Collection, which

contains the largest group of Cézanne oils owned by any public museum in the country and noted works by Picasso, Matisse, Dali, John Kane, Burchfield, Sheeler, Lehmbruck, Maillol, Brancusi, Lachaise and other American and European artists.

In addition to the Permanent Collection the exhibition will include among 19th century painting, works by Renoir, van Gogh, Gauguin, Seurat, Toulouse-Lautrec, Winslow Homer, Whistler and others. Among the artists of our own time represented will be Max Beckmann, Thomas Benton, Peter Blume, Bonnard, Braque, de Chirico, Demuth, Duchamp-Villon, John B. Flannagan, Gris, Gropper, Kandinsky, Kuniyoshi, Léger, Jacques Lipchitz, Marin, Miro, Mondrian, Nakian, Georgia O'Keeffe, Orozco, Maurice Prendergast, Redon, Rouault, Rousseau, Pierre Roy, Siqueiros, Sheeler, Niles Spencer, Maurice Sterne, Max Weber, William Zorach and many others.

The exhibition Art in Our Time will be open to the public from May 11 to October 1.

John Kane. American, born Scotland, 1859, of Irish parents. Came to America, 1880; lived in Pittsburgh. Self-taught; a house painter. Died Pittsburgh, 1934. The <u>Self Portrait</u> is generally considered Kane's masterpiece.

Fletcher Martin. Born Palisades, Colorado, 1904. Lives in Los Angeles.

Franklin C. Watkins. Born New York, 1894. Lives in Philadelphia.

Gaston Lachaise. American, born Paris, 1882. Died New York, 1935. This, one of Lachaise's most original and important works, was given to the Museum by four of his admirers as a memorial to the artist.