

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53RD STREET, NEW YORK

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MUSEUM OF MODERN ART ANNOUNCES THIRTEEN NEW ACQUISITIONS
IN PAINTING AND SCULPTURE BY AMERICAN ARTISTS

The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, announces thirteen new acquisitions of painting and sculpture by American artists. The group includes the work of several of the most important and best known modern artists in this country: José de Creeft, Spanish-born American sculptor noted for his direct carving in stone; Stuart Davis, leading American abstractionist; Adolf Dehn, famous for his brilliant illustrations and lithography as well as for his water-colors; Arthur G. Dove, well known as a painter but particularly noted for his remarkable and highly original collage portraits; Marsden Hartley, one of the original American modernists whose recent work has confirmed his position as one of the most vigorous American painters; and Edward Hopper, whose painting of the American scene was brilliantly successful years before Americanism in painting became a cult.

The younger and very promising artists whose work is represented in the group of new acquisitions are: Raymond Breinin of Chicago; Edward Chavez, who lives in Redstone, Colorado; Louis Dlugosz, a steel worker of Buffalo; Frede Vidar of Montclair, New Jersey; Byron Thomas of New York; and Abraham Rattner of New York and Maurice Grosser of Alabama, Americans who made their reputations in Paris.

The group of acquisitions consists of eleven paintings and two sculptures. The donors include Mrs. George E. Barstow, Philip Goodwin, Nelson A. Rockefeller and John Hay Whitney. Eight works were bought by the Museum from the Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Purchase Fund, and one painting was given anonymously.

Because the Museum's current Exhibition of Twenty Centuries of Mexican Art fills the three gallery floors, the new acquisitions will be on view in the gallery on the Museum's auditorium floor from Friday, July 26, until the end of September.

The gift of Mrs. Barstow, Saturnia, is a large relief in

hammered lead (plomb battu) by José de Creeft. The sculpture, named Saturnia by Mr. de Creeft because lead is one of the metals under the astrological sign of the planet Saturn, is 61 inches high. It is the figure of a kneeling woman composed in large, simplified volumes. Silver leaf has been used in the patine of the sculpture, which will be shown occasionally in the Museum's garden as well as in its galleries.

Night Windows, gift of John Hay Whitney, is an oil painted by Edward Hopper in 1928, purchased originally by Mr. Whitney from the artist's one man show at the Museum of Modern Art in the fall of 1933. It is a view of three brightly lighted upper windows as though seen from a passing elevated train. One of the windows is open, with the curtain fluttering outward in the breeze. Reflections of light from each of the three windows show on the projecting ledge of the story below. The brilliant illumination of the room contrasts sharply with black shadows of the building's exterior.

Philip Goodwin has given the Museum a poetic portrait in the collage technique by Arthur Dove. Entitled Grandmother, its background is unpainted, weathered wood that might easily have come from an old-fashioned back fence. Superimposed on the wood is a scrap of needlepoint, a yellowed title-page from a Concordance to the Bible, a fragment of pressed fern and a spray of faded violets.

The Ivory Tower, an oil painting given by Nelson A. Rockefeller, is the work of the young Danish-American artist, Frede Vidar. It shows a studio with the artist engaged in fitting living models into frames. From the skylight above two ordinary citizens peer into the artist's ivory tower.

The complete list of acquisitions is as follows:

DE CREEFT, José. Saturnia, hammered lead, 61 inches high,
Gift of Mrs. George E. Barstow 1938

José de Creeft, born in Guadalajara, Spain, in 1884, of Catalan parents. Studied in Madrid and in Paris. He has lived in the United States since 1929 and is an American citizen. He is represented at the Seattle Museum by two stone sculptures and at the Brooklyn Museum by his Semitic Head, in lead.

DOVE, Arthur G. Grandmother, collage, 1925
Gift of Philip Goodwin

Arthur G. Dove, born Canandaigua, N. Y., 1880. Represented in the collections of the Phillips Memorial Gallery, An American Place, University of Minnesota and Smith College. Lives in New York.

HOPPER, Edward. Night Windows, oil, 1928
Gift of John Hay Whitney

Edward Hopper, born Nyack, N. Y., 1882. Pupil of Robert Henri, Kenneth Hayes Miller, William M. Chase. He is represented in the public collections of Boston, Cambridge, Chicago, Cleveland, Hartford, Indianapolis, London, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, Sacramento and Washington. In addition to Night Windows he is represented in the Museum of Modern Art by another oil, House by the Railroad, two watercolors and a group of etchings. One man retrospective exhibition at Museum of Modern Art in 1933. Lives in New York.

VIDAR, Frede. The Ivory Tower, oil, 1939
Gift of Nelson A. Rockefeller

Frede Vidar, born 1911 in Asko, Denmark; he is now an American citizen. Studied abroad and in California. He is represented in the California Palace of the Legion of Honor and in Copenhagen museums. Lives in Montclair, New Jersey.

RATTNER, Abraham. Mother and Child, oil
Given Anonymously

Abraham Rattner, born Poughkeepsie, N. Y., 1893. Studied art in Washington; painting at the Pennsylvania Academy, Philadelphia. Was camouflage artist at the front in first World War. Worked in Paris at Ecole des Beaux Arts and Academie Ranson. He is represented in private collections in France and England. Lives in New York.

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Purchase Fund

BREININ, Raymond. One Morning, watercolor, c.1939

Raymond Breinin, born Vitebsk, Russia, in 1909. Studied at Academy of Art, Vitebsk. Murals at Winnetka, Elgin and Wilmette, Illinois. He is also represented in the San Francisco Museum and Zanesville, Ohio, Art Institute. Lives in Chicago.

CHAVEZ, Edward. Colt, gouache, c.1939

Edward Chavez, born Santa Fe, New Mexico, 1917. Studied with Frank Mechau, Jr. Painted decorative regional map for post office in Glenwood Springs, Colorado (in collaboration with Jennie Magafan). Lives in Redstone, Colorado.

DAVIS, Stuart. Summer Landscape, oil, 1930

Stuart Davis, born in Philadelphia, 1894. Pupil of Robert Henri. Represented in the Los Angeles Museum, Radio City Music Hall, Whitney Museum of American Art, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Phillips Memorial Gallery, Newark Museum, Minneapolis Institute of Art. In addition to Summer Landscape, Davis is represented in the Museum of Modern Art by two drawings and a group of prints. He lives in New York.

DEHN, Adolf. Butte, Utah, watercolor, 1940

Adolf Dehn, born Waterville, Minnesota, 1895. Studied at Minnesota Art School, Art Students' League. His work is represented in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Whitney Museum, New York Public Library, Brooklyn Museum, Boston Museum of Fine Arts, Minneapolis Institute of Fine Arts, Seattle Art Museum and many other institutions in this country and abroad. In addi-

Adolf Dehn (continued)

tion to Butte, Utah, Dehn is represented in the Museum of Modern Art by another watercolor and a group of prints. Lives in New York.

DLUGOSZ, Louis. Douglas Smith, terra cotta, 1934, 9" high

Louis Dlugosz, born 1916. Has been awarded the Reeb Memorial Prize. Exhibited at Artists Western New York Annual and Albright Gallery, Buffalo. Lives in Buffalo, New York.

GROSSER, Maurice. Eggs, oil, 1939

Maurice Grosser, born Huntsville, Alabama, in 1903. Studied painting under Martin Mower and in 1925 was awarded two-year fellowship for study abroad. Has painted and exhibited largely in Paris, Amsterdam and The Hague. Lives in Alabama.

HARTLEY, Marsden. The Spent Wave, oil on academy board, 1937-38

Marsden Hartley, born Lewiston, Maine, 1877. Studied with Nina Waldeck, Du Mond, Cox, F. Luis Mora, Francis Jones. He is represented in the Phillips Memorial Gallery, Whitney Museum of American Art, Columbus Gallery of Fine Arts, Museum of New Mexico, Cleveland Museum of Art. Lives in New York.

THOMAS, Byron. Pastime Bowling Alley, oil, 1939

Byron Thomas, born Baltimore, Maryland, 1902. Studied at Art Students' League. He is represented in the Art Institute of Chicago, the Herron Art Institute. He lives in New York, where he is instructor in painting at Cooper Union.