

The Museum of Modern Art

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"THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART IN THE FORTIES" ON DISPLAY

In conjunction with the major exhibition **ART OF THE FORTIES**, an installation of photographs, exhibition materials, and ephemera recalling the Museum's activities during that decade is on view in the Edward John Noble Education Center through April 30. Titled "The Museum of Modern Art in the Forties," the display was selected from the Museum's archives and library.

The Museum of Modern Art played an active role during the war years, sponsoring many of the European refugee artists, hosting social events for enlisted men, and offering art therapy to veterans. Photographs depict many prominent cultural figures of the forties, among them Charles Eames, Eero Saarinen, Ben Shahn, and Gloria Swanson, as well as the Museum's founding director Alfred H. Barr, Jr. Also included are images of a soldier relaxing in the lobby, the Marcel Breuer house installed in the Sculpture Garden, and the opening of the exhibition **NATIONAL WAR POSTERS (1942)**, which shows the Museum's windows covered with tape.

A display of Museum catalogues and invitations reveals the extraordinary scope of exhibitions presented during the decade, among them **INDIAN ART OF THE UNITED STATES (1941)**, **ORGANIC DESIGN IN HOME FURNISHINGS (1941)**, **BRITAIN AT WAR (1941)**, **JOAN MIRO/SALVADOR DALI (1942)**, and **AMERICAN REALISTS AND MAGIC REALISTS (1943)**. Also on view are copies of the member's *Bulletin*, a *Vogue* feature on the Museum (1945), and a first edition of Barr's seminal volume, *What is Modern Painting?* (1943).

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