

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART  
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FOR RELEASE SATURDAY AFTERNOON or  
 SUNDAY MORNING, MAY 3 or 4, 1941

MUSEUM OF MODERN ART TO PRESENT SECOND COFFEE  
 CONCERT--FOUR SAINTS IN THREE ACTS

The second program in the series of Coffee Concerts at the Museum of Modern Art will be a presentation in oratorio form of Four Saints in Three Acts on Wednesday, May 7 at nine P.M. The original cast, reassembled after a lapse of seven years, will appear in the Museum presentation under the direction of Virgil Thomson, the composer.

Four Saints in Three Acts, with text by Gertrude Stein, has not been heard since its original New York performance in February 1934. The opera, written and composed in 1927-28, grew out of the friendship and collaboration of Miss Stein and Mr. Thomson, who had already set some of her poems to music.

The original cast, again brought together for the present oratorio performance, includes the following principals--Edward Matthews, Beatrice Robinson Wayne, Bruce Howard, Altonell Hines, Abner Dorsey and Leonard Franklyn as well as a small chorus of eight and a larger one of twenty singers.

Four Saints in Three Acts is actually in four acts with a prologue. The leading character, St. Therese, is played by two singers, both on the stage at once, as Mr. Thomson considered the role too long for one person to sing comfortably. Composer of symphonies, string quartets and cantatas, Mr. Thomson is perhaps best known for this celebrated opera. He was born in Kansas City, educated at Harvard and, in his own words, commuted between Paris and New York from 1933 to 1940. He is now music critic of the New York Herald Tribune.

The next program in the series of informal Coffee Concerts will be the Review Iberica consisting of Spanish bagpipers, dancers, folk singers and a flamenco singer-guitarist on the following Wednesday, May 14. Succeeding programs are Jubilee, South American Panorama and Concert Swing.

Tickets for single concerts are \$1.50; tickets for the entire series are \$7.50. They may be purchased at the Museum or by mail.