

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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FOR RELEASE SATURDAY P.M. OR SUNDAY A.M.,
AUGUST 26 or 27MUSEUM OF MODERN ART ANNOUNCES NEW SCHEDULE OF EXHIBITIONSFOR 1944-45 SEASON

A very active art season with several unusual exhibitions will begin at the Museum of Modern Art, Wednesday, September 20, when Soviet Children's Art will open to the public on the third floor of the Museum to continue through November 19. American Battle Painting: 1776-1918 will go on view in the first floor galleries of the Museum September 27 and will remain through November 19. On October 25 two one-man shows will be presented simultaneously on the second floor of the Museum: retrospective exhibitions of the works of the American artists, Lyonel Feininger and the late Marsden Hartley.

In announcing the new schedule Monroe Wheeler, Director of Exhibitions for the Museum, said:

"We are glad to be able to present, in spite of the exigencies of war, a strong and varied group of exhibitions covering phases of the modern arts. As always, the Museum's program is international in scope and will survey a broad range of significant modern achievement. Our present annual attendance of more than 400,000 visitors--nearly 100,000 more than during the previous year--leaves little doubt as to the public's desire for the particular kind of instruction and enjoyment which our exhibitions provide. Exhibitions of architecture and photography will appear on the Spring schedule, to be announced later."

To make way for the new exhibitions, the Museum's fifteenth anniversary exhibition Art in Progress, which at present fills all three gallery floors, will be closed section by section. First to go will be the section now in the Young People's Gallery on the third floor. This will close September 10 and will be replaced by Soviet Children's Art. The Photography and the Dance and Theatre sections in the ground floor galleries will close September 17 to make way for American Battle Painting. October 15 the large painting and sculpture show filling all second floor galleries will be closed to clear the way for the Hartley--Feininger exhibitions. The last sections of Art in Progress to be closed will be the Industrial Design and Architecture exhibitions occupying the major portion of the third floor. These will close October 22 and will be replaced by painting and sculpture from the Museum Collection, open to the public early in November.

The schedule of exhibitions for the 1944-45 season is as

follows:

Sept. 20 - Nov. 19

SOVIET CHILDREN'S ART

This exhibition has been arranged in collaboration with the Art Committee of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Inc. It consists of approximately 100 watercolors and drawings by Soviet children ranging between the ages of 6 and 15 from the Uzbek region, particularly from Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan.

Sept. 27 - Nov. 19

AMERICAN BATTLE PAINTING: 1776-1918

Held under the auspices of the Museum's Armed Services Program, this exhibition reveals the continuing American tradition, from the Revolutionary War through World War I, of the use of artists to record war. The exhibition, planned in collaboration with the National Gallery of Art in Washington, demonstrates the overwhelming documentary value of our visual records of past wars and emphasizes the need of preserving the chronicles made by artists of the present war. For the many American artists who are now interpreting their nation's bitterest struggle, it is hoped that American Battle Painting: 1776-1918 will provide encouragement.

Oct. 11 - Nov. 5

PAINTINGS BY JACOB LAWRENCE

New paintings by this noted Negro artist made during his service in the U. S. Coast Guard will be shown with his Migration of the Negro series of 60 paintings depicting the movement of the Negro population Northward since the time of World War I.

Oct. 25 - Jan. 14

LYONEL FEININGER

This American artist was born in 1871 in New York City but went to Germany in 1887 when he was sixteen and lived there until his return to the United States in 1936. Long recognized in Europe, Feininger exhibited in many countries there and is represented in a large number of European museums and private collections. Only in recent years has his art been widely known in his own country. Now, more than thirty United States museums have acquired examples of his work. Early influenced by Cubism, Feininger developed a highly personal style which contains a strong element of Romanticism.

MARSDEN HARTLEY

Presented here in broad and inclusive retrospect, Hartley's art provides an exciting commentary on the evolution of an extremely sensitive painter under the impact of the various tendencies of 20th century art--impressionism, abstraction, and expressionism, all of which he transcended in ^{the} individual simplicity and grandeur of his later work. About 100 of his paintings will be shown, covering his work from 1911-1943.

Nov. 29 - Mar. 4

PROBLEMS OF CLOTHING

The purpose of this exhibition will be to focus impersonal attention on dress as though it were an utterly new phenomenon never before seen, and in that way bring about some realization of the fact that certain conventions, traditionally accepted as inseparable from dress and therefore never questioned, are in fact useless, impractical, irrational and harmful. A further purpose of the exhibition is to demonstrate

that dress is undergoing change due to the present war and that by understanding fundamental causes we can help to open the way to intelligent change. The exhibition is not a display of costumes and it does not offer specific dress reforms.

Dec. 6 - Jan. 7

CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY CIRCUS

As given last year, the Circus will again be devoted to young children between the ages of 4 and 10. It will combine a play area where children will find mechanical toys by modern artists, animated cartoons, modern paintings, sculpture and color prints of particular appeal to young people, and a work area where they themselves, inspired and stimulated by the objects in the play section, may model in clay, paint pictures, or make their own modern toys, collages and abstractions from materials provided.

Jan. 24 - Apr. 15

GEORGES ROUAULT

The largest retrospective of the work of Georges Rouault ever held in this country, the exhibition will contain roughly 75 works in oil, gouache and watercolor as well as a large section of prints. All the periods of the painter's work will be represented, from his beginnings as a student in Gustave Moreau's studio in the 1890s to his very recent years. Almost certainly the greatest religious painter of the 20th century, Rouault has painted with a mystic conviction and intensity, for the most part drawing his subject matter from the Old and New Testaments. He has also painted circus, ballet and theatre figures.

Mar. 14 - May 13

PIET MONDRIAN

This retrospective memorial exhibition for the Dutch artist who was the leading painter of the de Stijl group in Holland will include 60 to 70 oils and drawings and will cover the period from 1903 until the painter's death in New York in February 1944. Mondrian, who was born near Amsterdam, Holland, seventy-one years ago, spent many years in Paris and became the originator of neo-plasticism. He has had an enormous influence on modern architecture, typography and layout design.

Apr. 25 - June 3

MODERN AMERICAN CRAFTSMANSHIP

This exhibition will show traditional crafts work, such as hand-woven rugs, pottery, as well as examples of modern industrial craftsmanship, including precision tools and models for machine production. It will demonstrate the fact that craftsmanship is present in almost every object we use and that within the skilled mechanic is hidden the master craftsman.

In addition to the exhibitions listed above, the Museum will hold a few smaller shows which will be announced later. Most of the exhibitions held at the Museum will be sent on tour throughout the country by the Museum's Department of Circulating Exhibitions.