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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Date 2/18/53

To: Alfred Barr

Re: Tues. 5 p.m. appointment
Voice of America

From: Betty Chamberlain

Dear Alfred,

Edna Campbell of Voice of America will interview you on Tuesday, Feb. 24 at 5 p.m. It will be a 15-minute tape-recording.

Following is briefly what I outlined to the Voice as to subjects to discuss in addition to the Permanent Collection policy/

10 British works are among the new acquisitions: sculpture and some painting and drawing. The importance of our post-1930 collection of British works: more good Henry Moores than the Tate Gallery. The importance of the British Pavilion at the Biennale, where a number of these purchases were made. Weakness, however, in Australian & Canadian collection, in Museum.

Your trip to England Mar. 3: International Sculpture Competition. Perhaps mention of Mrs. Casey as fellow juror. (I said I believed you knew her personally). (R.C.)

Sir Herbert Read

If you outline whatever you want to talk about in brief form to Miss Campbell, I'm sure she will ask you questions that will give good leads. However, she will also be glad to have you give her questions. Also if she suggests a question you do not like or wish to revise, that is perfectly o.k. too.

Betty

John + Fred Wallace

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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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Advance Announcement
Full release and checklist
available at press preview

FOR RELEASE: WEDNESDAY
February 11
(instead of Feb. 4 as previously announced)

PRESS PREVIEW: TUESDAY
February 10, 2-5 p.m.

LARGE GROUP OF PAINTINGS AND SCULPTURES

RECENTLY ACQUIRED BY THE MUSEUM

Paintings and sculptures by 30 American and European artists are new acquisitions for the Museum Collection to be exhibited in the third floor galleries of the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, from February 11 through March 15. The selection includes important individual items as well as interesting groups of works from England and Italy, some by younger artists practically unknown in this country.

Picasso: "Three Women at the Spring" is a major gift to the Museum. It is one of the largest and most important of his neo-classic compositions.

Gonzalez: "Woman Combing Her Hair" is perhaps the finest work by the late Spanish sculptor, whose reputation and influence have risen so rapidly since the war.

Brancusi: "Mlle. Pogany" is possibly the most famous portrait bust of the 20th century. This bronze is the original cast of the first version of about a dozen existing portraits of Mlle. Pogany executed in various media by Brancusi.

Stuart Davis: "Visa" and Edwin Dickinson: "Composition with Still Life" are the most important American paintings in the exhibition.

Naum Gabo: Two 3-dimensional scale models for constructions are included. These were designed for the Esso Building in Radio City, but were never executed for reasons of expense.

From England come several sculptures; three are very recent ones by artists who are little known in the U.S.: Kenneth Armitage, Lynn Chadwick and Reg Butler. Italian works in the exhibition are also by newcomers here. Of particular interest is a small stone relief, classic in technique, by Alberto Sani, a Tuscan peasant who depicts scenes from his daily life. Another relatively unknown Italian artist, Luciano Minguzzi, is represented by an unusually interesting bronze.

A number of the works acquired were purchased at the Biennale in Venice last summer and have just arrived in this country. Four paintings have been presented to the Museum by Mrs. Peggy Guggenheim out of her collection. These and the numerous other works to be shown will be more completely described in a press release to be available at the Museum on Tuesday, February 10.