

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

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RECENT DRAWINGS U.S.A. ON VIEW AT MUSEUM

RECENT DRAWINGS U.S.A. an exhibition of 150 works selected from over 5,000 submitted by artists in all parts of the nation, will be on view at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, from April 25 through August 5 under the sponsorship of the Museum's Junior Council. All drawings are for sale, priced from \$10 to \$550, but with two-thirds at less than \$100. The majority of the artists are under 35 years of age and 43 have never had an opportunity to show in New York City before.

Artists from 27 states, Washington D.C. and Hawaii are presented in the exhibition selected for the Museum by William S. Lieberman, Curator of Prints. Drawings in charcoal, ink, pencil, silverpoint, conté crayon, watercolor, gouache and chalk include not only a great variety of media but also a great variety of styles.

"The purpose of the exhibition," says Mrs. E. Powis Jones, Junior Council Chairman of the Exhibitions Committee, "was to encourage new talent and demonstrate recent directions in American drawing. The large number of entries, which came from almost every state, and the fact that almost half the artists in the show were unknown to the Museum, is extremely gratifying."

Because of nation-wide interest in the exhibition plans are being made to circulate the show throughout the country after it closes at the Museum.

Although most of the artists were born in the 20's they range in age from Benjamin Kopman, well-known artist who is 69, to Emilie Forsyth, 22, a teacher from Binghamton, New York. New York State leads in the number of artists represented, followed by California, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Illinois and Pennsylvania.

Among well-known artists whose work is shown are Josef Albers, Leonard Baskin, Herbert Bayer, René Bouché, Edward Corbett, Adolf Dehn, Calvin Albert, Gabor Peterdi, Reuben Tam, Morris Graves, John Hultberg, Henry Koerner, Rico Lebrun, Leo Lionni, Larry Rivers, and Louis Schanker.

Those being shown for the first time in New York City include: Albert Alcalay (Massachusetts), Harold Altman (North Carolina), Walter Askin (California), William C. Asman (New Jersey), Neil Barrett (Illinois), Gerald G. Boyce (Indiana), J. Burgess (New York), William Clutz (New York), Wolcott Ely (New Mexico), Robert Eshoo (Massachusetts), Idelle L. Feinberg (California), Harvey Sherman Harris (Kentucky), Ida Haubold (New York), Betty Holliday (New York), Ellsworth Kelly (New York), Jak Kovatch (California), J. Levee (California), Dolores McFarlane (New York), Caryl Zemek McHarney (New Mexico), Ivan Majdrakoff (California), Gregory Masurovsky (New York), John B. Nevin (Arizona), George D. O'Connell (New York), Robert H. Phipps

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(Vermont), H. Douglas Pickering (Pennsylvania), Louis Tashe Popcheff (Indiana), Kempert Quabius (Wisconsin), John Roy (Massachusetts), Irene Y. Siegel (Illinois), Sewell Sillman (Connecticut), Herb Simon (New York), Robert Lee Skaggs (Illinois), V. Douglas Snow (Utah), Robert F. Sullivan (New York), Albert Vesciunas (New York), Tom Vincent (New York), Richard Wagner (New Hampshire), James Walsh (Rhode Island), Jack Zajac (California), Richard Claude Ziemann (Connecticut), Zeke Ziner (Illinois).

A variety of subject matter reflects a variety of styles: landscapes from Cape Cod to Monaco; still lifes; industrial scenes; illustrations for the Bible, Stendhal and Melville; interiors; boats; scenes of war; abstractions; animals real and imaginary; Times Square and the Seattle Market; subjects somber, amusing and naive.

Among drawings of people in the exhibition are portraits of men by Phil Bard, William Brice, Irma Cavat, Noel Davis and Cornelis Ruhtenberg; a portrait of Frederic Kiesler, the well-known architect, by René Bouché; "Napoleon as a Young Man," by Robert Andrew Parker and "Neapolitan Singer," by George Ratkai. Other portraits include "Girl with Coke," by Henry Koerner, "Family Portrait," by Larry Rivers, "Silver Anniversary," by Maurice Sievan, "Mother," by Zeke Ziner and Helen Rennie's "Dame Edith Sitwell Reading from Facade."

Landscapes, another popular subject in the show, include such diverse drawings as John Hultberg's "Industrial Landscape"; a drawing of Monaco by William Kamys; Jules Kirschenbaum's serene "Cape Cod Landscape"; the highly stylized "The Jersey Side" by Schilli Maier, and Varujan Boghosian's "Village in a Storm"; Rudy Pozzatti's and Jason Berger's stark views of a quarry and a forest; and V. Douglas Snow's expressionist "Mummy Cliffs, Utah."

A constellation of miniature drawings, the smallest measuring only 5 x 3" are clustered together in the exhibition. These include the silverpoint "Three Americans," by Bob Burkert, Dorothy Cantor's pencil "Descent," a water color by William Clutz called "Little Boy Watching," an ink drawing by J.B. Dobbs, "Sunday: Germany," Irving Epstein's "Window Ledge," Jane Freilicher's "Coney Island" and Kempert Quabius' "Alchemist's Ingredient."

Among the abstract drawings in the exhibition are Herbert Bayer's "Variation B of Variations on a Source of Light," untitled drawings by Carmen L. Cicero and Harold Krisel, a soft charcoal by Edward Corbett, ink drawings by Paul Jenkins and Vincent Longo called "Whisper" and "Visitation." Three abstract artists in the show are from the west coast: John Paul Jones, J. Levee and Bernard Rosenthal.

Another group of drawings is characterized by wit, sophistication or, in some instances, a self-taught or deliberately primitive style. These include William E.

Krallman's "The Seeker," "Animals," a complacent two-headed elephant by Robert Leydenfrost, and William C. Asman's "Reclining Figure" that recalls Byzantine art.

Although the majority of the artists list their main occupation as painter or sculptor or work in an allied field such as book illustration, design or teaching, others list such diverse occupations as New York taxi driver, mimeograph operator, New York Telephone Company, singer, bricklayer, X-ray technician and businessman. One artist is a guard at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, another an Assistant Gallery Director of the University of Minnesota.

Four of the artists in the show are sculptors: Calvin Albert, Leonard Baskin, Jason Berger and Bernard Rosenthal. Two of the artists, Ellsworth Kelly and J. Levee have exhibited extensively in Europe although not in New York. Four of the artists are on the faculty at Yale University in the Department of Design: Josef Albers, Bernard Chaet, Sewell Sillman and Gabor Peterdi. Joseph Crivy, John Roy and Richard Ziemann, three Yale University students, and Sheilagh Coulter, a 1954 alumna also have drawings in the show.

Announcements of the show, sent to art schools, galleries, museums and colleges and released through the press last spring, resulted in the unprecedented number of more than 5,000 drawings by 1,700 artists being received by the Junior Council. Each artist could submit from one to three drawings and all drawings not included have been returned to the artists at the Junior Council's expense.

The Junior Council of the Museum is a group of young friends, under the Chairmanship of Mrs. Donald B. Straus, who operate and sponsor such activities as the Art Lending Service, film programs and special auditorium events connected with the Museum's program. This is the second exhibition of a nation-wide scope they have sponsored.

Members of the Junior Council Drawing Show Committee are:

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Photographs, biographical material, catalogues and additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York City, Circle 5-8900.