

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TWELVE AMERICANS, edited by Dorothy C. Miller, with statements by the artists. 95 pages; 95 plates, 8 in color. Published by the Museum of Modern Art. Distributed by Simon & Schuster. Price: \$3.50.

TWELVE AMERICANS, edited by Dorothy C. Miller, Curator of Collections at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, has been published by the Museum to accompany a major exhibition of the same name, on view from May 30 through September 9.

The book contains photographs, biographical information and statements by or about eight painters, Ernest Briggs, James Brooks, Sam Francis, Fritz Glarner, Philip Guston, Grace Hartigan, Franz Kline and Larry Rivers, and four sculptors, Raoul Hague, Ibram Lassaw, Seymour Lipton and Jose de Rivera.

As Miss Miller says in her foreword, "the twelve painters and sculptors presented here cover a wide range in age, in geographical origin, and in degree of fame. Four are in their early thirties, three in their forties, five in their fifties. They were born in California, Louisiana, Missouri, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania; and in Canada, Egypt, Switzerland and Turkey. Only two are native New Yorkers, but it was in New York that all, except one, found maturity in their development as artists."

The exhibition, "Twelve Americans," is the latest in a series of shows of contemporary American art presented by the Museum since it was founded in 1929. It is not intended as a new talent show, nor is it selected to illustrate trends. Rather, the exhibition, and the accompanying catalog, is planned for the Museum's public, especially the thousands of out-of-town visitors who may not have had an opportunity to see a carefully selected group of recent works by these men and women.

Mr. Stuart Preston of the New York Times made the following statements in an article on June 3, 1956:

A spectacular variety of up-to-the-minute personal statements is offered in the Museum of Modern Art's current exhibition, "Twelve Americans"...most of whom are uncompromisingly non-figurative. That is, shape, color and vital skeleton of design seem wholly invented and not derived from nature.

Individually they (the artists) are extremely able, both as "inventors" and as manipulators of medium. Together they extend the frontiers of art by offering new conventions in the place of those smashed along the retreat from realism that has been the outstanding event of twentieth century art.

Review copies and photographs available from Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, New York, N. Y. Circle 5-8900, Ext. 203.