

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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AMERICAN PAINTER AWARDED PRIZE AT INTERNATIONAL SHOW IN JAPAN

Sam Francis, young American painter, is winner of one of the five prizes awarded to non-Japanese artists at the Fourth International Art Exhibition of Japan, according to word from Tokyo received by the Museum of Modern Art in New York, organizer of the U. S. section of the exhibition. The winning paintings were selected by a jury of 11 leading Japanese art critics. Mr. Francis received an award presented by the Mainichi Newspapers, which with the cooperation of the Foreign Ministry of Japan is sponsor of the exhibition.

The exhibition in which 14 countries are participating was on view at the Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum until June 15 and will be shown in seven additional Japanese cities during the summer and fall.

Sam Francis was born in San Mateo, California in 1923 and studied at the University of California in Berkeley and at the California School of Fine Arts in San Francisco. He now lives in Paris, where he had his first one-man show in 1952. Seven of his works were included in the exhibition TWELVE AMERICANS held at the Museum of Modern Art in 1956, among them the prize-winning Black in Red, a large painting acquired by the Museum Collections in 1955.

Other prize-winners at the Fourth International Art Exhibition are Graham Sutherland (Britain), Pierre Soulages (France), Fritz Winter (Germany) and Anton Lehmden (Austria).

The U. S. representation consists of 15 recent paintings by young artists and at the invitation of the sponsors of the exhibition was organized by the International Program of the Museum of Modern Art, under the direction of Porter A. McCray. Frank O'Hara, exhibitions specialist on the staff of the International Program, selected the paintings for the exhibition.

Note: A full release announcing the U. S. representation in this International Art Exhibition was issued May 9.

Additional information and photographs are available from Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, Circle 5-8900.