

# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

No. 96  
For Release  
Sunday, August 27, 1961

Twelve stained glass windows designed by Marc Chagall for the new Hadassah Hebrew University Medical Center near Jerusalem will be shown at the Museum of Modern Art from November 21 through January 7. The exhibition is sponsored by Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, which commissioned the works of art.

The windows, representing the twelve tribes of Israel, are based on the Old Testament as interpreted by Chagall after years of study. They are executed in four dominant colors--green, red, yellow and blue--with three windows in each color. Each measures more than 11 x 8 feet. Animals, fish, flowers and trees are used as symbols in keeping with the Jewish religion's injunction against human images in synagogues.

Maquettes for the windows will also be shown as well as photographs of the synagogue where they will be permanently installed in 1962 after the New York showing. The Medical Center, for which Hadassah is raising funds, opened June 6, 1961.

The windows will be placed in the Museum's main stairwell where some can be seen from below as they will be in the synagogue. This installation enables the Museum to show all twelve windows; originally only four were to be shown due to the lack of space.

Chagall painted the designs for the windows at his studio in Vence. The windows were made at the famous atelier of Jacques Simon in Reims. There Chagall worked in close collaboration with Charles and Brigitte Simon Marq who used a new process which enabled him to work in as many as three colors on a single piece of glass. Mr. Marq will come to New York to set up the windows which will arrive in late October.

Chagall has achieved magnificent jewel-like colors, according to Peter Selz, Curator of the Museum's Department of Painting and Sculpture Exhibitions, who believes the windows are among the finest work done in stained glass since medieval times. They have been enthusiastically received in Paris where they are currently on view in a specially constructed pavillion in the Tuilleries.

---

Photographs and color transparencies are available from Nancy Reed, Assistant Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York City. CI5-8900.