

# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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Is There a "New" Figure Painting? will be the subject of a symposium at the Museum of Modern Art on Thursday, May 24, at 8:30 p.m. The program is planned in connection with the Museum's summer exhibition, Recent Painting U.S.A.: The Figure, opening May 23. Speakers are George Cohen, Jacob Landau and Richard Lindner, painters represented in the exhibition; Ad Reinhardt, abstract painter; and Harold Rosenberg, critic. William C. Seitz, Associate Curator of Painting and Sculpture Exhibitions, is moderator. Tickets for the symposium, \$2.25 for Museum members, \$3.00 for non-members, include admission to Museum galleries, open Thursday evenings until 10. Dinner and refreshments are available.

"Today, any exhibition of figure painting raises some old issues in a new context," Mr. Seitz commented on the symposium. "Abstract art has existed for about fifty years, but the human body has been depicted for more than five thousand. Contemporary figure painting has developed between the poles of abstraction and tradition. To some abstract artists, representation of the figure seems outdated, and confirmed traditionalists claim that all abstract painting is 'antihumanistic.' Between these positions lies a great deal of the best modern art. During the last ten years the question of a 'new' figure painting or a 'return to the figure' has been raised repeatedly, as it will be again because of the present exhibition. The panel will discuss this and related questions in the light of recent painting, criticism, and their own ideas."

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Further information available from Herbert Bronstein, Associate Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, N. Y. Circle 5-8900.