

The Museum of Modern Art

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PORTRAIT OF PICASSO by Roland Penrose. 128 pages; 330 illustrations (6 in color); clothbound \$8.95; paperbound \$4.95. Published by The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Clothbound edition distributed to the trade by New York Graphic Society Ltd. in the United States and Canada; ~~Transatlantic Book Service Ltd. in the United Kingdom; and Baffar and Simons internationally.~~

Pablo Picasso's 90th birthday on October 25 is being celebrated all over the world in books, exhibitions, on television and radio programs. The artist himself has not indicated that he will make any public statement, and perhaps the nearest thing to a personal appearance on the occasion of his birthday is the publication by The Museum of Modern Art of PORTRAIT OF PICASSO, a warm and affectionate visual record of the artist's life through a collection of portraits, sketches, photographs and documents that illuminate him as creator and man.

The Museum will pay further tribute to the great 20th-century master by presenting an exhibition of Picasso's paintings, sculpture, prints and drawings in the Museum Collection -- from the first Picasso picture, given in 1930, a year after the Museum was founded, to the Cubist sculpture Guitar, given by the artist in 1971. PICASSO IN THE COLLECTION OF THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART, directed by William S. Rubin, Chief Curator of the Painting and Sculpture Collection, will be on view from February through April, 1972. At the same time the Museum will publish a book on the works in the show, which constitutes the largest, most important public collection of Picasso's work in the world and includes such masterworks as Les Demoiselles d'Avignon, Three Musicians, Girl before a Mirror, and Guitar.

PORTRAIT OF PICASSO by Roland Penrose, an intimate friend and biographer of the artist for many years, serves as a revealing background against which it becomes easier to understand both the revolutionary changes that have taken place periodically and the less obvious stream of continuity that runs persistently through his work.

(more)

Among the more than 300 illustrations are photographs of his family and birthplace in Spain, photographs of the artist from age four to the present, his houses, his friends, his wives and companions, as well as reproductions of sketches and paintings of him by other artists and his own interpretations of his friends.

Roland Penrose, who wrote an earlier edition of this book when Picasso celebrated his 75th birthday, is Chairman of the Institute of Contemporary Arts in London and is a painter, poet, essayist and adventurous collector of modern art. His other books include the standard biography Picasso: His Life and Work and The Sculpture of Picasso.

Completely revised and updated, this new edition of PORTRAIT OF PICASSO contains more than 100 new illustrations (4 additional color plates) and is 32 pages longer than the original edition published in 1957. Several new chapters dealing with Picasso's life and work during the last 15 years ("Vauvenargues and Notre Dame de Vie," "Catalonia," "Monumental Sculpture," and "Picasso at Ninety") have been added.

PORTRAIT OF PICASSO, published on October 25, is available in a clothbound edition (\$8.95) and a paperbound edition (\$4.95) at the Museum bookstore or by mail. The clothbound edition is distributed to the trade by New York Graphic Society, Ltd., Greenwich, Conn.

Additional information and review copies available from Diana Goldin, Coordinator of Press Services, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 W. 53 St., New York, NY 10019. Phone: (212) 956-7297.
