

The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Tel. 956-6100 Cable: Modernart

NO. 55
FOR RELEASE:
July 22, 1977

133

DRAWINGS BY EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN

EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN, a selection of drawings recently acquired by The Museum of Modern Art, will be on view from July 22 through September 20. The second in a series of three exhibitions devoted to drawings acquired during the past year, this installation follows EXTRAORDINARY MEN, shown earlier in the summer.

EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN presents 19 works by 15 artists and ranges in date from Suzanne Valadon's The Children's Bath of 1910 to drawings of the 1970s by five American artists -- Blyth Bohnen, Sonia Gechtoff, Edda Renouf, Dorothea Rockburne, and Susan Rothenberg.

Sophie Taeuber-Arp, who was associated with the Dada movement from its inception in Zurich, is represented by a sketch for a marionette in the play King Stag, produced in 1918. Other theatre designs include a drawing by Sonia Delaunay related to the 1923 Dada production The Heart Operated by Gas, Sonia Gontcharova's watercolor for Diaghilev's unrealised Liturgy, and Alexandra Exter's gouache and pencil costume design for the 1924 Soviet film Aelita, an interplanetary fantasy which in several ways anticipates Star Wars.

Another Russian artist, Lyubov Popova, who was associated with Tatlin, is represented by an early constructivist collage composed in Moscow in the winter of 1916-17. The two Germans, Jeanne Mammen and Hannah Höch worked in Berlin. Mammen, a contemporary of Otto Dix and George Grosz, describes a Berlin bar of the '20s; Höch, like Taeuber-Arp and Exter, depicts man as a machine.

The other Americans represented in the exhibition are Lee Krasner and Mary Petty: Krasner by a sketch in oil drawn in 1938; Petty by two water-colors that were commissioned as covers for The New Yorker magazine.

(more)

In late September, a third exhibition of recent acquisitions, AMERICAN DRAWN AND MATCHED -- American drawings acquired with matching funds from the National Endowment for the Arts -- will be presented. All three exhibitions have been selected and installed by William S. Lieberman, Director of the Museum's Department of Drawings.

The Museum of Modern Art gratefully acknowledges the support of its exhibition program by the New York State Council on the Arts.

Photographs and additional information available from Linda Gordon, Associate Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 W. 53 Street, New York, New York 10019. Tel: (212) 956-2648.
