

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL AT THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N.Y. TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

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No. 2

THE NEW AMERICAN PAINTING, LARGE EXHIBITION, LEAVES FOR YEAR-LONG EUROPEAN TOUR UNDER AUSPICES OF INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL AT MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

The first comprehensive exhibition to be sent to Europe of advanced tendencies in American painting will start a year-long tour this month under the auspices of the International Council at the Museum of Modern Art. Entitled The New American Painting, the show, selected from public and private collections by Dorothy C. Miller, Curator of Museum Collections, consists of four to five pictures by each of 17 artists. It will open at the Kunsthalle in Basel on April 19 where it will be seen concurrently with a one-man show of paintings by Jackson Pollock, also being circulated under the Council's sponsorship. Organized in response to numerous requests by the Museum's International Program, under the direction of Porter A. McCray, the exhibition will be shown later in Milan and then in other major cities including Berlin, Brussels, Paris and London.

The 17 painters represented in the exhibition are William Baziotes, James Brooks, Sam Francis, Arshile Gorky, Adolph Gottlieb, Philip Guston, Grace Hartigan, Franz Kline, Willem de Kooning, Robert Motherwell, Barnett Newman, Jackson Pollock, Mark Rothko, Theodoros Stamos, Clyfford Still, Bradley Walker Tomlin and Jack Tworkov.

Although these artists have been associated with the movement generally called Abstract Expressionism, according to Alfred H. Barr, Jr., Director of Museum Collections, who has written the introduction for the exhibition catalog, they dislike labels and shun the words "movement" and "school." "None speaks for the others any more than he paints for the others. Their individualism is uncompromising and as a matter of principle they do nothing deliberately in their work to make 'communication' easy.

"Yet in spite of their conscientious intransigence, their following increases rapidly. The paintings themselves have a sensuous, emotional, esthetic and at times mystical power which works and can be overwhelming. The movement can be said to have flourished in its maturity since about 1948, roughly the starting point of this show, and is now dominant throughout the United States. For a dozen years the paintings of some of its leaders have been shown abroad, first in Europe, then in Latin America and the Orient. They have been met with controversy but also with enthusiasm, thanks in part to artists working along similar lines and to other champions."

Mrs. Bliss Parkinson, President of the International Council at the Museum, stated that the show was organized in response to repeated requests from institutions in Europe. Announcement of plans for the exhibition was made at an informal showing

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on Monday, March 10, at the Seven Santini Brothers warehouse, 447 West 49 Street, where the exhibition is being packed for shipment.

At the warehouse paintings by each of the artists were on view along with the specially built shipping cases constructed for the tour. Members of the International Council, the artists and lenders were present.

Lenders to the exhibition include: Richard Brown Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bareiss, Dr. and Mrs. Edgar Berman, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Blinken, Mr. and Mrs. William A. M. Burden, Mr. and Mrs. William Calfee, Mrs. Leo Castelli, John Cuddihy, Mr. and Mrs. I. Donald Grossman, Sam Francis, Adolph Gottlieb, Mr. and Mrs. Clement Greenberg, / Mr. and Mrs. Ben Heller, Philip C. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Boris Leavitt, Mrs. H. Gates Lloyd, Mr. and Mrs. Roy R. Neuberger, Mrs. Bliss Parkinson, Mrs. Betty Parsons, Mr. and Mrs. George Poindexter, Lee Krasner Pollock, E. J. Power (London), Mr. and Mrs. Paul Rankine, Mrs. Sherman J. Sexton, Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, 3rd, Nelson A. Rockefeller, / Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sills, Tom Slick, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Smith, Dr. and Mrs. Frank Stanton, Mr. and Mrs. John Stephan. Other lenders are the André Emmerich Gallery, Martha Jackson Gallery, Sidney Janis Gallery, Betty Parsons Gallery and Stable Gallery, the Minneapolis Institute of Art (Bigelow Fund) and the Philadelphia Museum of Art (Samuel S. Fleisher Art Memorial). The seventeen paintings from the collection of the Museum of Modern Art which are included were acquired through funds provided by A. Conger Goodyear, Mrs. Louise Smith and Blanchette Rockefeller and as gifts from Philip C. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel M. Kootz, Mrs. Bliss Parkinson, Mr. and Mrs. David Rockefeller and Mr. and Mrs. David M. Solinger.

For additional information please contact Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, ---
Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York. CI 5-8900

" THE NEW AMERICAN PAINTING "

PRELIMINARY CHECKLIST AS OF MARCH 10, 1958

(Note: A complete checklist of the exhibition will be available on or before April 19)

William BAZIOTES

Dwarf 1947

Lent by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York (A. Conger Goodyear Fund)

Primeval Landscape 1953

Lent by the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
(Samuel S. Fleisher Art Memorial)

Pompeii 1955

Lent by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York (Mrs. Louise Smith Fund)

Red Landscape 1956

Lent by the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis, Minnesota (Bigelow Fund)

Whirlwind 1957

Lent by Tom Slick, San Antonio, Texas

James BROOKS

R 1953

Lent by Stable Gallery, New York, New York

Qualm 1954

Lent by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York (Gift of Mrs. Bliss Parkinson)

Jackson 1956

Lent by Nelson A. Rockefeller, New York, New York

Karrig 1956

Lent by Stable Gallery, New York, New York

Bixby 1958

Lent by Stable Gallery, New York, New York

Sam FRANCIS

Big Red 1953

Lent by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York
(Gift of Mr. and Mrs. David Rockefeller)

Black in Red 1953

Lent by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York (Blanchette Rockefeller Fund)

Blue and Black 1954

Lent by E. J. Power, London, England

Arcueil 1956

Lent by Martha Jackson Gallery, New York, New York

Arshile GORKY

Diary of a Seducer 1945

Lent by Mr. and Mrs. William A. M. Burden, New York, New York

The Calendars 1946-47

Lent by Nelson A. Rockefeller, New York, New York

Agony 1947

Lent by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York (A. Conger Goodyear Fund)

Dark Green Painting c. 1947

Lent by Mrs. H. Gates Lloyd, Haverford, Pennsylvania

The Limit 1947

Lent by Sidney Janis Gallery, New York, New York

Soft Night 1947

Lent by Mr. and Mrs. John Stephan, Greenwich, Connecticut

Adolph GOTTLIEB

Tournament 1951

Lent by the artist, New York, New York

Black, Blue, Red 1956

Lent by the artist, New York, New York

Red at Night 1956

Lent by the artist, New York, New York

Side Pull 1956

Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Clement Greenberg, New York, New York

Burst 1957

Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Ben Heller, New York

Philip GUSTON

Painting 1954

Lent by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York (Gift of Philip C. Johnson)

Beggar's Joys 1954-55

Lent by Boris and Sophie Leavitt, Lana Lobell, Hanover, Pennsylvania

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The Room 1945-55

Lent by Mrs. Leo Castelli, New York, New York

The Clock 1957

Lent by Mrs. Sherman J. Sexton, Chicago, Illinois

The Mirror 1957

Lent by Mrs. Bliss Parkinson, New York, New York

Grace HARTIGAN

River Bathers 1953

Lent by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York (Given anonymously)

City Life 1956

Lent by Nelson A. Rockefeller, New York, New York

Essex Market 1956

Lent by Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd, New York, New York

Herior - The Creeks 1957

Lent by Philip C. Johnson, New Canaan, Connecticut

Franz KLINE

Cardinal 1950

Lent by Mr. and Mrs. George Poindexter, New York, New York

Chief 1950

Lent by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York
(Gift of Mr. and Mrs. David M. Solinger)

Accent Grave 1955

Lent by Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd, New York, New York

Wanamaker Block 1955

Lent by Richard Brown Baker, New York, New York

Garcia 1957

Lent by Sidney Janis Gallery, New York, New York

Willem de KOONING

Painting 1948

Lent by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York (Purchase)

Woman I 1950-52

Lent by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York (Purchase)

Woman II 1952

Lent by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York
(Gift of Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd)

Police Gazette 1955

Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bareiss, Greenwich, Connecticut

February 1957

Lent by Dr. and Mrs. Edgar Berman, Baltimore, Maryland

Robert MOTHERWELL

Personage with Yellow Ochre and White 1947

Lent by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York
(Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel M. Kootz)

Fishes with Red Stripe 1954

Lent by John M. Cuddihy, New York, New York

Je t'aime, Number III, With Loaf of Bread 1955

Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Clement Greenberg, New York, New York

Jour la maison, nuit la rue 1957

Lent by Sidney Janis Gallery, New York, New York

Elegy to the Spanish Republic XXXV 1954-58

Lent by Sidney Janis Gallery, New York, New York

Barnett NEWMAN

Abraham 1949

Lent by Betty Parsons Gallery, New York, New York

Concord 1949

Lent by Mrs. Betty Parsons, New York, New York

Horizon Light 1949

Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sills, New York, New York

Adam 1950 - 51

Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Ben Heller, New York, New York

Jackson POLLOCK

Number 8 1949

Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Roy R. Neuberger, New York, New York

Number 26 1951

Lent by Lee Krasner Pollock, Springs, Long Island, New York

Number 27 1951

Lent by Lee Krasner Pollock, Springs, Long Island, New York

Number 12 1952

Lent by Nelson A. Rockefeller, New York, New York

Mark ROTHKO

Number 10 1950

Lent by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York (Gift of Philip C. Johnson)

Number 7 1951

Lent by Mrs. Betty Parsons, New York, New York

Earth and Green 1954

Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Ben Heller, New York, New York

The Black and the White 1956

Lent by Dr. and Mrs. Frank Stanton, New York, New York

Tan and Black on Red 1957

Lent by Mr. and Mrs. I. Donald Grossman, New York, New York

Theodoros STAMOS

Red Sea Terrace, Number 1 1952

Lent by André Emmerich Gallery, New York, New York

Heart of Willow--Sun 1957

Lent by André Emmerich Gallery, New York, New York

High Snow, Low Sun, Number 3 1957

Lent by André Emmerich Gallery, New York, New York

White Field, Number 2 1957

Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Paul Rankine, Bethesda, Maryland

Sun Games, Number 2 1958

Lent by André Emmerich Gallery, New York, New York

Clyfford STILL

Number 2 1949

Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Ben Heller, New York, New York

Number 3 1951

Lent by Mrs. Betty Parsons, New York, New York

Number 5 1951

Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Smith, South Orange, New Jersey

Painting 1951

Lent by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York
(Blanchette Rockefeller Fund)

Bradley Walker TOMLIN

All Soul's Night 1948

Lent by Betty Parsons Gallery, New York, New York

Number 20 1949

Lent by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York (Gift of Philip C. Johnson)

Number 9: In Praise of Gertrude Stein 1950

Lent by The Museum of Modern Art, New York, New York
(Gift of Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd)

Number 18 1950

Lent by Nelson A. Rockefeller, New York, New York

Number 15 1953

Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Ben Heller, New York, New York

Jack TWORKOV

Prophet 1955

Lent by Stable Gallery, New York, New York

Water Game 1955

Lent by Stable Gallery, New York, New York

Blue Cradle 1956

Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Donald M. Blinken, New York, New York

Cradle 1956

Lent by Mr. and Mrs. William Calfee, Washington, D. C.

Transverse 1957-58

Lent by Mr. and Mrs. Ben Heller, New York, New York