

BEGINNING

EXHIBITION 173

CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL OF MODERN ART

MAR. 11 - MAY 10, 1942

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL OF MODERN ART AT MUSEUM OF MODERN ART  
ADMITS ADULTS ONLY WHEN ACCOMPANIED BY A CHILD

Children from three to twelve painting, fitting together jigsaw puzzles cut from modern color reproductions, constructing abstract compositions from odd-shaped pieces of brightly painted wood and cardboard, using saw, hammer, nails and varied materials to build constructions--surround these children with paintings by modern masters on the walls, Calder mobiles hung from the ceiling, and a narrow runway at the back where modern nursery animals run riot, and you have the Children's Art Festival at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street. The Festival opens to the public Wednesday, March 11--that is, to the child public. No adults will be admitted unless accompanied by a child.

The Festival, which will continue through April 26, is installed in the Young People's Gallery on the third floor of the Museum. It is the first extensive exhibition that the Museum's Educational Project, under the direction of Victor E. D'Amico, has arranged especially for young children in a gallery built to the scale of children three-to-twelve-years of age. Pictures are hung at child's eye level, and equipment is especially designed to suit their comfort and size.

The Festival is a gala combination of pictures, sculpture, toys and games gathered together to delight little folk and to encourage their interest in modern art. The play area in the center of the gallery is divided into two sections, one for children from three to six, the other for children from seven to twelve. A gate made in the contour of a child admits only those of each age level to their respective sections.

When the children raise their eyes from their own painting, toys and the art puzzles and abstractions they are putting together, they see original works by masters of modern art such as Renoir, Cassatt, Chagall, Klee, Zorach and others. When the very youngest children want to change from their own artistic efforts they

asily recognized bull, fish, duck, bear and other animals designed by Alexander Calder. The wooden fish swims on dry land, the duck waddles as it waddles, the bear skates as he pushes a wobbling wheelbarrow, and the bull gallops in a somewhat equine fashion.

Other folk art toys are a balancing toy that may be set in motion and a horse and rider which at a touch canters back and forth for several minutes.

The object of the exhibition is to introduce children to modern art through observation and activity. Some of the jig-saw puzzles are made of color prints of the original paintings on the wall. The special games for making abstract designs involve principles underlying the works of the modern artists shown in the gallery. Other games include shapes made of varying materials which produce tactile experience. Still others include three-dimensional forms for making stabiles or mobiles. The staff of the Educational Project has originated many of the games and puzzles used in the Festival.

The following paintings are included in the exhibition:

GAUGUIN, Paul. <u>Mountains, Table, Anchors, Navel</u>	MONDRIAN, Piet. <u>Composition in White, Black and Red</u>
BAUCHANT, André. <u>Dawn</u>	REDON, Odilon. <u>Vase of Flowers</u>
SIMBOIS, Camille. <u>Before Entering the Ring</u>	RENOIR, Auguste. <u>Child Drawing</u>
ASSATT, Mary. <u>Mother and Child</u>	" " <u>Little Margot Berard</u>
MACALL, Marc. <u>I and the Village</u>	
CHARLOT, Jean. <u>Mama Spank</u>	
LEE, Paul. <u>Around the Fish</u>	

Other works are a cat sculptured in stone by William Zorach; several mobiles by Alexander Calder. Mr. Calder, in addition, is the designer of the wooden toys shown in the Festival. The American folk art shown includes The Balancing Toy, Horse Weathervane, Bird Toy, and Balancing Horse and Rider.

## Children's Festival, Modern Art - Paintings &amp; sculpture only

Renoir -	Child Drawing -	Clark
"	Margot Gerard -	"
Charlot -	Mauna Spauk -	Amos. (Barr)
Cassatt -	Mother & Child -	Aurand-Ruel
Bonfais -	Before Entering Rue -	Moma
Chagall -	Moi et le Village -	F.L. - Giffé - Paris
Redon -	Wase Flowers -	Paley
Banchant -	Sawn	Victoria (Barr)
Mondrian -	Composition in Black -	Moma
Arp -	Mountain, Trees, Anchors, Rock -	Moma
Klee -	Around The Fish -	Moma
toys -	Calder -	4 animal Toys - artist
Mobiles	"	3 — artist
Unknown -	Am. folk. Bird -	Moma
"	Weather vane - Horse	Moma
"	Balancing Toy -	Moma
"	Horseman -	Amos (Woodruff)
Zisch -	Cat -	Moma