

WHAT IS MODERN PAINTING?

An exhibition produced in quantity, released June, 1944, by the Department of Circulating Exhibitions and Educational Services of the Museum of Modern Art, New York.

The exhibition consists of:

13 colored panels and a title panel, all 29" x 40" in size, containing reproductions in full color of 31 well known modern paintings, photographs of 9 others. Explanatory text on each panel gives information about the artists represented, their points of view, and their outstanding contributions to the development of modern painting.

The exhibition will be useful to:

Schools, colleges, libraries, hospitals, clubs, and small galleries. Teachers especially will find it valuable in classroom discussion.

It is available in two forms:

SALE COPY (\$60. plus express charges based on weight of 35 pounds.) Available for immediate delivery, Railway Express Collect, from New York City.

RENTAL COPY (\$15. for 3 weeks, plus transportation one way, by Railway Express Collect from previous exhibitor.) Mounted on heavier backing board than the sale copy in order to withstand repeated shipment, this copy weighs 136 pounds. Itineraries are scheduled to keep express charges at a minimum, with preference given to requests in the order they are received. It is advisable to make your request for a rental copy several months in advance of the date desired.

Offered in conjunction with this exhibition:

PUBLICATION, What is Modern Painting? (48 pages, 49 plates) \$1. per copy.

SLIDE TALK: What is Modern Painting? (kodachrome, 3 1/4 x 4") \$10. per week.

Prices listed are standard and do not represent reductions made to Museum Group Members.

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TITLE PANEL

No pictures

PANEL 1.

VARIETY OF EXPRESSION

(Text describes some of the totally different ways in which painters interpret our complex modern world)

Hopper - House by the RailroadBraque - Still LifeTanguy - The Witness

PANEL 2.

SELECTING AND ARRANGING FACTS: REALISM

(Text points out how even the most realistic painters exercise their judgment, express their point of view in painting)

Harnett - Old ScrapsMacIver - HopscotchShahn - HandballHomer - The Croquet Match

PANEL 3.

SELF-TAUGHT ARTISTS

(The best modern painters were not always trained in art school. This text tells of the careers of some who trained themselves)

Kane - Self PortraitPickett - Manchester ValleyBombois - Before Entering the Ring

PANEL 4.

LIGHT AND ATMOSPHERE: IMPRESSIONISM

(Text describes the revolution in painting among artists of an earlier generation who are now the ancestors of our contemporary painters.)

David - Mlle. Charlotte du Val d'OgnesRenoir - Le Moulin de la GaletteBonnard - The Breakfast Room

PANEL 5.

ANALYSIS OF FORM AND SPACE

(Text discusses the problems which concerned two of the greatest pioneers of modern painting, Cezanne and Seurat.)

Cezanne - CardplayersSeurat - Side Show

PANEL 6.

(Cezanne's position as a great innovator and at the same time a great classicist is described.)

Cezanne - Pines and Rocks

PANEL 7.

CUBISM AND ABSTRACTION

(Abstract painting - one of the great phenomena of the 20th century - is not isolated from the past. This text explains how it evolved, partly as a reaction, partly as a direct development.)

Picasso - Les Femmes d'Alger (O. J.)Arp - Mountain, Table, Anchors, NavelGris - The ChessboardMondrian - Composition in White, Black and Red

PANEL 8.

COLOR AS DESIGN AND EXPRESSION

(The text explains the expressionists' use of color for its own sake.)

- Gauguin - The Spirit of the Dead Watching
 Matisse - Coffee
 Klee - A Gay Repast

PANEL 9.

THE WORLD TRANSFORMED

(The expressionists may also transform the outer world to suggest a mood. Van Gogh's development of this kind of painting is illustrated by two very different pictures of the same subject.)

- Van Gogh - The Starry Night (1888)
 Van Gogh - The Starry Night (1889)
 Marin - Morse Mountain, Small Point, Maine
 Ryder - Moonlight, Marine

PANEL 10.

MYSTERY AND MAGIC

(The ancient, enigmatic, poetic quality of art is illustrated here in its modern terms.)

- Rousseau - The Sleeping Gypsy
 Burchfield - The Night Wind
 Graves - Blind Bird

PANEL 11.

DREAM AND FANTASY

(The text explains the aims of the surrealists, their exploration of the workings and visions of the sub-conscious mind.)

- Dali - Gala and the Angelus of Millet
 deChirico - Nostalgia of the Infinite
 Hiro - Person Throwing a Stone at a Bird
 Chagall - The Birthday

PANEL 12.

MORAL CRITICISM

SOCIAL CRITICISM

(Other artists are keenly aware of the moral and social implications which painting may convey. These represented here ask you to share their indignation, shame or contempt.)

- Rouault - Christ Mocked by Soldiers
 Beckmann - Departure
 Wood - Daughters of the American Revolution
 Gropper - The Senate

PANEL 13.

THE ARTIST FIGHTS

(As a sequel to the preceding panel the text explains how the artist may use his medium as a weapon with which to fight for a cause.)

- Orozco - Zapatistas
 Picasso - Guernica