

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53RD STREET, NEW YORK

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 7-7470

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, announces that it will open on Wednesday, September 16, a small exhibition of original paintings by American artists together with large color reproductions of the same pictures. The reproductions will be published October 1 in a folio entitled American Art Portfolios, Series I, a series of specially prepared reproductions in color of fine examples of American painting. The showing of the original and the color reproduction side by side will afford an interesting opportunity for comparison. The American Art Portfolios, Series I, is published by Raymond and Raymond, New York.

The Museum is holding the First American Art Portfolio Exhibition in order to encourage the color reproduction of American paintings. Good reproductions of artistically important American pictures have been extremely rare in comparison with European color reproductions. For example, until the publication of this American portfolio there have been no first-rate reproductions of paintings by the great American artists Eakins and Ryder, whereas there are already large color reproductions of almost 150 paintings by Cézanne and van Gogh, European contemporaries of Eakins and Ryder.

The Museum of Modern Art makes considerable use of fine color reproductions in assembling its brief surveys of modern painting which are circulated among schools, libraries, colleges and small museums throughout the country. In the past these surveys have had to be confined chiefly to work by European artists but with twelve more good American reproductions available this discrepancy will be at least partially remedied.

The following original paintings and their reproductions will be shown at the Museum:

Portrait of Mrs. John Bacon by John Singleton Copley
Collection Brooklyn Museum

Fur Traders Descending the Missouri by George Caleb Bingham
Collection Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

John Biglen in a Single Scull by Thomas Eakins
Collection Yale University

Central Park by Maurice Prendergast
Collection Whitney Museum of American Art, New York

Maine Islands by John Marin
Collection Phillips Memorial Gallery, Washington, D.C.

Wake of Ferry Boat by John Sloan
Collection Phillips Memorial Gallery, Washington, D.C.

Bucks County Barn by Charles Shoeler
Collection Whitney Museum of American Art, New York

Still Life by Preston Dickinson
Collection Columbus Gallery of Fine Arts

Promenade by Charles Burchfield
Private Collection, New York

Three other paintings will be represented by the reproductions only:

Mrs. Freake and Baby Mary by an unknown artist
Collection Worcester Art Museum, courtesy Mrs. William B. Scofield and Mr. Andrew W. Sigourney

Toilers of the Sea by Albert Pinkham Ryder
Collection Addison Gallery, Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass.

Portrait of William Carpenter by Ralph Earl
Collection Worcester Art Museum

The Exhibition of the First American Art Portfolio will fill two rooms on the fourth floor of the Museum and will run concurrently with the Museum's exhibition New Horizons in American Art from September 16 to October 12. After the close of the exhibition these reproductions and probably two of the original paintings will be sent on tour.