

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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FOR WEDNESDAY RELEASE

THREE TYPICAL MUSEUM CIRCULATING EXHIBITIONS TO GO ON VIEW HERE

The Museum's Circulating Exhibitions Department, which for years has made it possible for other U.S. cities and towns to see Museum exhibitions originally shown in New York, will now enable New Yorkers to see some of the Museum's exhibitions prepared for out-of-town showings in various museums, colleges, schools and other organizations interested in modern art. Three typical shows assembled especially for the circulation program will go on view in the Museum's Auditorium Gallery on August 2: SCULPTURE BY PAINTERS; PAINTING AND SCULPTURE IN ARCHITECTURE, and POSTAGE STAMP DESIGN. After their close on October 2 these shows will go on tour.

SCULPTURE BY PAINTERS shows bronzes, drawings and prints by outstanding European and American painters including Degas, Renoir, Eakins, Picasso, Matisse, Beckmann and Miro. The exhibition develops the theme that a painter's sculpture is as revealing in relation to his canvas as his drawings and sketches, and that each is distinguished by the same stylistic characteristics. A painter's sculpture may stem from either of two intentions: it may refer directly to problems specific to painting such as modeling and light and shadow, or it can be the final expression of a concept in three dimensions.

PAINTING AND SCULPTURE IN ARCHITECTURE, tracing the historical development of painting and sculpture in architecture from early Egypt to the present, shows the importance of collaboration between architects and artists. The exhibition draws upon the rich Western tradition of such collaboration among all the artists whose elements are space, form and plane. It includes examples of applied sculptural decoration in the past, and of murals and mosaics in traditional buildings. Modern architects, instead of applying sculptured decoration to their buildings, are shown to depend upon sculptors to create a dramatic focus in an architectural space or to form a visual bridge between the large scale of the architectural forms and the much smaller scale of the human onlooker. Whereas modern architects originally relied upon the textural qualities of surface materials to decorate their walls, they are beginning once more to utilize the work of painters to add scale and drama to a wall or ceiling plane.

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POSTAGE STAMP DESIGN, consisting of about 300 stamps dating from 1840 to the present, is perhaps the first attempt to present the many functions of the stamp and its special design problems. The exhibition is particularly appropriate since recent United States stamp issues have provoked widespread public criticism. Carried by the postal system not only locally but to all parts of the world, they can be effective tokens of a nation's dignity and competence.

This exhibition was on view for one day, to the press only, on February 4, prior to starting its out-of-town bookings. It may now be seen for the first time by the New York public before continuing its tour of other parts of the country.