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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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SMALL EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHS PRESENTED BY MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Wednesday, December 17, the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, will show the second in a series of small group exhibitions exploring various tendencies, techniques, and directions in today's photography. The first exhibition, just closed, was of the work of three young photographers, each represented by a series of pictures on a different theme. The new exhibition, MUSIC AND MUSICIANS: Work by Six Photographers, presents six photographers, amateurs and professionals photographing similar subjects.

The pictures range from the carefully planned and executed studio setup to the amateur's candid camera photograph made under conditions as he finds them. The photographers whose work is shown are Philippe Halsman, Yousuf Karsh, Gjon Mili, Fred Plaut, Adrian Siegel and Eugene W. Smith. The exhibition, which will continue through February 23, is being presented by the Museum's Department of Photography, of which Edward Steichen is Director.

In the exhibition Yousuf Karsh is represented by his classical studio type of portrait wherein the lighting and composition are the result of deliberate and studied arrangement. Gjon Mili has used stroboscopic lighting from numerous units to make one synchronized exposure, also used repeating strobe flashes to produce a pattern of multiple images on one negative. Philippe Halsman's portraits in action were made by the lighting of synchronized flash bulbs.

The two amateur photographers in this group, Adrian Siegel, a cellist in a symphony orchestra, and Fred Plaut, a sound recording engineer, have both photographed close to the subject of their professional vocations. Siegel has photographed conductors and musicians at work, during rehearsals and recordings. Most of Plaut's photographs show the conductors and musicians listening to the playback of their recordings.

Eugene Smith's group of photographs also represents musicians listening. His photographs, and those of Plaut and Siegel, are from 35 mm negatives made with the overhead lighting of the concert hall or the normal lighting of the recording studio.