

**THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART**

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

PRESS PREVIEW  
Tuesday, 2-5 p.m.

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FOR WEDNESDAY RELEASE

40 RECENT PRINTS BY 30 AMERICAN ARTISTS ACQUIRED  
AND SHOWN BY MUSEUM FOR FIRST TIME

Some American Prints: 1945-50, a collection of 40 recently acquired prints, many in color, will be on view in a gallery on the third floor of the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, from July 4 through August 5. The average age of the 30 artists exhibiting is 36 years; many are women. The exhibition has been organized by William S. Lieberman, Associate Curator in charge of prints. The variety of subject matter includes heroes of classical mythology, dramas from the Old and New Testaments, places and people of the American scene, beasts of the jungle, the world transformed by fantasy, and by abstract analysis. As varied as the subject matter are the many graphic techniques themselves: etching and most intaglio media, woodcut and engraving, lithography and serigraphy (prints from silk screens).

Shown together as a group are several color woodcuts of exceptional scale and boldness by Misch Kohn, Louise Krueger, Seong Moy, Anne Ryan and Louis Schanker. Another wall displays prints of mystery and magic where the use of allegory is as free as the treatment of form and symbol. A few titles offer some indication: "Way through the Woods," "Paw-Paw," "Witches Parade," "Sign of the Lobster," "Memory Machine."

Bernard Reder and André Racz are represented by several prints offering a survey of their recent work. In France, Reder, best known as a sculptor, was an intimate friend of Aristide Maillol. Now in America, Reder began in 1948 a series of illustrations to the story of Noah. Some of these, which have never before been published or exhibited, are shown with a pair of large color woodcuts. André Racz has engraved several portfolios of prints, most ambitious of which is the Via Crucis published in 1948. In the following year, he began adding tone plates of color aquatint to the black and white engravings of these stations of the cross.

The artists represented in this small collection come from California, Chicago and the Middle West as well as from the East. Racz and Reder, though born in Rumania, have been in America for a decade and became citizens in 1948. Three Chilean artists who have recently worked in North America are also represented: Pablo Burchard, Nemeio Antúnez and his brother Enrique Zañartu.

These prints have been acquired through the Mrs. John D. Rockefeller Jr. Purchase Fund; the Spaeth Foundation, through the courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Otto L. Spaeth; the Museum's Inter-American Fund; and through gifts of Mr. John Hay Whitney, the National Serigraph Society, and the group of artists known as Printmakers. All prints have been acquired since the showing of the American section in the Master Prints exhibition of May 1949. Other recent American print acquisitions may be seen in the Museum's Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Print Room which is open to the public from 2 to 5, Monday through Friday.

A complete check list with notes will be available at the press preview on Tuesday, July 2, from 2 to 5 p.m.

MUSEUM OFFICIAL TO JURY ART EXHIBITION  
FOR ILLINOIS STATE FAIR

Mr. Andrew Carnduff Ritchie, the Museum's Director of the Department of Painting and Sculpture, will visit Springfield, Illinois, on July 5 for the purpose of jurying an exhibition for the Illinois State Fair. The entries will consist of paintings and graphic works by artists in the Old Northwest Territory which includes Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin. This will be the 5th Old Northwest Territory Annual Art Exhibition, and will be held from August 10 to 19, 1951, under the chairmanship of Governor Adlai E. Stevenson of Illinois.

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## SOME AMERICAN PRINTS: 1945-50

### RECENT ADDITIONS TO THE MUSEUM COLLECTION

#### CHECKLIST

- ANTUNEZ, Nemecio. Born 1918  
City Dwellers. 1950. Lithograph printed in color. Inter-American Fund
- BOTHWELL, Dorr. Born 1902  
Memory Machine. 1947. Serigraph. Purchase Fund
- BURCHARD, Pablo. Born 1919  
Cuernavaca. 1950. Lithograph. Inter-American Fund
- CITRON, Minna. Born 1896  
Way through the Woods. 1948. Etching, stenciled color. Purchase Fund
- COLKER, Edward.  
Witches' Parade. 1950. Engraving and etching. Purchase Fund
- COUNTEY, Edward. Born 1921  
Paw-Paw. 1948. Etching, engraving, offset color. Purchase Fund
- de YCAZA, Ana Rosa. Born 1915  
A Tiniebla. 1948. Aquatint and etching. Purchase Fund
- DYER, Carlus. Born 1917  
Two Figures. 1948. Etching and color aquatint. Purchase Fund
- FULLER, Sue. Born 1914  
Snake. 1946. Three-color relief etching. Purchase Fund
- GWATHMEY, Robert. Born 1903  
Hitchhiker. 1945. Serigraph. Purchase Fund
- HIRSCH, Joseph. Born 1910  
The Hecklers. 1948. Lithograph. Gift of Jean Deniau
- JOHNSTON, Ynez. Born 1920  
Bullfight No. 2. 1950. Etching. Spaeth Foundation
- KOHN, Misch. Born 1916  
Tiger. 1949. Wood engraving. Spaeth Foundation
- KRUEGER, Louise. Born 1924  
The Boaters. 1948. Woodcut printed in color. Spaeth Foundation
- LEBRUN, Rico. Born 1900  
Rabbit. 1945. Lithograph. Spaeth Foundation
- MARK, Henry. Born 1915  
Eternal Wanderer. 1947. Serigraph. Gift of the National Serigraph Society
- MARTINELLI, Ezio. Born 1913  
Bison. Engraving, etching printed in color. Purchase Fund

CHECKLIST (cont.)

- MOY, Seong. Born 1921  
Chinese Actor. 1948. Woodcut printed in color, Spaeth Foundation  
Inscription of T'chao Paé. 1950. Woodcut printed in color.  
 Gift of John Hay Whitney
- PETERDI, Gabor. Born 1915  
Price of Glory. 1947. Engraving. Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.  
 Purchase Fund  
The Sign of the Lobster. 1947-48. Etching, engraving, color  
 aquatint. Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Purchase Fund
- PICKENS, Alton. Born 1917  
The Children's Game. 1946. Woodcut. Purchase Fund  
The Great Orange. 1946. Woodcut printed in color. Purchase Fund
- RACZ, André. Born 1916  
Perseus Beheading Medusa IV. 1945. Engraving and etching.  
 Spaeth Foundation  
Perseus Beheading Medusa VIII. 1945. Engraving, etching, color  
 aquatint. Spaeth Foundation  
Jesus Dies upon the Cross. 1948. Engraving. Gift of the artist  
"There was darkness over the whole earth". 1949. Engraving and  
 color aquatint. Spaeth Foundation  
2 August 1949 - Nativity. 1949. Engraving printed in sanguine.  
 Spaeth Foundation
- REDER, Bernard. Born 1897  
 From the Flood series. 1948. Woodcuts. Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.  
 Purchase Fund  
Bacchanal before the Flood.  
The Meal inside the Ark.  
Still Life after the Flood.  
Sacrifice of Noah.  
Clown and Centaur. 1949. Woodcut printed in color. Mrs. John D.  
 Rockefeller, Jr. Purchase Fund  
Lady of the Middle Ages. 1949. Woodcut printed in color.  
 Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Purchase Fund
- RYAN, Anne. Born 1889  
The Captive. 1946. Woodcut printed in color. Spaeth Foundation
- SCHANKER, Louis. Born 1903  
Carnival. 1945. Woodcut printed in color. Spaeth Foundation  
Arrangement of Forms. 1949. Woodcut printed in color. Spaeth  
 Foundation
- STEFFEN, Bernard. Born 1907  
Mountain Monster. 1945. Serigraph. Purchase Fund
- ZANARTU, Enrique. Born 1921  
The Lost Prince. (Le prince perdu.) 1948. Relief etching and  
 aquatint, color added. Inter-American Fund

NOTES

This small exhibition consists of American prints from 1945 to 1950, all recent additions to the Museum Collection. The artists average about 36 years of age. As varied as their choice of subjects is their use of the many graphic techniques. Other recent American acquisitions as well as the entire collection of over 3000 prints may be seen in the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Print Room on the 4th floor of the Museum open weekday afternoons from 2 to 5.

Atelier 17:

The renaissance in American printmaking of the past 15 years received its greatest stimulus in 1940 when the Englishman Stanley William Hayter transferred his workshop Atelier 17 from Paris to New York. His inspired teaching and extraordinary technical ingenuity attracted many artists throughout the country. Among those engravers and etchers in the present exhibition who have studied or worked with Hayter are Citron, Countey, Dyer, Fuller, Peterdi, Ycaza and Zanartu. Their etchings and engravings, exhibited together on one wall reflect the close ties of Hayter to the original surrealist movement as well as the free use of form and symbol characteristic of so many young American artists.

Chilean artists working in North America: Pablo Burchard, the brothers Enrique Zanartu and Nemecio Antunez.

Inez Johnston was included in the second of the Museum's New Talent Exhibitions held in the Member's Penthouse, November 1950.

Alton Pickens' first one man show was in the Museum's Fourteen Americans exhibition, 1946.

Bernard Reder was born in Czernowitz, Bukowina (Rumania, now Russia). After many years in France, where he was an intimate friend of the sculptor Aristide Maillol, he came to the United States in 1943. He is now a citizen.

Best known as a sculptor, Reder has also done several series of woodcuts on themes such as the Apocalypse according to St. John, and Rabelais' Gargantua and Pantagruel.

In 1948 Reder began illustrations to the story of Noah. Inspired by the two accounts in Genesis, he also borrowed and interpreted freely other legends of the Flood. Four from the complete, yet unpublished series of 45 woodcuts are shown: a bacchanal such as caused the punishment of the Flood, a meal inside the ark, the wrecked interior of a room once the waters had receded, Noah's final sacrifice to God after the flood.



André Racz was born in Rumania. He studied briefly at the University of Bucharest, but left to devote himself, without any formal training, to painting and the graphic arts. Widely travelled in Europe and South America, he came to the United States in 1939 where he is now a citizen.

Racz has engraved several portfolios of prints, the most ambitious of which is the Via Crucis published in 1948. These stations of the cross culminate in the crucifixion exhibited here. In the winter 1948-49, Racz began adding tone plates of color aquatint to the black and white engravings of the published edition. There was darkness over the whole earth shows blue aquatint printed over the black and white crucifixion next to it.

Nativity, printed in sanguine on gray paper, celebrates the birth of Racz's son.

Serigraphs (silk screen prints) by the following artists: Dorr Bothwell, Robert Gwathmey, Henry Mark and Bernard Steffen.

Woodcutters:

Seong Moy was born in China and raised in Saint Paul, Minnesota. He came to New York in 1941 to study with Hans Hofmann. Recently he has received an opportunity fellowship for creative painting and woodcut from the John Hay Whitney Foundation.

Misch Kohn works in Chicago. His Tiger cut into hard endgrain boxwood displays a technical mastery as well as a new approach to the old, often too labored art of wood engraving.

Louis Schanker teaches at the New School for Social Research and at Bard College. He has exhibited throughout the country including one-man shows at the Brooklyn Museum (1943) and the Phillips Memorial Gallery (1946).

Anne Ryan's arresting image of a fallen bird with a broken wing is one of a series of woodcuts printed on black paper.