

# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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PRESS PREVIEW: TUESDAY,  
November 24, 1953

FOR RELEASE: WEDNESDAY,  
November 25, 1953

## JUNIOR COUNCIL OF MUSEUM OF MODERN ART OPENS SALE AND EXHIBITION

### OF ORIGINAL PRINTS BY YOUNG AMERICAN ARTISTS

A public sale and exhibition of original prints, averaging between \$35 and \$40, by young American artists from all parts of the country will open at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, on Wednesday, November 25, under the sponsorship of the Museum's Junior Council. More than 100 original prints, selected by the Museum from some 1500 entries, will be in the exhibition and sale, called YOUNG AMERICAN PRINTMAKERS, which will continue through January 24. Several duplicates of most of the prints are available, making a total of several hundred for sale.

Covering a wide variety of styles and subject matter to suit every taste and interest, these original prints are being made available to the Museum's public as Christmas gift suggestions or as an inexpensive way to begin a collection of original art. In size and concept the large scale and vigorous color of many of the prints assume some of the qualities of paintings.

"The exhibition vividly demonstrates the recent and dramatic emphasis on large prints in color," says William S. Lieberman, Curator of Prints at the Museum. "At the same time, many of the smaller prints eloquently reaffirm the long tradition of black and white. The variety of subjects ranges from themes of deep spiritual conviction to a living, printed menagerie. It is the vitality and enthusiasm of artists such as these included in the exhibition that has helped to make the past ten years the most exciting decade in the history of American printmaking."

This print exhibition presents relatively new and unknown talent. None of the 110 prints have ever been shown in the Museum before, although all were executed during the past five years when the Museum presented numerous print shows. <sup>Fewer</sup> ~~Less~~ than 30 of the artists are represented by dealers anywhere in the United States. Purchases from the exhibition will be made for the Museum's Print Collection. In addition the selection will be considered as a basis for an exhibition to be circulated abroad by the International Exhibition Program of the Museum of Modern Art.

The exhibition divides itself almost equally between work in color and in black and white. The prints range in size from a color linoleum cut "Fly Time," 3½' x 2½', by an artist from Washington, a cowboy called simply Danny, to an

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etching only three inches wide by a young Californian artist named Elizabeth Zill. All graphic media, except monotypes and the photographic processes, were eligible, and many of the prints show extraordinary technical innovations.

The exhibition provides a survey of postwar graphic work by young artists in practically all sections of the country. Thirteen of the artists whose prints were selected live on the west coast in California, and an equal number in the middle western state of Illinois, and 31 in New York City. Eight of the artists are from New England, while Texas and New Mexico are also represented. The middle western states of Iowa, Indiana and Wisconsin are well represented, as are Colorado, Michigan, Minnesota and Nebraska. Other states include Pennsylvania, Connecticut, New Jersey, Washington and the District of Columbia.

The Junior Council which is sponsoring the sale and exhibition is a group of fifty young men and women who have in common a general interest in the arts and a desire to see them fostered soundly and liberally in this country. Among the Museum services also sponsored by this group are the Art Lending Service and the program of special evening events in the Museum Auditorium.

YOUNG AMERICAN PRINTMAKERS was initiated by the Junior Council last year under the chairmanship of Richard Hunt and Ann Jones. Prints in all graphic media, except monotypes and the photographic processes, were invited from artists, citizens or permanent residents of the United States, 35 years of age or under. In the announcement of its sponsorship of the exhibition the Junior Council said, "It is hoped that a sufficient number of prints will be submitted to provide a selection of 100 prints to be exhibited at the Museum."