

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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local general

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MUSEUM OF MODERN ART PLANS YEAR-LONG CELEBRATION OF ITS 25th ANNIVERSARY BEGINNING IN THE FALL

The Museum of Modern Art will open a year-long celebration of its 25th Anniversary this fall with the most extensive showing of paintings from its world-famous collection ever presented. The exhibition will consist of approximately 300 paintings from 19th century masterworks to work by young artists from this country and abroad and will include more than 20 new acquisitions, some of great importance. It will be installed in the first, second and third floor galleries by Alfred H. Barr, Jr., Director of Museum Collections. Opening ceremonies for Museum members will be held on October 19. The exhibition will open to the public on October 20 and remain on view until January, 1955.

At the same time, an exhibition of 100 American prints from the Museum's Collection of original graphic works will be on view in the Auditorium Gallery. Selected by William S. Lieberman, Curator, the exhibition will open September 8. A second exhibition of masterprints, devoted to the work of European artists, will open in November.

The theme of the Museum's anniversary of a quarter century of activity and growth is "The World of Modern Art." Each of the Museum's many departments will present a major exhibition at the Museum during the year-long celebration, and many of these will be shown abroad under the Museum's International Exhibitions Program.

Special film programs for the anniversary year will begin September 15 with showings twice daily in the Museum Auditorium of a series called "Through the Looking Glass," consisting of films about films, film makers and film making. This series will be followed in November by a retrospective history of Italian films from the great spectacles of the early 20th century to films made during the recent Italian post-war renaissance. Both cycles, as well as others planned for 1955, were selected by Richard Griffith, Curator of the Film Library.

MASTERS OF MODERN ART, the major anniversary year publication, edited by Alfred H. Barr, Jr., comprehensively surveys the entire range of the Museum Collections, including films, photographs, architecture and design as well as painting, sculpture, prints and drawings, and will be issued in October. It will be published in a large format with 346 plates, 76 in full color.

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Early in 1955 the Museum will present a large photography exhibition The Family of Man, assembled by Edward Steichen, Director of the Department of Photography, which will open simultaneously in several countries. 100 Museum Selections from Good Design 1950-54 will be on view in an exhibition installed by Francisco Albini, well-known Italian designer, as the Museum's home furnishings show for the anniversary year, under the direction of Edgar Kaufmann, Jr., Director of Good Design. This will take the place of the usual fall showing of the Good Design market survey. European Painting and Sculpture: Recent Tendencies, selected by Andrew Carnduff Ritchie, Director of the Department of Painting and Sculpture, will be shown in an exhibition opening in May at the same time the Whitney Museum presents an exhibition of recent American painting and sculpture. A major exhibition of Latin American Architecture, prepared by Henry-Russel Hitchcock, well-known modern architectural historian, will also be presented in the spring of 1955.

In addition to books accompanying the various exhibitions, the Museum will also publish ART FOR THE FAMILY by Victor D'Amico, Director of Education, Frances Wilson and Maureen Maser, USEFUL OBJECTS TODAY, a teaching portfolio, THE ARCHITECTURE OF JAPAN by Arthur Drexler, MATISSE ETCHINGS by William S. Lieberman, and GIORGIO DE CHIRICO by James Thrall Soby, Museum trustee and art authority.

Other exhibitions and film cycles for 1955 will be announced this fall.

Note: If, at this advanced date, you are interested in more details, such as photographs and background material on the history of the Museum, please call or write Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director.