THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y. TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

For release: Thursday, June 20, 1957 No. 47 122

JAMES THRALL SOBY NAMED CHAIRMAN OF MUSEUM OF MODERN ART'S PAINTING AND SCULPTURE DEPARTMENT PENDING APPOINTMENT OF DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR

James Thrall Soby has been named Chairman of the Department of Painting and Sculpture of the Museum of Modern Art pending the appointment of a Department Director to replace Andrew Carnduff Ritchie, who has resigned to become Director of the Yale University Art Gallery.

Mr. Soby has been a trustee of the Museum since 1942. An outstanding art scholar and critic he has organized many exhibitions for the Museum, and next spring will present an exhibition of paintings by Juan Gris.

Among the books Mr. Soby has written are <u>Modern Art and the New Past</u> (1957); <u>Horgio de Chirico</u> (1955); <u>Yves Tanguy</u> (1955); <u>Twentieth Century Italian Art</u> (with Alfred H. Barr, Jr. 1949); <u>Contemporary Painters</u> (1948); <u>Ben Shahn</u> (1945); <u>The Prints</u> <u>of Paul Klee</u> (1946); <u>Georges Rouault</u>: Paintings and Prints (1945) and <u>Romantic Paint-</u> <u>ing in America</u> (with Dorothy Miller, 1943).

Mr. Ritchie's appointment as Director of the Yale Art Gallery and his resignation from the Museum of Modern Art were announced in January. He leaves the Museum at the end of June.

For additional information please contact Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, New York. CIrcle 5-8900.

Kerra

thing - 12