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# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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## THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART AND GREAT BRITAIN

The Museum of Modern Art, which has just announced a campaign to raise 25 million dollars for additional building and program funds, has played an important role in worldwide cultural exchange since its founding in 1929. This activity has been increased in recent years with the establishment of the International Program, a special department in the Museum devoted to cultural exchange. The importance of this activity to men and women all over America is attested by the fact that the Museum's Program is now under the auspices of an International Council composed of community leaders and art patrons from many parts of the country.

The Museum from its early years has carried on an active exchange program with Great Britain which began with the acquisition of works by British artists. Among the sculptors represented in the Museum Collections are: Kenneth Armitage, Reg Butler, Lynn Chadwick, Jacob Epstein, Barbara Hepworth, Henry Moore and Eduardo Paolossi. Painters include, among others: Francis Bacon, John Bratby, Alan Davie, Lucian Freud, Gwen John, Wyndham Lewis, Ben Nicholson, John Piper, Patrick Scott, Walter Sickert, Graham Sutherland and John Tunnard.

The number of exhibitions devoted to British art have included the comprehensive one-man show of Henry Moore held in 1947. It contained both sculpture and drawings, many lent from public and private collections in Great Britain. Other exhibitions include Photographs by David Octavius Hill and Robert Adamson, Modern Architecture in England, and Britain at War, an exhibition and film cycle. In 1956, in collaboration with the British Council, the Museum presented Masters of British Painting: 1800 - 1950, an extensive survey of the major figures in British painting during this 150-year period. The Museum's exhibition

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The New Decade, shown in 1955, included a strong representation of the younger painters and sculptors working in England in the post-war years.

Since 1937 the Museum has circulated exhibitions of British art to institutions throughout the United States. Included among these are Posters by E. McKnight Kauffer (1937-1939), and Britain at War (1941-1944) and Contemporary British Lithographs (1951-1953).

The most recent exhibition of American art sent to Great Britain by the International Program of the Museum was The New American Painting, devoted to the abstract expressionist movement in the United States, which was shown at the Tate in 1959.

In 1958, the International Program presented Jackson Pollock: 1912-1956 in London at the Whitechapel Art Gallery. In 1956, the exhibition Modern Art in the United States: Selections from the Collections of The Museum of Modern Art, was shown at the Tate Gallery under the auspices of the Arts Council of Great Britain. This exhibition included paintings, sculpture and prints. In 1953, the International Program chose and organized the U.S. Representation in the International Sculpture Competition: "The Unknown Political Prisoner," which was sponsored by the Institute of Contemporary Arts and shown at the Tate Gallery. The American section had first been seen at The Museum of Modern Art, New York.

Among the smaller exhibitions organized by the Museum, three have been seen in Great Britain: Built in U.S.A.: Post-War Architecture, The Skyscraper: U.S.A., and Thirty American Printmakers. The first was shown in London, the second in Edinburgh, while the third toured five cities in England and Scotland.

The Family of Man, the photography exhibition originally shown at The Museum of Modern Art during its 25th Anniversary Year in 1955, was prepared for circulation in Europe for the United States Information Service and was shown at London's Festival Hall in 1956.

Wartime exhibitions prepared by the Museum, which were shown in Britain included:

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Road to Victory, a photography exhibition prepared by Edward Steichen with a text by Carl Sandburg; and U.S. Housing in War and Peace, prepared by the Museum at the request of the Royal Institute of Architects.

The Museum Film Library includes many British films which have been shown in the Museum and circulated to schools, colleges and film societies throughout the United States.

Under its International Program the Museum has presented sets of its books and others on American art to the Tate Gallery and The London Library and exhibitions of its books have been held in London and Oxford. Several of the Museum's publications are devoted to British art.

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A detailed list of activities is available upon request.

For further information contact Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, New York, N. Y. CI 5-8900