

The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Circle 5-8900 Cable: Modernart

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SPECIAL TO DODGE CITY, KANSAS PAPERS

A painting by Billy Al Bengston, born in Dodge City, Kansas, in 1934, has been acquired by The Museum of Modern Art in New York and is now in a special exhibition of recently acquired paintings, sculptures and constructions on view at the Museum through June 12. Mr. Bengston's work, GREGORY, was painted in 1961 with lacquer and synthetic enamel on composition board. It was obtained through the Larry Aldrich Foundation Fund, which is used primarily to acquire new works by younger artists. Mr. Bengston now makes his home in Venice, California.

The exhibition of recent acquisitions contains 70 works dating from 1908 through 1965 by 68 artists from 20 countries. It was selected and installed by Dorothy C. Miller, Curator of Museum Collections, from a larger group, the rest of which will be shown later this year in small special exhibitions.

The current exhibition illustrates the variety of style, intent, medium and subject matter which characterizes the art of our time. Usually about half the acquisitions are purchases, half gifts. Many of the gifts have been solicited; that is, the Museum has sought out a donor for a painting or sculpture it has already selected. Other gifts have been proposed by donors themselves who frequently permit the Museum its choice from the work of a living artist. Unlike many museums, The Museum of Modern Art has no funds from endowments or from budgeted income for buying painting and sculpture.

Photographs and additional information available from Patricia B. Kaplan, Assistant, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. Circle 5-8900.