

# The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Tel. 245-3200 Cable: Modernart

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## THE LILLIE P. BLISS INTERNATIONAL STUDY CENTER

### DEPARTMENT OF DRAWINGS AND PRINTS

Special study facilities for prints and illustrated books were first established with the founding of The Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Print Room in 1949, the first such study room for modern prints in the world. In 1964 the collection was moved to enlarged quarters, where virtually the entire collection of prints and illustrated books, except the fraction on view in the Museum galleries, on loan, or uncatalogued, is available to the public by appointment.

#### NEW FACILITIES:

Storage area for drawings and theatre arts collection adjacent to Print Room: works available for study by special arrangement only.

#### FUTURE PLANS:

Greatly enlarged study-storage facilities for drawings and theatre arts collection to increase their accessibility, projected for 1972. Also expansion of facilities for prints and illustrated books to provide a public study room for prints with separate storage areas, special study room for illustrated books, and study carrels for visiting scholars.

#### RESOURCES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DRAWINGS AND PRINTS:

##### Collections:

7,000 prints, portfolios, original blocks, plates and stones; 1,600 drawings; 750 illustrated books; theatre arts collection.

##### Documentary material:

For prints and illustrated books: catalogue of collection; cross-reference: subject and nationality card files; research files including questionnaires answered by artists; relevant correspondence; library of definitive catalogues, and technical books; exhibition and auction catalogues; photographs.

For drawings: catalogue of collection; research files including questionnaires answered by artists; some essays on individual drawings; unpublished research material compiled during exhibition preparation; exhibition catalogues; photographs.

#### EXAMPLES OF USE OF THE FACILITIES:

An artist working in a particular medium studies other contemporary uses of the technique, and an artist making his first illustrated book examines the format and style of others.

(more)

A graduate seminar on printmaking meets in the study area, where a member of the staff lectures on 20th-century prints, using original works for illustration.

An art editor studies the format, paper, and layout of a 19th-century French book to assure accuracy in her reproduction of the volume.

An author writing on "the artist as social critic" consults the subject file for prints. A critic writing on Matisse is shown drawings of a specific period.

A young man seeking information on the history of modern prints and how to collect them gets a reading list from a staff member. During eight visits, he views prints of special interest to him, then is referred to galleries, print workshops and other print rooms.

An artist in South America writes for names of other professionals to contact in order to keep pace with new developments in printmaking. An art school in a small country inquires about how to buy an etching press. A museum director writes for information on conservation of drawings and prints.

About 40 people per month visit the Center, and many more are assisted, through correspondence.

Staff:

- William S. Lieberman, Director
- Virginia Allen, Assistant to the Director
- Vivian Leff, Secretary
- Elaine L. Johnson, Associate Curator
- Joan Rosenbaum, Secretary
- Riva Castleman, Assistant Curator, Prints and Illustrated Books
- Eila Kokkinen, Assistant Curator, Drawings
- Bernice Rose, Assistant Curator, Exhibitions and Loans
- Donna Stein, Reference Consultant, Prints and Illustrated Books
- Martha Beck, Registration Assistant
- Kenneth Franke, Administrative Assistant
- Penny Koiner, Clerk, Prints and Illustrated Books
- Elizabeth Miller, Cataloguer, Louis E. Stern Collection of Illustrated Books
- Paul Weiner, Typist-Clerk
- Richard Hodge, Custodian

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Photographs and additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. 245-3200.