

The Museum of Modern Art

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The Department of Painting and Sculpture and the Departments including Drawings, Water Colors and Prints of The Museum of Modern Art will be restructured, William S. Paley, President, announced today. The post of the Director of Painting and Sculpture will be eliminated, and two new positions will be created: Chief Curator of Drawings, and Curator for Painting and Sculpture Exhibitions. The present position of Chief Curator of the Painting and Sculpture Collection will continue to be held by William S. Rubin, who was appointed to the post in 1969, and who has been associated with the Museum since 1967.

William S. Lieberman has been appointed Chief Curator of Drawings with responsibility also for water colors and prints, effective October, 1971. In announcing the appointment, Mr. Paley said: "I am delighted that Mr. Lieberman has accepted this appointment and that he will now be able to devote an increased amount of his time to the fields of modern art in which his scholarship and his expertise have long been widely recognized as outstanding. In his twenty-six years at the Museum, Mr. Lieberman has been greatly influential in building the Museum collection and has made notable contributions to the Museum's exhibition program. We are all pleased that the reorganization will allow him to use even more effectively his considerable and exceptional talents in mounting exhibitions and writing."

The new post of Curator for Painting and Sculpture Exhibitions will be filled in the near future, and its functions will be administered until then by Mr. Lieberman.

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William S. Lieberman has been associated with The Museum of Modern Art since 1945, and has held a succession of positions of high responsibility. Following study at the Alliance Française in Paris, Swarthmore College and Harvard University, Mr. Lieberman began his career at the Museum as assistant to Alfred H. Barr, Jr., first Director of the Museum and later Director of Collections. In 1953 Mr. Lieberman became Curator of Prints. He was named Director of Drawings and Prints in 1966 and a year later was also appointed Curator of Painting and Sculpture.

Mr. Lieberman has organized several large exhibitions of painting and sculpture, among them: AMEDEO MODIGLIANI (1951); PICASSO: 75TH ANNIVERSARY EXHIBITION (1957, assisting Alfred H. Barr, Jr.); GERMAN ART OF THE 20TH CENTURY (1958, assisting Andrew C. Ritchie); JOAN MIRO (1959); MAX ERNST (1961); THE NEW JAPANESE PAINTING AND SCULPTURE (1966, with Dorothy C. Miller); JACKSON POLLOCK (1967); and JEAN DUBUFFET (1968). During the past three years (1969-1971), he was responsible for the following exhibitions: JULIO GONZALEZ; KANDINSKY WATERCOLORS; TAMARIND: HOMAGE TO LITHOGRAPHY; GEORGE GROSZ: DRAWINGS AND WATERCOLORS; ARCHIPENKO: THE PARISIAN YEARS; THE SCULPTURE OF RICHARD HUNT, as well as the installation of FOUR AMERICANS IN PARIS: THE COLLECTIONS OF GERTRUDE STEIN AND HER FAMILY. Most recently, Mr. Lieberman directed the exhibition FROM CEZANNE THROUGH PICASSO: 100 EUROPEAN DRAWINGS which was seen at the National Museum of Western Art, Tokyo in May and June and he is currently in Japan preparing for its July opening at the Ishibashi Museum in Kurume.

In addition to his association with The Museum of Modern Art, Mr. Lieberman is a trustee or director of several organizations, including: The American Federation of Arts, the Cassandra Foundation, The Drawing Society, the International Graphic Arts Society, Pratt Graphic Art Center, the Jacques Lipchitz Art Foundation, the Print Council of America. He is also

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a committee member of several other organizations including the Dance Committee of the Library and Museum of the Performing Arts, the Exhibitions Committee of the Japan Society, the editorial board of Art in America, the Art Advisory Panel of the Internal Revenue Service of the United States Department of the Treasury. He has been a frequent juror at international biennials including those of Ljubljana, Paris, and Tokyo. In 1970, the Republic of France named him Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres.

Before undertaking his new duties, Mr. Lieberman is planning to take a six-month leave for travel and study.

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Additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director of Public Information - 956-7501.
