## The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Tel. 956-6100 Cable: Modernart

NO. 141 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE NOVEMBER 30, 1971

## STUDENT EVENINGS

The final special evening for students in the <u>Four Fridays</u> series at The Museum of Modern Art this fall will feature continuous showings of short films from The Young Filmaker's Foundation, the world premiere of <u>Drumming</u> by Steve Reich, a performance by Merce Cunningham, and readings by poet Joseph Ceravolo, winner of the Frank O'Hara Award for Poetry.

On Friday, December 3, all galleries will be open from 7:30 to 11:30 pm. Admission is \$2.50; Student Members of the Museum, \$2. During the first three of the four-evening series, more than 3,200 students from 100 high schools and colleges have attended.

Drumming by Steve Reich is an hour-and-a-half composition scored for eight small, tuned drums, three marimbas, three glockenspiels, male and female voices whistling, and piccolo. Reich, a composer-performer, has presented concerts of his music in galleries and museums in New York, with the Boulez "Prospective Encounters," with the Boston Symphony, and has had two European tours. In preparation for Drumming he studied with a master drummer of the Ewe tribe at the Institute of African Studies in Ghana. His work has been recorded by CBS Odyssey Records, Victor of Japan, and Columbia. Drumming was made possible by the partial support from the New York State Council on the Arts in cooperation with The Composer in Performance, Inc. It will be performed at the Brooklyn Academy of Music and Town Hall later in December.

Nine short films made by young people aged 16 to 19 under the auspices of the Young Filmaker's Foundation will be shown during the evening. The films range from animation to documentary and fantasy and reflect the diverse attitudes of the filmmakers themselves who are from the Lower East Side, Harlem, Brooklyn, Queens, and the Bronx.

Merce Cunningham, the internationally famous dancer and choreographer, has composed (more)

an event for soloist which he will perform in the sixth floor Founders Room.

Joseph Ceravolo, who will read his poetry in the galleries during the evening, won the Frank O'Hara Award for Poetry, named for a poet who was formerly a curator at the Museum until his death in 1966. The award is specifically intended to encourage the writing of good new experimental poetry and to aid in its publication. Columbia University Press published the book of poems "Spring in This World of Poor Mutts." His poems have appeared in many magazines including Art and Literature, Paris Review, and two privately printed pamphlets. Out of diverse influences — among them William Carlos Williams, Rimbaud and oriental lyrics — he has made a poetry that is new and his own.

Four Fridays have been sponsored by the Museum's Junior Council this fall. Generous gifts from the Billy Rose Foundation and the Helena Rubinstein Foundation have enabled the Museum to broaden the audience for these evenings to include high school students from many areas of the city. The poetry events have been arranged in cooperation with Poets and Writers, Inc., which is funded by the New York State Council on the Arts.

Among the exhibitions on view December 3 are the first retrospective of painting and sculpture by <u>Barnett Newman</u>, a large environment piece by sculptor <u>Tony Smith</u>, hanging canvases by Sam Gilliam, as well as selections from the Museum collections.

Additional information available from Linda Gordon, Associate Director, and Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 W. 53 St., New York, NY 10019. Phone: (212) 956-2648, -7501