

The Museum of Modern Art

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

NO. 16

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ADVANCE INFORMATION

PAINTINGS BY GERALD MURPHY

April 9 - May 19, 1974

Directed by William Rubin, Director, Painting and Sculpture Department.

The American artist Gerald Murphy (1888-1964), although a fine painter in his own right, has largely been remembered for his friendships with such figures as Picasso, Léger, Hemingway and Fitzgerald and through his biography "Living Well is the Best Revenge" by Calvin Tomkins. But, during the short period he worked actively as an artist -- 1922 to 1930 -- he produced a small but exquisite and, in retrospect, remarkably prophetic body of work. Murphy is represented in the Museum collection by one of his last paintings Wasp and Pear, the gift of his long-time friend, Archibald MacLeish. In this exhibition are Murphy's six surviving paintings, a watercolor, sketches for the ballet "Within the Quota" done with Cole Porter for the Ballets Suédois, and selected documentary material.

Accompanied by an illustrated 32-page booklet, with an essay by William Rubin and foreword by Archibald MacLeish.

Photographs and additional material available from Elizabeth Shaw,
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