

WILLIAM RUBIN

William Rubin was appointed Director Emeritus of the Department of Painting and Sculpture at The Museum of Modern Art in 1988 in recognition of his extraordinary service as Director of the Department of Painting and Sculpture, a position he had held since 1973.

PICASSO AND PORTRAITURE: REPRESENTATION AND TRANSFORMATION is the fourth exhibition organized by Mr. Rubin as Director Emeritus.

Mr. Rubin joined the Museum in 1967 and one year later was named Chief Curator of the Painting and Sculpture Collection. For more than two decades, he had primary responsibility for painting and sculpture acquisitions, documentation, and installation.

In 1980 Mr. Rubin directed PABLO PICASSO: A RETROSPECTIVE, one of the most important and successful exhibitions in the Museum's history. Among the other major exhibitions that he has organized for the Museum are PICASSO AND BRAQUE: PIONEERING CUBISM (1989), FRANK STELLA: WORKS FROM 1970 TO 1987 (1987), HENRI ROUSSEAU (1985), PRIMITIVISM IN 20TH CENTURY ART: AFFINITY OF THE TRIBAL AND THE MODERN (1984), GIORGIO DE CHIRICO (1982), CEZANNE: THE LATE WORK (1977), ANDRE MASSON (1976), ANTHONY CARO (1975), FRANK STELLA (1970), THE NEW AMERICAN PAINTING AND SCULPTURE: THE FIRST GENERATION (1969), and DADA, SURREALISM, AND THEIR HERITAGE (1968).

On view April 28-September 17, 1996

The Museum of Modern Art

Mr. Rubin has written or edited the publications which accompanied these and other exhibitions, as well as other books and journals, among them Les Demoiselles d'Avignon (1994), a monographic study of this pivotal painting by Picasso which entered the Museum's collection in 1939, The Church of Assy and Modern Sacred Art (1961), and Dada and Surrealist Art (1969). In addition, Mr. Rubin has contributed numerous articles to leading art periodicals.

Among his many honors, Mr. Rubin was promoted to the grade of Officer of the French Legion of Honor in 1993, after being designated Knight in 1978. He was also made a Fellow of the American Academy of Fine Arts and Sciences in 1985 and Commander of the Order of Arts and Letters in 1979. In 1986 he was cited by the Art Dealers Association of America for outstanding lifetime achievement in art history.

In addition to his position at the Museum, Mr. Rubin serves as Adjunct Professor of Art History at the Institute for Fine Arts, New York University. Previously he served as Professor of Art History at Sarah Lawrence College (1952-67), Hunter College (1954-60), and City University of New York (1960-67). He was the American editor of Art International from 1958 to 1964. Born in New York City in 1927, Mr. Rubin received a B.A. (1949) from Columbia College and a M.A. (1952) and Ph.D. (1959) from Columbia University.

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