BEGINNING

EXHIBITION 173

CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL OF MODERN ART

MAR. 11 - MAY 10, 1942
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL OF MODERN ART AT MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

ADmits adults only when accompanied by a child

Children from three to twelve painting, fitting together
jigsaw puzzles cut from modern color reproductions, constructing
abstract compositions from odd-shaped pieces of brightly painted wood
and cardboard, using saw, hammer, nails and varied materials to build
instructions—surround these children with paintings by modern
artists on the walls, Calder mobiles hung from the ceiling, and a
arrow runway at the back where modern nursery animals run riot, and
you have the Children's Art Festival at the Museum of Modern Art,
11 West 53 Street. The Festival opens to the public Wednesday,
April 12—that is, to the child public. No adults will be admitted
less accompanied by a child.

The Festival, which will continue through April 26, is in-
nstalled in the Young People's Gallery on the third floor of the
museum. It is the first extensive exhibition that the Museum's
educational Project, under the direction of Victor E. D'Amico, has
arranged especially for young children in a gallery built to the scale
of children three-to-twelve-years of age. Pictures are hung at child's
level, and equipment is especially designed to suit their comfort
size.

The Festival is a gala combination of pictures, sculpture,
and games gathered together to delight little folk and to en-
courage their interest in modern art. The play area in the center of
the gallery is divided into two sections, one for children from three
to six, the other for children from seven to twelve. A gate made in
contour of a child admits only those of each age level to their
active sections.

When the children raise their eyes from their own paintings,
puzzles and abstractions they are putting together
are original works by masters of modern art such as Renoir,
Sassot, Chagall, Klee, Soruch and others. When the very
young children want to observe such their own artistic efforts they
ly recognized bull, fish, duck, bear and other animals designed by Alexander Calder. The wooden fish swims on dry land, the duck walks as it waddles, the bear skates as he pushes a wobbling wheelbarrow, and the bull gallops in a somewhat equine fashion.

Other folk art toys are a balancing toy that may be set in motion and a horse and rider which at a touch canters back and forth for several minutes.

The object of the exhibition is to introduce children to modern art through observation and activity. Some of the Jig-saw puzzles are made of color prints of the original paintings on the wall. The special games for making abstract designs involve principles underlying the works of the modern artists shown in the gallery. Other games include shapes made of varying materials which produce tactile experience. Still others include three-dimensional kits for making stables or mobiles. The staff of the Educational Project has originated many of the games and puzzles used in the festival.

The following paintings are included in the exhibition:

CARO, Hans. Mountains, Table, Anchors, Navol
PAUCHANT, Andre. Dawn
RUSCOIS, Camille. Before entering the Ring
TASSATT, Mary. Mother and Child
MATALL, Marc. The Village
MARLOT, Jean. Mama Spank
LEBES, Paul. Around the Fish

MONDRIAN, Piet. Composition in White, Black and Red
REDON, Odilon. Vase of Flowers
RENOIR, Auguste. Child Drawing

Other works are a cat sculptured in stone by William Zorach and several mobiles by Alexander Calder. Mr. Calder, in addition, is designer of the wooden toys shown in the Festival. The American Art shown includes The Balancing Toy, Horse Weathervane, Bird, and Balancing Horse and Rider.
MoMAExh_0173_MasterChecklist

Modern Art - Paintings & sculpture only

Renoir - Child Drawing - Clark

Cheret - Margot Zerard

Charlot - Manon Franc - Arrow (Bar)

Cassatt - Mother Child - Durand-Ruel

Bonnard - Before Saturday Night - MoMA

Chagall - Mi et 6 Velvets - E.H. Loffé - Paris

Redon - Nat Zones - Paley

Zorn - Dawn - Victoria (Bar)

Mondrian - Composition in Black - MoMA

Arg. - Mountain, Tree, Anchors, Kiel - MoMA

Klee - Around The Fish - MoMA

Toys - Coleder - 4 animal toys - artist

Mobile - 3 - artist

Unknown - Ann Folk - Bird - MoMA

Weather Vane - Horse - MoMA

... Balancing Toy - MoMA

Freeman - Ann (woodcut)

Zoell. - Cot - MoMA