

# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53RD STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

45618 - 20b  
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## NEW ACQUISITIONS INCLUDED IN EXHIBITION AT MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

James Johnson Sweeney, Director of the Museum's Department of Painting and Sculpture, announces that in the large two-floor-and-garden exhibition of the Museum Collection which opens to the public June 20, will be included several important recent acquisitions made since February 1, 1945.

In making the announcement, Mr. Sweeney said:

"Notable among the new acquisitions are three major examples of American painting: John Marin's large 1922 watercolor Lower Manhattan in which Marin combines his mastery of the watercolor medium with bold synthesis of broken forms in a strikingly personal fashion; Georgia O'Keeffe's Lake George Window, 1927, one of her most austere expressions, saturated with reticent suggestions of regional sentiment; and Stuart Davis' Egg Beater No. 5, 1930, a monumental abstraction from nature in which he has employed pure colors, broad lines and large forms with striking conviction and exhilaration.

"Perhaps the most familiar of the recent acquisitions is Marc Chagall's masterpiece, I and the Village. This is by far his most famous work. It embraces those Russian folklore features which have persisted in his painting from the first decade of the century down to the present day. It is rich also in those fantastic dream suggestions which have attracted the generation which opened up the road to Surrealism.

"Wifredo Lam, the Cuban painter who in spite of his youth has enjoyed a wider reputation than any of his contemporaries, is represented by his most ambitious painting up to the present, The Jungle, 1943, a dramatic composition of Voodoo and jungle themes in an intricate and colorful composition.

"One of the leaders of the older Cubist generation, Fernand Léger, is represented by La Grande Julie, 1945, a canvas in which he has combined his familiar static force with a freedom of handling and spontaneity of expression which give the work an unexpectedly fresh and gay character.

"Gayety again is evident in the surprising Man-Eater with Pennants by Alexander Calder, a mobile sculpture sweeping one hundred feet in circumference in the garden, designed to be seen from upper story galleries as well as the ground. And while Jacques Lipchitz' 7 foot 8 Benediction acquired four weeks ago will not be ready for the opening of the exhibition its casting in bronze is likely to be completed and the figure installed before the summer show is concluded."

Other acquisitions are as follows:

- Berman, Eugene: Sleeping Figures, Statue, Campanile. 1932. Oil.  
Gift of Philip L. Goodwin.
- Demuth, Charles: Vaudeville Musicians. 1917. Watercolor.  
Purchase Fund.
- Graves, Morris: Sailors. 1918. Watercolor. Purchase Fund.
- Graves, Morris: Joyous Young Pine. Watercolor and gouache.  
Purchase Fund.