he Museum of Modern Art

No. 20 FOR RELEASE: . Wednesday, March 2, 1966

vest 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Circle 5-8900 Cable: Modernart

The large exhibition of Japanese avant-garde painting and sculpture, which, since its opening last April at the San Francisco Museum of Art, has been circulating throughout the United States under the auspices of the International Council of The Museum of Modern Art, will be on view in New York from October 19 through January 3. The exhibition of 106 works was selected by Museum of Modern Art Curators Dorothy C. Miller and William S. Lieberman.

The New Japanese Painting and Sculpture includes work by 46 artists. Thirty of the artists live in Japan, and 16 in New York, Paris, Milan, and Rome. Half of the artists are 40 or younger and most of the works were executed in the 1960s. The more well-known artists are represented by a major work and the younger ones by several examples, with some exceptions.

The 60 paintings, 36 sculptures, and 10 assemblages in the show were lent by private collectors, museums, galleries and artists. Oil on wood, lacquered and cut steel, cast aluminum, terra cotta and ceramic, stone, wood, cast cement, plaster, polyester-impregnated cloth, and commercial sacking are among the materials used.

Although there has been an increasing awareness of the remarkable developments in Japanese painting and sculpture of the past decade - largely through representations of Japanese art in the major international exhibitions at São Paulo, Venice, Pittsburgh, and New York - many of the leading Japanese artists had not been shown in this country and the younger generation is almost totally unknown. Rather than revealing a strong national identity, most of the work demonstrates the distinctive individuality which characterizes art today all over the world.

A catalog will be published by the Museum in May documenting the exhibition. The 112-page book, with a foreword by Mrs. Donald B. Straus, President of the Museum's International Council, and text by William S. Lieberman, contains 136 illustrations, 13 in color, and will be available for \$2.95 paperbound and \$5.95 hardbound.

69