

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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FOR SATURDAY RELEASE

PAINTING BY CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE, AGED 3-18 YEARS, TO BE SHOWN AT MUSEUM

Work from the People's Art Center of the Museum of Modern Art, selected from last spring's classes to show creative development at different age levels, will be on view in the Young People's Gallery on the 2nd floor from September 30 through October 30. The exhibition, arranged by Victor D'Amico, Director of the Museum's Educational Program, will demonstrate to parents of new students the kinds of expressions produced by children enjoying the freedom of creative activity.

Work shown represents only that done in painting or other two-dimensional media, although the classes also include work in clay, collage and construction. The work of the youngest children is shown to be the least complicated. Simple colors in large splashes; wide, emphatic lines; subject matter of the familiar things seen in their daily life such as streets and buildings, other children, the adult world differentiated only by scale, and forms in nature reduced to the simplest shapes; these are the expressions of the child who has not yet concerned himself with formal concepts and relationships but enjoys painting as a form of play. The older children, especially those in their 'teens, work with more complex color combinations, more intricate patterns and subject matter based either on abstract ideas or on literary material. Delineation is careful in some of the paintings; areas of color are more consciously conceived. The idea of creating a painting has produced an additional enjoyment of understanding art through participation.

The People's Art Center has just begun its fall classes and, although most of them are filled, there are still opportunities for children between the ages of three and five years in the mornings at 10:30 and in the afternoons at 2:30.

The Museum holds classes for children as young as three and four years of age because it feels that it is most important for them to learn to express themselves and to explore various media. It also hopes through this exhibition to have parents realize the importance of directing the child's play at an early age to some creative end.