

193

The Museum of Modern Art
11 West 53 St., New York

November 6, 1951

To: City Editor
Art Editor

Dear Sir,

We regret that the Museum cannot hold the customary Tuesday afternoon press preview for the exhibition Henri Matisse since many of the art works cannot possibly be here in time. However, the Members' private preview will take place on Tuesday evening, November 13, from 7 to 11 p.m., with brief inaugural talks at 7 o'clock. The press will be welcome to come in the evening or at any time after 10 a.m. on Wednesday.

The many important works sent here by the French Government, works which were turned back from the New York port by the dock strike, may be on view on Tuesday evening only if the Ile de France returns to New York on November 12 as scheduled, and if it can be unloaded. In this case we hope it will be possible at least to have these art works on view, even if not yet properly installed, by the evening of November 13. But this private preview will take place as scheduled even if it is necessary to have many blank wall spaces.

May we suggest to those who wish to review the entire showing that they determine the time of their visit in accordance with the latest news about the strike and the arrival of the ship? And may we also suggest that if your deadline is not immediate, you will see a better exhibition if you can postpone your visit to three or four days after the unloading of the ship?

Very sincerely,

Betty Chamberlain

Betty Chamberlain
Publicity Director

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
NEW YORK

11 WEST 53rd STREET
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900
CABLES: MODERNART, NEW-YORK

November 9, 1951

City Editor
Picture Editor

Dear Sir:

Now that the dock strike is over, the Matisse works of art are due to be unloaded from the Ile de France late on Monday, November 12. Trucking facilities are to be available all night, if required, to get the works of art into the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, in time for the opening of the Henri Matisse exhibition on Tuesday evening at 7 p.m. Despite the Monday holiday, the customs officials have generously agreed to have a checker at the Museum, also all night if necessary, in order not to hold up the unpacking because of customs clearance.

You are invited to come or to send a photographer on Monday evening to cover these proceedings. If you will telephone me on Monday afternoon, I will be able to be more specific about the time of arrival of the 10 huge crates sent here from France by the French Government. The crates contain 25 paintings, 12 bronzes and 7 drawings, 32 of them from Matisse's own collection.

Very Sincerely,

Betty Chamberlain

Betty Chamberlain
Publicity Director