

local design
158

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

521014-67

FOR RELEASE: THURSDAY
October 16, 1952

ADVANCE ANNOUNCEMENT OF DE STIJL EXHIBITION

The first historical retrospective exhibition in America of paintings, sculpture, architecture, typography and furniture by the influential group of primarily Dutch artists known as de Stijl (1917-27) and led by the well-known van Doesburg, Mondrian and Oud will be on view at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, from December 17 through February 15.

To show how de Stijl principles are still a force today, a selection of work by contemporary artists and designers reflecting the influence of this movement will form a concluding section of the exhibition.

De Stijl was one of the longest lived and most influential groups of modern artists, according to Alfred H. Barr, Jr., Director of the Museum Collections, who has written the introduction to the show. "From the very beginning it was marked by extraordinary collaboration on the part of painters and sculptors on the one hand and practical designers on the other....Two elements formed the fundamental basis of the work of de Stijl, whether in painting, architecture or sculpture, furniture or typography: in form the rectangle; in color the 'primary' hues, red, blue and yellow."

The exhibition will include paintings by Theo van Doesburg, Mondrian and Van der Leek, sculpture by Vantongerloo, models of buildings by Oud and Rietveld, furniture by Rietveld, and posters, lettering and magazines designed by these and other members of the group.

Gerrit Thomas Rietveld, an original member of de Stijl, designed the exhibition and is bringing it to New York from Amsterdam and Venice where it has been on view. The exhibition is under the direction of the Museum's Department of Architecture and Design, and is being brought here under the sponsorship of the Dutch Government.