

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

NEW YORK 19

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

April 28, 1953

To: City Editors

Dear Sir:

At 5:00 p.m. this afternoon the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden will be formally opened at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street. Speakers will be:

Rene d'Harnoncourt, Director of the Museum

General A. Conger Goodyear, first President
of the Museum and
now a Trustee

Dr. Grayson Kirk, President of Columbia
University

Mr. Trygve Lie, first Secretary General of UN.

Invited guests include Museum trustees, UN officials
and cultural leaders of New York.

Mr. Lie's remarks and General Goodyear's remarks
are enclosed.

For further information please telephone me at CI 5-8900.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Boldt
Elizabeth Boldt (mb)
Assistant to the
Publicity Director

encl.

*sent w/ release on opening, Goodyear's remarks,
Trygve Lie's remarks to:
Cit. Edition of Times, Times Journal, American, Telegram
AP, UP, INS, N.Y. Post, Sunday News, Paul Buckley*

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

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*Milwaukee Journal
Des Moines Register*

530424-38

FOR RELEASE: SATURDAY
April 25, 1953

Mr. Trygve Lie, first Secretary General of the UN, and Dr. Grayson Kirk, President of Columbia University, will be the main speakers at ceremonies opening the new Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, on Tuesday, April 28, at 5 p.m.

The garden, the first in America designed for the exhibition of modern sculpture, will be open to the public the following day as a permanent addition to the Museum. Completely transformed since it was closed last summer, the new garden has been turned into a sunken, marble-paved outdoor exhibition area with two reflecting pools and planted with trees, flowers and evergreens. It is named in honor of the late Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., one of the founders and major benefactors of the Museum of Modern Art.

Mr. Lie will speak on the importance of cultural activities in fostering international relations and the Museum of Modern Art's program in this respect as demonstrated by the current international exhibition "Sculpture of the Twentieth Century," the first exhibition in the new garden. Dr. Kirk will describe the contribution of the Museum to New York City.

General A. Conger Goodyear, trustee and first President of the Museum, will introduce the speakers and discuss Mrs. Rockefeller's importance to modern art. Mr. David Rockefeller, one of the late Mrs. Rockefeller's sons and also a trustee of the Museum, will cut the ribbon symbolizing the opening of the garden.

Among the United Nations officials, Museum directors, civic leaders and artists who have accepted invitations to attend the opening ceremonies are: Sir Gladwyn Jebb, Permanent Representative to the UN, Italian Ambassador H.E.M. Gastone Guidotti, Mrs. Arthur Hays Sulzberger, the Consul Generals of Italy, Switzerland and Spain, Mrs. Carmel Snow of Harpers Bazaar, Mr. Herman More of the Whitney Museum.

NOTE: TEXT OF SPEECHES WILL BE AVAILABLE TUESDAY A.M. PLEASE CALL ELIZABETH BOLDT, CI.5-8900, FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.