

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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PRINT SHOW OF RECENT AMERICAN ACQUISITIONS

Forty American artists will be represented by 47 prints in the exhibition of graphic work, also on the Museum's third floor. This is the third annual review of American additions to the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Print Room. The first exhibition consisted of printmakers of the United States and Latin America. Last year's survey of new acquisitions was devoted exclusively to the recent revival of interest in the woodcut. The present exhibition stresses a wide diversity of styles in all print media.

Well-known artists such as Eugene Berman, George Biddle and Max Ernst are represented by recent lithographs. The exhibition also features work by 24 printmakers, mostly from the West and the mid-West, never before shown at the Museum. They include 23-year-old Byron McClintock, and a cowboy who prefers to be known simply by his first name, "Danny." Two printmakers, Carol Summers and Walter Rogalski, were shown for the first time in one of the Museum's New Talent exhibitions.

In scale and especially in the use of color, prints of the past decade often suggest that the printmaker has sought to rival the painter. However, less than half of these new additions to the Museum's collection are in color. Indeed, many of the prints offer a dramatic - and perhaps necessary - restatement of the importance of black and white.

Gabor Peterdi, initiator of the department of graphic arts at the Brooklyn Museum School and at Hunter College, and now an instructor at Yale University, is represented by two richly engraved scenes. The etching by R. Maxil Ballinger is accompanied by the zinc plate from which it was printed. Paul Hultberg, with two examples, works in intaglio as well as in a technique borrowing freely from photography. Leonard Baskin, who has just received a Guggenheim fellowship, is represented by the extraordinarily large woodcut Man of Peace. Norma Morgan, a recent recipient of a Whitney fellowship, is one of the eight women artists in the exhibition. Three artists, Ivan Le Lorraine Albright, John Paul Jones and J. L. Steg, are represented by their own images. Martin Jackson borrows a page from an old album for a portrait of himself and his family.

The exhibition of Recent American Prints 1947-1953 closes August 2. A complete check-list will be available at the press opening on Tuesday, June 23, 2-5 p.m.