MUSEUM TO EXHIBIT OBJECTS FROM DESIGN COLLECTION

For the first time in its history the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, will present an entire exhibition of beautiful and historically important objects which have been acquired for its unique Architecture and Design Collection.

Examples of industrial, craft, graphic and architectural design will be included in the exhibition which will be on view from December 23 through February 22. A dramatic background for the show has been designed by Philip C. Johnson, Director of the Museum's Department of Architecture and Design, who has lined one of the two first floor galleries with panels of snowlike plastic to make a striking and unusual background for the objects.

In the main entrance to the Museum Mr. Johnson has placed a stained glass window, "Nuit de Noel", by Henri Matisse. In the main hallway are colored paper maquettes of a chasuble, burse, stole and chalice which Matisse designed for the Chapel at Venice. In the galleries will be hung a white silk chasuble decorated with green and yellow satin appliqué, an example of exquisite needlework, also designed by Matisse.

A walnut handmade beaker by an American designer, crystal brandy and wine glasses from France, a porcelain coffee cup from Germany, a mother-of-pearl and ebony stamp box from Vienna, a Finnish wood platter, a silver chess set by an American artist, a lamp and chair from the Dutch Stijl movement, a Thonet bentwood chair manufactured in 1870, an Italian office typewriter, the famous leather and metal "Barcelona" chair by Mies van der Rohe, an English jewelry box, a model for "The Endless House" by Frederick Kiesler, and letterheads and envelopes, posters and book jackets by American and European graphic designers will all be on view.

This exhibition of 37 objects, all of which have been acquired since June, 1946, represents only a small fraction of the total Design Collection which includes approximately 2500 items. Architectural models, drawings and three dimensional color slides, furniture from the Art Nouveau period of 1900 to recent chairs by American designers such as Charles Eames, small objects such as Tiffany glass, lamps, kitchen utensils, fabrics, pottery and glassware, examples of Machine Art,
and posters, signs, letterheads and other combinations of word and image from the 1890's to the present day make up this highly selective Collection, the only one of its kind in the world.

These objects, selected for their intrinsic beauty and importance in the history and development of modern design, are available to students, artists and designers for study and are loaned to other museums and institutions for special displays. A large group from the Collection is now touring Europe in an exhibition of American design organized by the Museum for the United States Information Agency.

The Design Collection has been formed in part from material exhibited in the Museum. Lobmeyr glass, Art Nouveau objects and Thonet chairs, for example, were first shown in various exhibitions presented by the Department of Architecture and Design and then acquired for the Collection. Other objects have first been shown in annual exhibitions of objects available in America. The Design Collection is one unit of the Museum Collections, under the Direction of Alfred H. Barr, Jr., which includes films and photographs as well as painting and sculpture.

All the objects in the present exhibition were acquired since 1946, although their date of design ranges from 1870 to 1953. In general this selection of recently acquired objects is planned to give an indication of the breadth of the collection and to show some of the particularly beautiful and elegant things which have been created by American and European designers in our time.
CHECKLIST
RECENT ACQUISITIONS 1946 - 1953

Department of Architecture and Design

Knife, Fork and Spoon — Sterling silver
1938
L. Cassini Dominioni & P.C. Castiglioni
Italian
Manufactured by Azucena, Italy
Anonymous gift

Table Lamp — Glass & metal
1924
Gerrit Rietveld, Dutch
Gift of Gerrit Rietveld

Armchair — Painted wood
1917
Gerrit Rietveld, Dutch
Anonymous gift

Stamp Box — Mother-of-pearl & ebony
1946
Josef Hoffman, Austrian
Manufactured by Kunsterwerkstatten Verein Vienna (Karl Krehan, craftsman), Austria
Purchase

Platter — Laminated plywood
1961
Tapio Wirkkala, Finnish
Gift of Georg Jensen, Inc.

Tray — Laminated plywood
1951
Tapio Wirkkala, Finnish
Gift of Greta Jantze

Chess Set — Silver-plated copper
1927
Man Ray, American
Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Purchase Fund

Armchair — Wood
1870
Thonet Brothers, Austrian
Gift of Thonet Industries, Inc.

Lounge Chair — Chrome-plated steel and leather
1926
Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, American
Gift of the manufacturer, Knoll Associates

Tumbler — Crystal
1948
Vera Liskova, Czechoslovakian
Manufactured by J. & L. Lobmeyr, Austria
Gift of A. J. van Dugteren & Sons, Inc.

Bowl — Crystal
1948
Vera Liskova, Czechoslovakian
Manufactured by J. & L. Lobmeyr, Austria
Gift of A. J. van Dugteren & Sons, Inc.

Jewel Box — Sterling silver decorated with mother-of-pearl, enamel & turquoise
1900
Charles Knox, English
Manufactured for Liberty & Co. (William Craythorne, craftsman)
Gift of the family of Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
Coffee Cup - (modern adaptation of traditional design) Porcelain

Coffee Cup - Porcelain 1929-1933 Trade Petri-Raben, American, born Germany


Ice Bucket - Sterling silver & Raffia 1961 Magnus Stephensen, Danish

Tumbler - Crystal 1939 - 1941 Elis Bergh, Swedish

Beaker - Walnut 1961, t Reynolds G. Dennis, American Gift of the manufacturer, Semurian Crafts

Ashtray & Cigarette Cup - Austrian jade 1948 Morris Zerner, American, born Austria Gift of Georg Jensen, Inc.

Two Stem Glasses - Crystal 1920 Josef Hoffmann, Austrian

Champagne Glass - Crystal 1924 Oswald Emartl, Austrian

Wine Glass - Crystal 1911 - 1935 Manufactured by Compagnie des Cristalleries de Baccarat, France. Gift of Baccarat & Porthault

Brandy Glass - Crystal 1895 M. Thiebauld, French

Office Typewriter - Metal 1947 Marcello Nizzoli, Italian Gift of the Olivetti Corp. of America
Church Vestments

Silk with velvet & silk decorations

c. 1950

Henri Matisse, French (1869-)

Manufactured at Les Ateliers des Arts Appliques, Cannes, France.

Purchase

Design for red & yellow chasuble.

Gouache on cut-and-pasted paper
c. 1950

Henri Matisse, French (1869-)

Acquired through the Lillie P. Bliss Bequest

Design for "Nuit De Noel"

Gouache on cut-and-pasted paper
1952

Henri Matisse, French (1869-)

Gift of Time, Inc.

"Nuit De Noel"

Stained glass window
1952

Henri Matisse, French (1869-)

Manufactured at the workshop of Paul and Adeline Bony, Paris, France.

Gift of Time, Inc.

ARCHITECTURE:

Endless House

Terra cotta
1951

Frederick Kiesler, American, born Austria

Purchase

GRAPHIC DESIGN:

Poster for Ford Motor Company, Dearborn, Michigan

1938

A. M. Cassandre, French

Gift of A. M. Cassandre

Page from catalogue for Knoll Associates

1951

Herbert Matter, American, born Switzerland

Gift of Herbert Matter

Catalogue cover "8 Automobiles"

1951

Leo Lionni, American, born Holland

Gift of Leo Lionni

Pamphlet for Noonday Press

1953

Alvin Lustig, American

Gift of Alvin Lustig

Letterhead
c. 1950

Bruno Munari, Italian

Gift of Bruno Munari

Album Cover "Ralph Sutton at the Piano"

1952

Rudolph de Harak, American

Gift of Rudolph de Harak

Magazine Cover "Terapia"

1953

Will Burtin, American, born Germany

Gift of Will Burtin

Letterheads and Envelopes

1929 - 1934

From the Jan Tschichold Collection

Anonymous gift