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THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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STEICHEN TO APPEAR ON NBC-TV INTERVIEW PROGRAM

Edward Steichen, dean of American photographers and Director of the Museum of Modern Art's Department of Photography, will appear on an NBC half hour television interview produced by Henry Salomon, Jr., chief of the network's newly created television documentary unit. The Steichen interview, which is one of NBC's filmed series of conversations with distinguished persons, frequently referred to as the "wisdom series," will be released nationally by NBC shortly. Others in the series previously released by NBC include interviews with Carl Sandberg, Bertrand Russell, Robert Frost, Wanda Landowska and Frank Lloyd Wright.

In the filmed interview Mr. Steichen, who has just celebrated his 75th birthday, reviews his career as artist, world citizen and human being, and discusses his current project -- the great photography exhibition on "The Family of Man" which he is preparing for the Museum of Modern Art's 25th Anniversary program.

He also discusses his career as chief photographer for the Air Force in World War I and as Chief of Naval Photographers in World War II and compares photographic coverage of the last war with coverage of the first war thoroughly photographed -- the Civil War. Mr. Steichen also tells of his most difficult sitting of all the many celebrities he has photographed -- Charles Chaplin -- and how one of his most famous portraits resulted from it.

The interview was completed in two days of filming by the NBC Documentary Film Unit under Henry Salomon, producer of the prize-winning "Victory at Sea." There was no prepared script, and Steichen's answers and comments are spontaneous and were recorded on film and sound track just as he made them in the course of the interview. Wayne Miller, a young friend and fellow photographer who is working with Steichen in preparing "The Family of Man" exhibition, is the second party to the interview.

The Steichen interview was photographed by Cy Avnet and Jesse Sabin, directed and edited by Isaac Kleinerman with Richard Hanser as Associate Director, S. A. D'Alisera and Daniel Jones as Editorial Assistants and Donald Hyatt, Production Manager.