100 MASTERPRINTS OF EUROPE TO BE SHOWN AT MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

100 MASTERPRINTS OF EUROPE, a dramatic and almost complete survey of graphic art from 1880 to 1954 in more than 10 countries, will be on view at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, from December 8 through February 20 in the Auditorium Gallery. This is the second exhibition of prints selected by William S. Lieberman from the Museum's extensive collection in the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Print Room which opened five years ago. Like the preceding exhibition of American prints, 100 MASTERPRINTS OF EUROPE is part of the Museum's 25th Anniversary year-long celebration.

More than one third of the prints in the exhibition are recent acquisitions and have not been shown in the Museum before.

Curator of Prints William S. Lieberman, commenting on the exhibition, says:

"Today's extraordinary renaissance in printmaking was to a great extent initiated by the revival of lithography as a creative medium by the post-impressionists in France in the 1880s and 1890s. For three quarters of a century the most memorable European prints have continued to be made by artists who are primarily painters and sculptors. Although the exhibition of one hundred master prints can only suggest the wealth of the Museum's collection, it offers a dramatic and almost complete survey of modern printmaking in Europe.

"Gauguin, Redon and Toulouse-Lautrec were the most prolific printmakers of the post impressionists in France although the exhibition also contains well known masterpieces by Cézanne and Renoir, Signac, Bonnard and Vuillard. In Norway and Belgium, Edvard Munch and James Ensor worked far into the 20th century but their best productions as printmakers were contemporaneous with those of the post-impressionists in France.

"The exhibition offers a history in prints of the development of cubism in France and the spread of abstract art through Europe. Large woodcuts and lithographs in color trace the rise of expressionism in Germany and central Europe. The initiators and followers of the dadaists and surrealists are represented by a variety of examples of fantastic art.

"One third of the prints are recent acquisitions. They range from van Gogh's rare and somber lithograph Sorrow of 1888 to the vividly colored prints of artists recently working in Scandinavia, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Italy and France. Several of the new acquisitions have already been announced in MASTERS OF MODERN ART edited by Alfred H. Barr, Jr., and published in November by the Museum."
"During the Museum's 25th Anniversary year, the exhibition is the second survey of prints to celebrate the opening of the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Print Room five years ago. Today, in his Modern Prints and Drawings, the well-known scholar and art authority Paul J. Sachs describes the collection of the Museum of Modern Art 'as the finest collection in the Western World of modern prints.'"

Note: Checklist and photographs of the exhibition are available on request from Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street.
NOTE: During the Museum's 25th Anniversary Year, Modern Masterprints of Europe is the second exhibition to celebrate the opening of the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Print Room five years ago. The exhibition was preceded by American Prints of the 20th Century, September 8 - November 28, 1954. The Print Room on the fourth floor of the Museum is open daily Monday through Friday between 2 and 5 P.M.

Modern Masterprints of Europe consists of prints done over a period of 80 years from a Degas of 1871 to a Graham Sutherland of 1954. The selection is not hung chronologically although the exhibition falls roughly into four groups. First, artists working in Paris at the end of the 19th century including van Gogh, Ensor and Munch. Second, the development of cubism and the spread of abstract art. Third, expressionism in Germany. Fourth, printmakers of Italy and the school of Paris, fantasists and surrealists, recent color lithographers in several European countries.

Twenty-one prints in the exhibition are reproduced and discussed in Alfred H. Barr, Jr.'s Masters of Modern Art, published by the Museum in November. References to prints in the exhibition are listed at the end of the checklist.

All prints in the exhibition are owned by the Museum. Recent acquisitions, not previously announced, are marked with an asterisk (*).

CHECKLIST

Henri Georges ADAM, French, born 1900.

Jean ARP, French, born Strassburg 1887.

Ernst BARLACH, German, 1870-1938.
   * Traveling Death. 1923. Lithograph. Purchase Fund.

Max BECKMANN, German, 1881-1950.

   Purchase Fund.
Georges Braque. French, born 1882.


Heinrich Campendonk. German, born 1889.


Massimo Campigli. Italian, born 1895.


Felice Casorati. Italian, born 1886.

Two Women. 1916. Lithograph. Purchase Fund.

Paul Cézanne. French, 1839-1906.


Marc Chagall. French, born Russia 1889.


Lovis Corinth. German, 1858-1925.


Edgar Degas. French, 1834-1917.

Mme Bevat at the Ambassadeurs. c.1875. Lithograph. Gift of Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

After the Bath. c.1890. Lithograph. Gift of Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
Robert DELAUNAY. French, 1885-1941.


Maurice DENIS. French, 1870-1943.


André DERAIN. French, born 1880.

Head of a Girl with Black Hair. c.1928. Lithograph. Gift of Mrs. Saidie A. Hay.

Otto DIX. German, born 1891.

Meeting a Madman at Night. From The War. 1922. Etching and drypoint. Gift of Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

Jean DUBUFFET. French, born 1901.


Raoul DUFY. French, 1879-1953.


Valdemar H. ELENBAAS. Dutch, born 1912.


M. C. ESCHER. Dutch, born 1898.


Paul GAUGUIN. French, 1848-1903.

Here We Make Love. 1892-93. Color woodcut. Gift of Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.


Human Misery; Memory of Brittany. 1895-1903. Woodcut. Gift of Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

Vincent van GOGH. Dutch, 1853-1890.

* Sorrow. 1882. Lithograph. Purchase Fund.

Hans HARTUNG. French, born Germany 1904.

Stanley William HAYTER. British, born 1901.


Erich HECKEL. German, born 1883.


Vassily KANDINSKY. Russian, 1866-1944.


Ernst Ludwig KIRCHNER. German, 1880-1938.

Head of Schames. 1917. Woodcut. Gift of Curt Valentin.


Paul KLEE. Swiss, 1879-1940.


Oskar KOKOSCHKA. British, born Austria 1886.


Käthe KOLLWITZ. German, 1867-1945.

Death Tears a Child from Its Mother. 1934-35. Lithograph. Purchase Fund.

Harry van KRUININGEN. Dutch, born 1906.


Roger de LA FRESNAYE. French, 1885-1925.

* Man with Top Hat. 1911. Lithograph. Purchase Fund.

Fernand LEGER. French, born 1881.


Wilhelm LEHRERBUCK. German, 1881-1919.


El LISSITZKY. Russian, 1890-1947.

Robert MacBRYDE. British, born 1913.

Aristide MAILLOL. French, 1861-1944.

Alfred MANESSIER. French, born 1911.

Franz MARC. German, 1880-1916.

Gerhard MARCKS. German, born 1889.
Two Cats. 1921. Woodcut. Extended loan from Dr. Arthur Lefford.

Louis MARCOUSSES. Born Poland 1883; died France 1941.

Henri MATISSE. French, 1869-1954.
Seated Nude. 1906. Linoleum cut. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. R. Kirk Askew, Jr.
Nude, face partly showing. 1911. Lithograph. Frank Crowninshield Fund.


Joan MIRO. Spanish, born 1893.

* Construction. 1923. Lithograph. Extended loan.

Giorgio MORANDI. Italian, born 1890.

Edvard MUNCH. Norwegian, 1863-1944.


The Kiss. 1902. Woodcut. Gift of Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr.
Rolf NESCH. Norwegian, born Germany 1893.


Emil NOLDE. German, born 1867.


Max PECHSTEIN. German, born 1881.


Pablo PICASSO. Spanish, born 1881.


John PIPER. British, born 1903.


Mario PRASSINOS. French, born 1911.


Edion REDON. French, 1840-1916.

* the marsh flower, a sad and human face. From Homage to Goya. 1885. Lithograph. Purchase Fund.
The Day. From Duets. 1891. Lithograph. Lillie P. Bliss Collection.

Auguste RENOIR. French, 1841-1919.


Christian ROHLES. German, 1889-1938.

Georges ROUAULT. French, born 1871.


"The Righteous, like sandalwood, perfume the axe that falls on them."

Henri ROUSSEAU. French, 1844-1910.

War. c.1895. Lithograph. Given anonymously.

Karl SCHMIDT-BOTTLOFF. German, born 1884.


Kurt SCHMIDT-TOTTWERS. German, 1887-1948.

Merz Composition. 1923. Lithograph and collage. Gift of J. B. Neumann.

André Dunoyer de SEGONZAC. French, born 1884.


Paul SIGNAC. French, 1863-1935.


Gustave SINGIER. French, born Belgium 1909.


Théophile STEINLEN. French, 1859-1923.


Graham SUTHERLAND. British, born 1903.


Henri de TOULOUSE-LAUTREC. French, 1864-1901.


Félix VALLOTTON. French, born Switzerland 1865; died 1925.

Renzo VESPIGNANI. Italian, born 1921.


Jacques VILLON. French, born 1875.


The Dinner Table. 1913. Drypoint. Purchase Fund.


Giuseppe VIVIANI. Italian, born 1898.

The Leg. 1939. Etching. Purchase Fund.

Edouard VUILIARD. French, 1868-1940.


The following prints in the exhibition are reproduced and discussed on these pages:

Beckmann Self Portrait, 1914 and 1922, p. 62; Cézanne Bathers, p. 22; Dix Meeting a Madman at Night, p. 153; Gauguin Women at the River, p. 30; van Gogh Sorrows, p. 26; Heckel Portrait (Self Portrait), p. 61; Kirchner Two Ladies in the Street, p. 60; Klee Senile Phoenix and Little World, pp. 128 and 130; Matisse Nude, face partly showing and Nude in an Armchair, p. 53; Munch Anxiety, p. 33; Picasso Frugal Repast and Minotauromancy, pp. 67 and 92; Redon The Day and ... and eyes without heads floated like mollusks, p. 34; Rouault The Righteous, like sandalwood, perfume the axe that falls on them, p. 56; Schmidt-Rottluff The Three Kings, p. 61; Toulouse-Lautrec Hanging Man, p. 32; Villon The Dinner Table, p. 74.