THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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In cooperation with the Museum of Modern Art, The American Federation of Arts announces that a book entitled "Art in America in Modern Times" will be published in conjunction with the radio program "Art in America" to be broadcast nationally every Saturday night from October 6 to January 26. The book is a history of American painting, sculpture, architecture, housing, stage design, photography, and motion pictures from the end of the Civil War to the present day. It is designed to answer the demand for a brief, authoritative survey of American art of this period and will, of course, be useful as a reference book not only for those who listen to the Art in America series over the radio but for all who are interested in American art.

The "Art in America" program is a new venture in education by radio. Each subject has been prepared by an expert and has then been adapted for radio presentation in dialogue form. The articles in the book are accompanied by numerous illustrations of painting, sculpture, architecture, stage design and the other arts. The book contains more than 150 plates, 8 of which are in full color. Each article gives not only a history of artists and movements but their social background and a critical appraisal of their value. The book also contains bibliographies and lists of museums and localities all over the country where the objects mentioned may be seen. Although the articles cover a period of nearly seventy years, they are written from the viewpoint of today. "Art in America in Modern Times" is a selective survey of the period without any attempt to include every artist who has lived during it. The deadwood of the period has been cast aside fearlessly, with no exceptions made to conciliate traditional or contemporary opinion. It considers the problem of the artist today and shows that this country is now at the crossroads of art.

The book has been edited by Holger Cahill and Alfred H. Barr, Jr., Director of the Museum of Modern Art. Mr. Cahill, who has also written the articles on painting and sculpture, was on the staff of the Newark Museum from 1922 to 1929. He was Director of Exhibitions for the Museum of Modern Art during the 1932-33 season, and in 1934 directed the First Municipal Exhibition at Rockefeller Center. For many years he has contributed articles on art and other subjects to leading magazines and he is the author of several monographs and books.

A large section of "Art in America in Modern Times" is devoted to architecture, the "mother of the arts." The subject has been treated not pedantically but vigorously. It tells the story of the skyscraper, America's contribution to world architecture, and throws a searchlight on the genius of Richardson, Sullivan and Wright, America's three great architects. These articles have been contributed by Henry-Russell Hitchcock, Jr., lecturer on architecture and Professor of the History of Art at Wesleyan University. Mr. Hitchcock is the author of numerous articles and a book, "Modern Architecture," and is co-author with Mr. Philip Johnson of "The International Style; Architecture Since 1922."

Philip Johnson, Chairman of the Museum's Department of Architecture, has contributed two articles on the modern room and the modern house. He presents the most advanced principles of interior and exterior domestic architecture, which treat the home as an efficient and harmonious background for living rather than as a box to be beautified to suit the whims of modernistic or period interior decorators.

Catherine Bauer, expert and lecturer on housing and author of the book "Modern Housing" which is just off the press, has contributed an article on Cities and Houses. In graphic detail Miss Bauer exposes the pathetic fallacy responsible for burdening American citizens with taxes, liens and mortgages in the sacred name of "home-owning."

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In an article on Stage Design, the scenic background of the American stage has been sketched by John Mason Brown, dramatic critic of the NEW YORK POST. Mr. Brown has written and lectured extensively on the drama and has given a course at Yale on the History of Dramatic Criticism. He is author of the newly published "Letters from Greenroom Ghosts" and several other books on the theatre.

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Lincoln Kirstein has outlined the development of Photography in this country from the time of the daguerrectype to the amazing technical advances of today. He has shown the contribution of America to the art in the work of Matthew B. Brady, photographer of the Civil War, and other photographers up to the present time, including Stieglitz, Steichen, Sheeler and others. Mr. Kirstein, who was editor and one of the founders of HOUND & HORN, has worked with the brilliant contemporary photographer, Walker Evans, on several projects, particularly the series of Victorian houses now in the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art.

In an article on Motion Pictures Iris Barry, formerly motion picture critic of the LONDON DAILY MAIL and THE SPECTATOR, traces the artistic development of the film from D. W. Griffiths to current activities both in Hollywood and in the experimental field. Miss Barry was co-founder of the Film Society of London and is a member of the Exceptional Photoplays Committee of the National Board of Review. She is the author of "Let's Go to the Movies," a critical survey of the motion picture, and other books.

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