

# THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

11 WEST 53 STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900

For Release:  
Friday, July 6, 1956  
No. 71

## MODERN AMERICAN ART EXHIBITION OPENS IN BELGRADE

The first comprehensive exhibition of American art ever seen in Yugoslavia opens to the public in Belgrade today (July 6) and will remain on view until August 6. MODERN ART IN THE UNITED STATES: SELECTIONS FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART, NEW YORK, organized under the Museum's International Program of circulating exhibitions for showing in leading centers in Europe, was brought to Yugoslavia at the invitation of the Yugoslav Committee for Foreign Cultural Relations, an official government agency, in cooperation with the American Embassy. Following a press view at 11:00 yesterday morning, the official inauguration of the exhibition took place at 8:00 last evening in the presence of Yugoslav government and museum officials, members of the diplomatic corps, cultural leaders and other invited guests. The opening address, delivered by Marko Ristic, President of the Yugoslav Committee for Foreign Cultural Relations, was followed by brief speeches by Robert G. Hooker, Jr., Chargé d'Affaires at the American Embassy and Porter McCray, Director of the International Program of the Museum of Modern Art, who flew to Belgrade to assist in preparations for the showing.

MODERN ART IN THE UNITED STATES consists of more than 300 examples of contemporary American painting, sculpture, printmaking, architecture and photography, drawn principally from the Museum's own collection and supplemented by a few loans from trustees and other patrons of the Museum. Since Belgrade has no single gallery large enough to accommodate an exhibition of this scope, three separate galleries have been made available. Painting and sculpture are being shown at the largest and most popular exhibition hall in the city, the Kalemegdan Pavilion in the city's historic park; prints and photographs at the ULUS gallery operated by the Association of Serbian Painters and Sculptors (Udruzenje Likovnih Umetnike Srbije) situated on the principal thoroughfare, Terazije; and architecture at the Fresco Museum (Muzej Fresaka). An illustrated catalog of the exhibition has been issued in Serbo-Croatian and contains a foreword by René d'Harnoncourt, Director of the Museum of Modern Art.

Following its closing in Belgrade next month, the exhibition will be returned to the United States for dismantling, having been seen in France, Switzerland, Spain, Germany, England, the Netherlands and Austria, as well as in Yugoslavia, since April, 1955.

more.....

The International Program of the Museum of Modern Art, under which MODERN ART IN THE UNITED STATES was organized, was established in 1953 by a grant from the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. Since then, it has assembled more than 40 exhibitions for showing in Europe, Latin America and Asia under its own auspices or those of other agencies and has brought a number of art exhibitions from other countries for presentation in the United States. Scheduled to be shown in Yugoslavia next January is THE FAMILY OF MAN, one of several near-replicas of the world-famous photographic exhibition originally created by Edward Steichen for the Museum's 25th Anniversary last year and duplicated by the International Program for the United States Information Agency to circulate abroad under its own auspices.

---

Further information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, New York 19, N. Y. Circle 5-8900.