

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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

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"EXPERIMENTAL PHOTOGRAPHY IN COLOR" TO BE DISCUSSED BY EDWARD STEICHEN

Edward Steichen will give an illustrated talk on "Experimental Photography in Color" at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, on Tuesday evening, February 19 at 8:30 p.m. in the Museum Auditorium. Tickets are now on sale at \$1.50 for Museum members and students and \$2.00 for the general public. The talk is sponsored by the Junior Council of the Museum.

Mr. Steichen will show examples of recent experimental color 35 mm. slides and will discuss the controversy concerning the influence of painting on photography. He plans to show how far photography has gone without moving into painters' concepts and to discuss the distinction between these two fields, which have influenced each other since photography was invented.

Mr. Steichen is best known for his exhibitions of black and white photographs, such as "The Family of Man," but his interest in color experimental work dates back many years. In 1950 he presented an exhibition at the Museum of color photographs and transparencies by more than 75 photographers. At that time he asked, "Is (color photography) a new medium for the artist or is it a means of supplementing or elaborating the recognized attainments of black and white photography?....In any attempt to evaluate the present status of color photography, one must recognize that color was introduced into films as well as into stills after they had been established and fully accepted as black and white....today's new photography medium, television, is, unfortunately, being handicapped by the same black and white precedent....Color has been an integral part of all the other visual arts from the beginning."

The 1950 exhibition presented the complete range of color photography. Mr. Steichen's talk will concentrate on recent experimental work in this field. He says, "Serious photographers and students of the art of photography have long since concluded that any form of local interference with the photographic image constitutes an invasion of the other graphic arts. Today we must recognize the possibility that much experimental photography is moving into a more serious 'aberration' when the influence of concepts of modern painting leads to imitating concepts that are actually peculiar to painting."

Mr. Steichen will be introduced by Andrew Carnduff Ritchie, Director of the Department of Painting and Sculpture at the Museum.

For further information contact Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, N. Y. Circle 5-8900.