A public art auction will be held at the Parke-Bernet Galleries in New York City on Wednesday, April 27 to benefit the Museum of Modern Art's 30th Anniversary Fund. Approximately 50 modern works have been donated for the sale by well-known private collectors, individual artists and American and European dealers. The Museum, now engaged in a fund raising campaign for new building and endowment, expects to gross more than half a million dollars from the auction.

Two Cézannes will be included in the sale: Apples (1879-82) from the collection of William A. M. Burden, Ambassador to Belgium, was exhibited at the Orangerie in Paris in 1936; and an early colorful still life Dead Birds (1873), gift of Wildenstein and Co., Inc. which was once owned by the famous Dr. Paul Gachet. A classic period Picasso, Two Women, is the gift of the Thannhauser Foundation, Inc.

Other private collectors who have donated works they own for the auction are Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller, Museum trustee, who has given a 1914 Braque painting, Mr. and Mrs. Henry R. Luce, who have given an 1895 Renoir landscape, Mrs. Albert D. Lasker, who has given a 1949 Picasso painting and Larry Aldrich, who has given a Juan Gris oil.

Joan Miró, famous Spanish artist, has sent a painting which has never been exhibited or photographed. Jean Arp has sent a bronze sculpture, Self-Absorbed, of which a marble version was exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art retrospective of his work in 1958. Works in the sale also include Chagall's Acrobat on White Horse, from the collection of Mr. and Mrs. David Rockefeller and a Maillol bronze figure given by Fine Arts Associates. Other casts are in the Collection of the Museum of Modern Art and the Kunsthaus in Zurich, while a marble version is in the Musée National d'Art Moderne in Paris.

The paintings and sculpture will be on view at the Parke-Bernet galleries for five days from April 23 to April 27.

As it is a policy of the Museum of Modern Art not to sell works it owns by living Americans it was decided not to accept works by living American artists for inclusion in the sale because it is for the benefit of the Museum.

The auction, a major event in the Museum's fund raising drive, is being organized by a special committee headed by Mrs. Louise R. Smith and Mrs. E. Powis Jones. Alfred H. Barr, Jr., Director of Museum Collections, is chief advisor and selected the works for the sale from those offered.

For additional information, black and white photographs and kodachromes please contact Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 W. 53 St., N.Y.C.