

plans for sending more than 500 American works of art to Europe and South America were announced yesterday (May 9) by the International Council of the Museum of Modern Art. The paintings, sculpture, prints and drawings, which would more than fill the galleries in the Museum itself, will be borrowed from private and public collections in various parts of the country.

Among the exhibitions which will be circulated during the coming year in about a dozen European countries by the Museum of Modern Art under the International Council's sponsorship are Modern American Drawings, one-man shows of work by Leonard Baskin, Ben Shahn and Mark Rothko and an exhibition of Visionary Architecture.

The Council also announced that for the fourth time it will sponsor the United States representation at the São Paulo Bienal in Brazil next September. The United States section will be chosen by members of the Museum staff for this international show which is the most important in this hemisphere. The governments of more than 45 countries will participate.

The Museum of Modern Art's program of circulation exhibitions abroad, under the direction of Porter A. McCray, is the largest privately supported cultural exchange program in the world. Since 1938 the Museum has organized more than 100 shows which have been circulated to over 260 communities in nearly 60 countries around the world. Since 1957 the International Council, a group of approximately 100 art patrons and community leaders from various parts of the United States, has sponsored the program with the aid of a Rockefeller Brothers Fund grant.

At a two-day meeting in New York (May 8 and 9) Council members from various parts of the country previewed a selection from Modern American Drawings at Santini Brothers Warehouse where it is being packed for shipment. The exhibition, consisting of about 70 drawings by 45 artists, was selected by William S. Lieberman, Curator of Drawings and Prints and Elaine Johnson, Assistant Curator. It will be shown in Spoleto, Italy in June and then travel to Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Athens and other European cities.

Some works of art purchased for the "Art in Embassies" program, announced last year by the Council, were also shown at the warehouse. This program was established to help American Ambassadors abroad obtain original works of art for their residences in order to represent American creative achievements and to demonstrate this country's interest in the visual arts. Paintings, drawings and watercolors have been sent to the American embassies in Germany and Portugal thus far.

The Baskin show of sculpture, drawings and prints which opened in Rotterdam May 6 was selected by Peter Selz, Curator of Painting and Sculpture Exhibitions and William S. Lieberman, Curator of Drawings and Prints. The exhibition will be shown

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in about 7 countries during the coming year.

The Ben Shahn retrospective to be sent abroad in November, is being assembled by James Thrall Soby, well-known art scholar. It will include paintings, drawings, watercolors and prints as well as examples of Shahn's book designs and posters. The exhibition will open at the Stedelijk Museum in Amsterdam.

The Rothko show selected by Peter Selz is being sent in response to requests from several European museums for one-man shows of artists whose work was seen and admired in New American Painting, a group show circulated in Europe in 1958-59. It will open at the Whitechapel Art Gallery in London in the fall and has been requested by 8 other institutions in Europe.

Visionary Architecture, selected by Arthur Drexler, Director of the Museum's Department of Architecture and Design, was shown at the Museum in New York this winter. In response to numerous requests it is being prepared for overseas circulation in different languages for circulation in Europe, and eventually in Australia and Latin America.

The International Council is a non-profit membership organization of approximately 100 art patrons and community leaders from various parts of the United States.

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