

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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No. 77

FOR RELEASE: 16,

Sunday, July 9, 1961

The Museum of Modern Art will send twice as many shows on the road next year as it will present in New York for Museum visitors, according to the new catalog issued today by the Department of Circulating Exhibitions. More than 50 exhibitions of original material which would fill the Museum's 2nd floor galleries on 53 Street 10 times have been prepared by the Museum staff and will be seen by close to a million people in college and university museums, art associations and other educational groups throughout the United States and Canada.

While a few of the new shows, such as Roads; Recent Painting USA: The Figure; Orozco: Studies for the Murals at Dartmouth College, and 15 Polish Painters, will be shown in New York in the next few months before going on tour, the great majority will be seen only outside the city.

The program for the '61-62 season includes the first one-man show in the United States of paintings by Francis Bacon, the leading figurative English painter of the postwar period, 80 works being shown for the first time in this country by the master of collage, Kurt Schwitters, the distinguished collection of abstract-expressionist paintings owned by Mr. and Mrs. Ben Heller, which will be shown in Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Los Angeles and San Francisco, a retrospective of work by Edwin Dickinson, whose one-man show in New York this year was widely acclaimed, and an exhibition of "Hard Edge" painting, designed to demonstrate the vitality of a recent abstract movement that stands in contrast to abstract expressionism.

Diversity also characterizes the print and drawing shows which include recent work by Frascioni, the prints of Sickert, Vallotton and Signac, a one-man Max Beckmann show, "The Phenomena" of Jean Dubuffett and Rauschenberg's illustrations for Dante's Inferno. Architecture and Design shows include The Twentieth Century House, What is Modern Architecture?, Stairs and Art Nouveau Graphics. An adaptation of the Edward Steichen photography retrospective shown at the Museum in the spring of 1961, photographs by Irving Penn and Alexander Liberman's The Artist in His Studio, also shown earlier at the Museum, are being offered.

The scope of the Museum's circulating program, initiated in 1932, was recently reactivated by a grant from the CBS Foundation, the organization through which the Columbia Broadcasting System makes educational and cultural contributions. Although the Museum has sent more than 500 exhibitions to 900 communities where they have had 4,000 showings, lack of funds in the 50s made it impossible for the Museum to subsidize the widening gap between the cost of preparing the shows and the rental fee

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that educational non-profit groups can afford. Therefore despite increasing requests the Museum was forced to drastically curtail the operation. With a few exceptions rental fees range from \$100 to \$500 for a 3 week period. Subscribers also pay costs for one-way transportation charges from the preceding place of exhibition.

The CBS Foundation grant, and funds from a private donor, have made it possible for the Museum to once again offer a full complement of shows in a program particularly re-orientated to meet the purposes of colleges and universities which have assumed increasing responsibility for presenting modern art to the general public in their localities as well as to their own students.

Porter A. McCray, Director of the Department of Circulating Exhibitions, says: "The program has been planned to meet the current and future needs of a wide range of institutions, both large and small, by representing the scope and diversity of the visual arts of our time as well as contemporary re-evaluations of earlier periods. A special effort has been made to include, besides the work of well-known twentieth century masters, examples of other artists, both American and foreign, who are still relatively unfamiliar throughout this country."

More than 1,500 works of art will be borrowed from the Museum of Modern Art's own collection and from private collectors and galleries around the country for these traveling exhibitions. Hundreds of photographic panels, incorporating explanatory text, have been designed for the architecture and design shows. Special packing cases have been constructed to insure the safety of the works of art which will travel thousands of miles by truck, railway express and air in the coming months.

The exhibitions have been selected by the Museum's curatorial staff and guest directors.

For additional information please contact Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, New York CI 5-8900.