

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

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

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No. 48

FOR RELEASE:

Thursday, April 18, 1963

NOTE: The special viewing of the exhibition Hans Hofmann and His Students including the "environment" described here will take place from 4 to 6 p.m., Wednesday, April 17, 1963 at Santini's Warehouse, 447 West 49 Street. Mr. Hofmann, the other artists represented in the exhibition, and lenders have been invited.

Members of the press and photographers are, of course, welcome to attend and participate.

"Push and Pull - A Furniture Comedy for Hans Hofmann," an "environment" by Allan Kaprow, will be presented for an invited audience as part of a special one-day showing of a new Museum of Modern Art circulating exhibition, Hans Hofmann and His Students, on Wednesday, April 17 at Santini's Warehouse, 447 West 49 Street. The exhibition consists of six major paintings by the famous 83-year-old teacher and one work each by 50 well-known American artists who have been his students. The show will be shipped from the warehouse later this month to begin a year and one-half long tour of the United States.

The great variety of media and styles in the exhibition is a testament to Hofmann's ability to inspire individual creativity. According to William C. Seitz, Associate Curator of Painting and Sculpture Exhibitions who organized the show, "the impact of Hofmann's teaching, especially on American art of the post-war period, has been invaluable. His ideas of color and composition have inspired two generations of American painters and sculptors who studied with him in this country or abroad."

The "Furniture Comedy," consisting of two rooms in which visitors are invited to make their own compositions by rearranging the furniture, has been set up for the special warehouse showing only, and will not travel with the exhibition. Other exhibitors can, however, stage an environment in the spirit of a text provided by the artist. Whether an actual setting is made or not, the ideas can be shown on placards prepared by the artist, which will be sent in a packing case resembling a file and through which the viewers may leaf.

Eight artists in the exhibition studied in Hofmann's School in Munich where he taught from 1915 to 1934. They are the painters Cameron Booth, John Haley, Carl Holty, Alfred Jensen, Ludwig Sander, Vaclav Vytlacil, Glenn Wessels (who also studied in New York), and the sculptor Louise Nevelson.

The other artists studied at the Hofmann School in New York (1933 to 1957), and his summer school in Provincetown, Massachusetts (1934 to 1958), or both. They are the painters Robert Beauchamp, Nell Blaine, Nicolas Carone, Giorgio Cavallon, Jean Follett, Miles Forst, Helen Frankenthaler, William Freed, Jane Freilicher, Paul Georges, Michael Goldberg, Robert Goodnough, John Grillo, Julius Hatofsky, Dorothy Heller, Wolf Kahn, Karl Kasten, Albert Kotin, Lee Krasner, Linda Lindeberg, Michael

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Loew, Erle Loran, Mercedes Matter, George McNeil, Jan Müller, Robert de Niro, George Ortman, Stephen Pace, Felix Pasilis, Larry Rivers, Joseph Stefanelli, Myron Stout, Albert Swinden, and Anne Tabachnick, and the sculptors Fritz Bultman, Mary Frank, Richard Stankiewicz, and Wilfred Zogbaum. Included are collages by Perle Fine and Robert Richenburg, a composition of woven strings by Paul Harris, and the "environment" by Allan Kaprow.

The "environment" consists of two rooms, each 10 by 20 feet, constructed by Kaprow. One is entirely black and lit only by a single blue bulb suspended from the low ceiling. It is crowded with boxes and temporarily discarded objects such as those stored in an attic. A television set running without sound will flicker from behind a crate.

The second room is painted bright yellow. A red band runs around the lower wall. The furniture consists of a chest of drawers, chairs, a table, a trunk, mirror, bed and radio all painted various shades of yellow.

Aided by Kaprow's suggestions written on large pieces of cardboard and filed in a box outside the rooms, visitors are invited to move objects from one room to the other, rehang the pictures in the room, change the furniture, play the radio, and to "push and pull them around until they make a significant composition."

All the work by Hofmann's students selected for the show is from the past decade. Hofmann himself, however, is represented by paintings dating from 1938 to 1961. In the fall of 1963 the Museum of Modern Art will present a one-man Hofmann show which will later travel to Latin America and Europe.

Hans Hofmann and His Students is one of 54 exhibitions prepared by the Circulating Exhibitions Department of the Museum of Modern Art with the aid of a grant from the CBS Foundation Inc., the organization through which the Columbia Broadcasting System makes contributions to educational and cultural institutions. It will be shown in Denver, Colorado; East Lansing, Michigan; Akron, Ohio; Bloomington, Indiana; and Athens, Ohio in the coming months.

Photographs and additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Publicity Director, Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York 19, N. Y. CI 5-8900.