

The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Circle 5-8900 Cable: Modernart

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PHILIP C. JOHNSON

Architect of the remodeled and greatly expanded Museum of Modern Art, Philip C. Johnson was the first Director of the Museum's Department of Architecture in 1932 and ever since has been closely associated with the institution. In 1949, he designed the Grace Rainey Rogers Annex to the Museum at 21 West 53rd Street and in 1953-54 he was responsible for the Museum's Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Sculpture Garden and the adjacent Garden Restaurant.

Mr. Johnson has been the recipient of numerous professional honors for his work. In 1960, he and Ludwig Mies van der Rohe were awarded the Gold Medal of Honor of the Architectural League of New York for their design of the Seagram Building at 375 Park Avenue in New York. His own Glass House in New Canaan, Connecticut, was awarded the Silver Medal of Honor by the Architectural League in 1950, and the Hodgson House in New Canaan, Connecticut, was awarded the First Prize at the São Paulo Bienal in 1954. In 1961, he was presented with two First Honor Awards by the American Institute of Architects for his Roofless Church in New Harmony, Indiana, and for the building housing the Atomic Reactor which he designed for the State of Israel.

Earlier this spring, the newest addition to Mr. Johnson's long list of architectural achievements -- The New York State Theater at Lincoln Center -- opened to the public.

As the first Director of the Museum's Department of Architecture, Mr. Johnson was responsible for a program of exhibitions and publications which defined the standards and recorded the history of modern architecture and design. The first exhibition organized by the Department, Modern Architecture: International Exhibition, introduced the International Style in architecture to this country.

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The exhibition was shown at the Museum in February and March, 1932, while a smaller version of the show toured the United States during the following two years. In 1934, Mr. Johnson directed Machine Art which initiated the Museum's Design Collection. Other major exhibitions included Two Cities: Planning in North and South America and Mies van der Rohe in 1947, From Le Corbusier to Niemeyer, Art Nouveau from the Museum Collection and Painting and Sculpture in Architecture, all in 1949. In his own words, Mr. Johnson's work at the Museum has "involved the related arts which in scale extend all the way from teaspoons to town planning."

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1906, Mr. Johnson graduated from Harvard University in 1927 with a B.A. degree in philosophy. In 1943, he received a Bachelor of Architecture degree; again from Harvard University. He has taught at Cornell, Yale and Pratt Institute.

Mr. Johnson is the author of The International Style: Architecture Since 1932 (1932, with Henry Russell Hitchcock), Machine Art (1934) and Mies van der Rohe (1947). He is a member of the American Institute of Architects and the Architectural League and a Trustee of The Museum of Modern Art.