

The Museum of Modern Art

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

No. 118

FOR RELEASE:

Wednesday, November 10, 1965

Mrs. Donald B. Straus has been elected President of The International Council of The Museum of Modern Art it was announced today (November 10) at the annual meeting of the Council now taking place in New York. She succeeds Mrs. Bliss Parkinson, who was elected President of the Museum last June.

Mrs. Straus, a Trustee of the Museum since 1959, has been a member of The International Council since 1958. She is also Honorary Chairman of the Museum's Junior Council, having served as Chairman from 1954 to 1959.

Born in San Francisco, California, in 1916, Elizabeth Allen Straus graduated from Stanford University, magna cum laude, a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She is married to Donald B. Straus, President of the American Arbitration Association. They have three children, David, Robert and Sally.

Mrs. Straus also serves as a Trustee of the Community Service Society, Vice-President of the Park Association of New York, and a member of the Advisory Council of the New York Botanical Gardens.

The International Council is a membership organization of approximately 140 community members from the United States and abroad which was created in 1953 to help promote good will and understanding among people of different countries by encouraging the exchange of art exhibitions.

Walter Dowling, former United States Ambassador to Bonn, now living in Paris, is Chairman of the Council; Mrs. Parkinson, a Trustee of the Museum since 1939, served as President of the International Council from 1957 until June, 1965. Honorary members include Mrs. John F. Kennedy, the Honorable C. Douglas Dillon, Senator William Fulbright, André Malraux and Sir Herbert Read.

Photographs and additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, and Lynn Traiger, Assistant Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N. Y. 10019. Circle 5-8900.

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442
No. 119

Wednesday, November 10, 1965
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mrs. Donald B. Straus was elected President of the International Council of The Museum of Modern Art at its 9th meeting in New York on November 10. Mrs. Straus succeeds Mrs. Bliss Parkinson who became President of the Museum in June.

The International Council of The Museum of Modern Art, is a membership organization of approximately 140 community leaders and art patrons from the United States and abroad. It was formed in 1953 to help create good will and understanding among the world's peoples by encouraging the exchange of art exhibitions. Since 1957, the Council has sponsored the Museum's international exchange program of the visual arts, the largest in America.

At a business session attended by more than 100 Council members and special guests from 18 states, Waldo Rasmussen, Executive Director of Circulating Exhibitions at the Museum, gave an illustrated report on the program of exhibition exchange during the past six months and announced future projects. During the next five years, he said, the Council plans to sponsor major exhibitions in Japan, Europe, Africa and Latin America. Among the most important will be two major shows surveying the past 20 years of American painting. One will travel throughout Latin America, the other in the East -- Japan, Australia, New Zealand and India. These will be the first major surveys of American painting to be seen in those parts of the world, and he expressed confidence that they would be followed by requests from museums in those parts of the world for one-man shows or exhibitions dealing with particular aspects of American art.

Pointing out that while the future program calls for continuing to send exhibitions to Europe, at the same time the Council will increase the number sent to those sections of the world not so familiar with American achievements in painting, sculpture, architecture and design, and photography. Mr. Rasmussen said this extension calls for development of new kinds of shows. He specifically mentioned architectural shows, exhibitions dealing with Museum techniques, and

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teacher training materials.

Mrs. H. Gates Lloyd showed slides of the recent installation of works of art in the American embassies in Mexico City and Helsinki and announced seven new Art in Embassies projects including two in Africa, one in Syria and one in Roumania. Mrs. Lloyd pointed out that the latter two are of particular importance as neither country has there been a significant exhibition of American art.

Since the Council's embassy program started in 1960, 24 collections have been assembled by The Museum of Modern Art's staff from private collectors, artists, galleries and other museums, in consultation with each Ambassador or his wife. At present there are ten such collections on location.

During the past six months, 16 exhibitions have been circulating under the Council's auspices in Europe, Latin America, Asia, Australia, the United States and Canada. Four new shows will be added during the next six months: one-man shows of work by Robert Motherwell and David Smith to travel in Europe, as will The Bitter Years, an exhibition of photographs from the FSA, and Contemporary Painters and Sculptors as Printmakers which will travel through Latin America.

Plans for next year, 1966-67 include sending the School of Paris exhibition now on view at the Museum to Mexico where it will be exhibited with another traveling show, The Artist in His Studio, photographs taken by Alexander Leiberman. An exhibition dealing with 20th Century Engineering will travel to Latin America as well as an American Painting exhibition, and Motherwell: Works on Paper. Recent American Painting will go to Japan and American Collages to Europe.

Walter Dowling, Chairman of the Council presided at the business session which was held from 10 a.m. to noon at The Museum of Modern Art.

Additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. Circle 5-8900.