

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

NEW YORK 19

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TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 5-8900
CABLES: MODERNART, NEW-YORK

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mrs. Donald B. Straus, daughter of Harry Beckwith and Winifred Bridge Allen of San Francisco, has been elected President of The International Council of The Museum of Modern Art it was announced on November 10 at the annual meeting of the Council.

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, who attend Harvard University and Sally, now attending Milton Academy.

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.

The San Francisco members of the Council include Mrs. Walter A. Haas, Mr. and Mrs. Jaquelin H. Hume, Mrs. Henry P. Russell, Mrs. Madeleine Haas Russell, and Mr. and Mrs. Brooks Walker.

At a business session of the current meeting, attended by 100 Council members and guests from 18 states and Canada, Waldo Rasmussen, Executive Director of Circulating Exhibitions at the Museum, reported that during the past six months 16 exhibitions circulated under the Council's auspices in Europe, Latin America, Asia, Australia, the United States and Canada. Future projects will include major exhibitions of American art to circulate in Europe, Africa, the Far East and Latin America.

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Mrs. H. Gates Lloyd of Haverford, Pa., reported on recent loans of art to 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. Since the Council embassy program started in 1960, 24 collections have been assembled by the Museum's staff from private collectors, artists, galleries and other museums, in consultation with each Ambassador or his wife.

The Council members and their guests present at the New York meeting, attended a reception in their honor given by Ambassador and Mrs. Arthur Goldberg and toured private collections in New York and Connecticut.

The first part of the Spring Meeting of 1965 was held in San Francisco in April.

Walter Dowling, former United States Ambassador to Bonn, now living in Paris, is Chairman of the Council. Honorary members include Mrs. John F. Kennedy, the Honorable C. Douglas Dillon, Senator William Fulbright, André Malraux and Sir Herbert Read.

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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.

The Museum of Modern Art

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

November 8, 1965

Members, husbands and wives participating in Ninth Annual Meeting activities
(underscore indicates Council member):

Mrs. Ernest Angell - New York City

Mr. and Mrs. Harding Bancroft - New York City

Mr. and Mrs. Armand P. Bartos - New York

Mr. and Mrs. LeRay Berdeau - New York City and Palm Beach, Florida

Mrs. Harry L. Bradley - Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Mrs. Samuel Bronfman - New York City

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Bunshaft - New York City

Mr. and Mrs. Carter Burden - New York City

Mr. Shirley C. Burden - Beverly Hills, California

Mr. and Mrs. William A. M. Burden - New York City

Mrs. Poe Burling - Washington, D. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert W. Chapman - New York City

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Clark - New York City

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph F. Colin - New York City

Mr. and Mrs. McCauley Conner - Sussex, New York

Mr. and Mrs. Gardner Cowles - New York City

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Dayton - Minneapolis, Minnesota

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Deutsch - Greenwich, Connecticut

Mr. and Mrs. C. Douglas Dillon - New York City

Mr. ~~Walter~~ Dowling - Paris and New York City

Mr. and Mrs. John C. Duncan III - Greenwich, Connecticut

Mrs. John David Eaton - Toronto, Ontario

Mr. and Mrs. Allan D. Emil - New York City

Mr. W. Hawkins Ferry - Grosse Pointe Shores, Michigan

Mrs. Bernard F. Gimbel - New York City

Mr. and Mrs. Walter A. Haas - San Francisco, California

Mr. and Mrs. August Heckscher - New York City

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Mr. and Mrs. Henry J. Heinz II - Pittsburgh and New York City

Mr. Ben Heller - New York City

Mrs. Frederick W. Hilles - New Haven, Connecticut

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. Hirshhorn - Greenwich, Connecticut

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hochschild - New York City

Mr. and Mrs. R. Wolcott Hooker - New York City

Mrs. Arthur Hooper - Baltimore, Maryland

Mr. and Mrs. David H. Hughes - Greenwich, Connecticut

Mr. and Mrs. Jaquelin H. Hume - San Francisco, California

Mrs. J. Lee Johnson III - Fort Worth, Texas

Mr. Philip Johnson - New York City and New Canaan, Connecticut

Mr. and Mrs. H. Gates Lloyd - Haverford, Pennsylvania

Mr. John L. Loeb, Jr. - New York City

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold H. Maremont - Chicago, Illinois

Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Mathews - New York City

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur F. McCormack - Rutherford, New Jersey

Mr. Porter McCray - New York City

Mrs. Gertrud A. Mellon - Greenwich, Connecticut

Mrs. Katherine Merkel - Gates Mills, Ohio

Mr. and Mrs. Severance Millikin - Gates Mills, Ohio

Mr. Roy R. Neuberger - New York City

Mrs. P. Shephard Norris - New York City

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Noyes - New York City

Mrs. Bliss Parkinson - New York City

Mr. and Mrs. Gifford Phillips - Santa Monica, California

Mr. and Mrs. Frank H. Porter - Cleveland, Ohio

Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd - New York City

Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Rowan - Pasadena, California

Mrs. John Barry Ryan - New York City

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Mr. and Mrs. Robb Sagendorph - Dublin, New Hampshire
Mr. and Mrs. Wolfgang Schoenborn - New York City
Mr. and Mrs. Taft B. Schreiber - Beverly Hills, California
Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Scull - New York City
Mrs. Henry D. Sharpe - Providence, Rhode Island
Mrs. John Farr Simmons - Washington, D. C.
Mrs. Bertram Smith - New York City
Mrs. Carleton S. Smith - New York City
Mr. and Mrs. David S. Smith - Greenwich, Connecticut
Mrs. Emily Staempfli - New York City
Mrs. Thomas A. Stone - New York City
Mr. and Mrs. Donald B. Straus - New York City
Mr. Lockwood Thompson - Cleveland, Ohio
Mr. and Mrs. Burton G. Tremaine - New York City and Meriden, Connecticut
Mr. and Mrs. A. Murray Vaughan - Montreal, Quebec
Mr. and Mrs. Julius Wadsworth - Washington, D. C.
Mr. and Mrs. Brooks Walker - San Francisco, California
Mrs. Harry L. Winston - Birmingham, Michigan
Mr. and Mrs. Bagley Wright - Seattle, Washington
Mrs. Alan Wurtzbarger - Pikesville, Maryland
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Zadok - New York City
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel J. Zacks - Toronto, Ontario
Mr. Richard Zeisler - New York City

Honorary Members:

Mrs. John F. Kennedy - New York City
Mr. and Mrs. James Johnson Sweeney - Houston, Texas

Ex-Officio Members:

Mr. René d'Harnoncourt, Director, The Museum of Modern Art
Mr. Waldo Rasmussen, Director, Department of Circulating Exhibitions, The Museum
of Modern Art

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Guests:

Mrs. Adelyn D. Breeskin
Special Consultant
National Collection of Fine Arts
Smithsonian Institution

Mr. Stefan P. Munsing
Special Consultant
National Collection of Fine Arts
Smithsonian Institution

Dr. David W. Scott
Director
National Collection of Fine Arts
Smithsonian Institution

(only to dinner and Ambassador
Goldberg's reception - in Washington
till noon - with Mrs. Scott)

Mr. S. Dillon Ripley
Secretary
Smithsonian Institution

Mr. and Mrs. Ripley will dine at
Mrs. Parkinson's and go to Ambassa-
dor Goldberg's reception.

Mrs. Nancy P. Kefauver (Mrs. Estes)
Advisor on Fine Arts
Department of State

Miss Lois Bingham
Chief of Fine Arts Section
Exhibits Division or Exhibitions Division
U.S.I.A.

ANNUAL MEETINGREPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR ART IN EMBASSIES

Before reporting on the Committee's current activities, I would like to give some general background on the Council's Art in Embassies project for our guests at today's meeting and for the new members who are attending a meeting for the first time.

The impetus for the program came from Mrs. L. Corrin Strong of Washington, who as wife of the United States Ambassador to Norway, had borrowed paintings from The Museum of Modern Art for the residence in Oslo. Having seen the effectiveness of an art collection in making the Embassy residence a cultural center, Mrs. Strong discussed with The International Council the possibility of developing a continuing program of sending American works of art to our Embassy residences abroad. Thanks to generous support from Mrs. Strong and other members of The International Council, the Embassy program began in 1960. At that time it was intended as a pilot project for possible future government participation, and since then we have been delighted by the growing interest of the government in this field. I am sure you all know of the program which Mrs. Kefauver has initiated with State Department assistance, and also that of the Woodward Foundation of Washington, D.C. Even with three organizations active in the field, the number of requests from Ambassadors is far beyond our capacities to fulfill.

In five years the Council's program has assembled 24 collections, which the staff of The Museum of Modern Art has obtained from private collectors, artists, galleries, and other museums. The Art in Embassies Committee assumes the costs of assembling, preparing, packing and insuring the collec-

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tions. The Ambassador is asked to arrange to have the exhibition transported to and from the Embassy post. The selection of the works is made in close consultation with the Ambassador or his wife whenever possible, and attempts to reflect their personal tastes and interests. At the same time, the Committee stresses that each collection should have something of the character of a small traveling exhibition. Its standards should be those which prevail in museum exhibitions, and the works of art should demonstrate a variety of important aspects of American art.

Collections are lent for a period of one year to eighteen months, with the possibility of loan extension for an additional year. Loans are accompanied by a presentation album giving background information on the artists and a photograph of each work, and a set of books giving additional background are sent as a gift from the Council to remain permanently in the Embassy.

Until this year, all financing of the program was assumed by the International Council through the efforts and private contributions of Committee members. As time went on, the fund-raising required on a project-to-project basis made it difficult to plan the program sufficiently far in advance. This year we received a generous three-year grant of \$15,000. annually from the Old Dominion Foundation to ensure the continuance of the program. The International Council contributes an equal amount for personnel and operating expenses.

At present we have ten collections on location, and at our Committee's last meeting, we approved plans for seven new projects. One of these you will be seeing this evening at the reception given in the Council's honor by Ambassador and Mrs. Goldberg. We have been especially pleased to assist in assembling a group of paintings for the Ambassador's Residence in the

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Waldorf Towers, and we are also lending a group of graphics for the United States Mission to the U.N. The Whitney Museum of American Art has also collaborated with us in lending to Ambassador and Mrs. Goldberg, while the Metropolitan Museum and many other private collectors and galleries are assisting Mrs. Goldberg to assemble a collection for the Mission.

Regarding other collections currently planned, we have now selected three large pieces of outdoor sculpture for the garden of the Embassy residence in The Hague, which will be sent later this month along with four paintings. We are also currently working on two collections for African embassies: an entirely new collection for Lagos, where, for the last three years, a collection of material purchased by the Committee has been installed; and a smaller group of works for the Ivory Coast, where we shall transfer the earlier Lagos collection and supplement it with larger oils and some sculpture.

Later on in the year, we shall prepare collections for embassies in Syria and Rumania. The Committee regards both projects as especially important, since in neither country has there been a significant exhibition of American art. The Committee has been especially eager to prepare a collection for an Embassy in an Eastern block country. An earlier project undertaken for Poland was certainly momentous, and we feel that exhibitions on this scale are an excellent means of introducing American art. As you all know, in most iron-curtain countries it has been impossible to provide American painting and sculpture exhibitions because of the official restrictions on cultural exchange. For this reason, an embassy collection is at present the only means of sending American art to these countries. We are also corresponding with the American Legation in Budapest about the possibility of arranging a collection in that city.

Annual Meeting - Art in Embassies Report

I would now like to show a few slides of two collections which were prepared last summer.

Thirty loans were sent to Mexico City in June and, before being installed in the Embassy Residence, they were given a public showing at the new museum of modern art. The showing was given jointly with the exhibition of paintings by Josef Albers which the Council has circulated throughout Latin America.

(Notes on sequence of slides as follows):

Exterior of the new museum of modern art

Entrance to the exhibition with David Smith sculpture and Goldberg oil

Central court with Smith in background, small Nakian bronzes in foreground

Christopher Lane landscape

Lee Bontecou drawing, with Gottlieb oil in background

Marca-Relli aluminum relief and George Rickey mobile

Paintings by Larry Rivers and Philip Guston; sculpture by Alexander Liberman

George Sugarman sculpture

Living room of the residence, with Albers and Marca-Relli

Norman Bluhm oil and George Ortman relief

Gottlieb oil over sofa in main hall

Christopher Lane landscape over mantel

Helen Frankenthaler oil, with Rickey mobile

Nicholas Marsicano oil on sunporch

Anne Arnold sculpture

This month the collection will be transferred to the newly completed Embassy residence.

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Later in the summer we sent Ambassador and Mrs. Thompson in Finland a collection of thirteen works. Mrs. Thompson wrote an especially appreciative letter, saying that the collection was a great success.

(Notes on sequence of slides as follows):

Living room, with Jane Wilson landscape over sofa, and Guston and Ryan at end of room

Goodnough and Sugarman at end of room

Close-up of Wilson landscape

Guston oil on paper

Sugarman collage

Goodnough oil

Ryan collage

Peterdi engraving

Entrance hall with Frankenthaler painting

Dining room with Robert Dash landscape over mantel, and Cavallon oil

Cavallon and Joan Mitchell

Close-up of Joan Mitchell painting