

The Museum of Modern Art

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

THURSDAY

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~~Tuesday~~, November ¹⁸~~16~~, 1965

PRESS PREVIEW:

Monday, November 15, 1965

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

SCULPTURE IN GLASS, an exhibition of thirty-three objects designed by Jean Arp, Max Ernst and Pablo Picasso, and executed in glass in the ancient factories of Murano, Italy, will be on view in The Museum of Modern Art Auditorium Gallery from November ⁸~~16~~ through January 2.

The pieces range in size from Arp's Three Graces, three tall, slender, rounded forms in bright blue that stand about 30 inches high, to the smallest of Picasso's group of 14 Nymphs and Fauns, which measures just four inches high. Though the blue tones -- ranging from deep blue-violet to bright blue-green to very pale sky blue -- are the most predominant colors used, Arp's Bride and Groom, are bright red and a milky white; Picasso's Dove is milk-white with black markings; and Ernst's Poet is a dark, bronze-like orange.

The works represent a small part of the 15-year project of a Venetian glass-dealer, Egidio Costantini, to raise the island of Murano -- once one of Europe's most illustrious glass centers -- from its status as a souvenir factory, and to restore art to the craft of glass-blowing. Jean Cocteau, one of the artists represented, christened the project "La Fucina degli Angeli" (The Foundry of the Angels).

Drawings -- and in some cases plaster or clay models -- were procured from a number of artists beside those represented in the show; the first to become interested in the project was Oskar Kokoschka. More than 800 glass sculptures have been executed to date, each of them requiring nearly two years to complete. Fifteen to twenty versions may be prepared from the original drawing or model, each submitted to the artist for his corrections until he approves a final version.

The works in the present exhibition were selected by Alfred H. Barr, Jr., Director of Museum Collections, and Peter Selz, former Curator of Painting and Sculpture Exhibitions at The Museum of Modern Art. The show has been installed by Clyde R. Rich, Jr.

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.