

# The Museum of Modern Art

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

No. 8

Monday, January 24, 1966

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A letter from President Johnson saluting the late American photographer Dorothea Lange will be read to dinner guests attending the preview of her exhibition at The Museum of Modern Art, Monday evening, January 24.

"All of us who lived through the depression of the 1930s remember the special contribution of this gifted artist," President Johnson says in his letter to Museum Director, René d'Harnoncourt. "The magic of her camera turned mere statistics into compelling human truths. Without retouching our blemishes, she showed the strength and gallantry of the American people under severe adversity .... Mrs. Johnson and I would like to join you in saluting the achievement and the memory of this remarkable American." (Complete text of letter attached.)

The dinner for 100 guests including Dr. Paul Taylor, husband of Dorothea Lange, and her sons Daniel R. and John Dixon, will precede a private preview from 9 p.m. to 11:30pm for invited guests. The exhibition, consisting of 200 photographs, opens to the public on Tuesday, January 25. It includes Dorothea Lange's famous documentation of the thirties as well as relatively unfamiliar work done mostly in the last 15 years, such as her photographic essays devoted to Asia, Ireland, Egypt, The New California and on her own home and family. (Complete release attached.)

Among the distinguished photographers and colleagues expected to be present are the artist Ben Shahn, photographers Shirley Burden, Walker Evans, Kenneth Heyman, Pare Lorentz, Wayne Miller, Homer Page, Edward Steichen and Paul Strand.

Miss Lange died last October at the age of 70.

\*\*\*\*\*

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.