

The Museum of Modern Art

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

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INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ANNOUNCES FUTURE PLANS

The International Council of The Museum of Modern Art, meeting today (May 12) at the Art Gallery of Ontario, announced plans to initiate a Library Overseas Program, send works of art this spring to U.S. embassy residences in Prague and Brussels, send two major exhibitions to Latin America and bring one from Latin America within the next two years.

The 10th spring meeting of The International Council is being held in Toronto and Montreal from May 11 through May 16. The Council, which consists of 145 art patrons and community leaders from various parts of the United States and Canada and 10 countries abroad, is privately financed and was organized to promote international understanding through active exchange of exhibitions in all the visual arts. Canadian members of the Council are Samuel J. Zacks, Mrs. John David Eaton, and John C. Parkin of Toronto, and Mrs. Samuel Bronfman and Mrs. A. Murray Vaughan of Montreal.

The new Library Overseas Program has made books available to 16 selected universities and art centers in Japan, Thailand, Korea, the Philippines and India. According to a report made by Mrs. H. Gates Lloyd of Philadelphia, 18 additional centers will receive books in the near future. Under the direction of Bernard Karpel, Librarian of The Museum of Modern Art and internationally known bibliographer, the Council is assuming responsibility for selecting, packing and shipping the books.

Mr. Karpel toured the Far East last year to survey the need for library materials related to the visual arts, then selected over 550 books of leading art publishers to be sent abroad. The books cover all periods of art from classical to modern and concern art throughout the world, providing the basis for a comprehensive art library.

Mrs. John Farr Simmons of Washington, D.C., Chairman of the Art in Embassies Committee of the Council, reported that at present 15 collections of works of art are installed in U.S. embassy residences in Europe, Latin America, and Africa and that a special exhibition of prints is now touring Africa. New collections will be sent this spring to Prague and Brussels.

(more)

Since the Art in Embassies program was introduced by the Council in 1960, more than 600 works of art have been on loan from private and public collections to the residences of U.S. ambassadors and consuls in 25 countries. Among these is the residence of Consul General and Mrs. Richard H. Hawkins, Jr., in Montreal.

Waldo Rasmussen, Executive Director of the Museum's Department of Circulating Exhibitions, reported on the status of six of the 13 exhibitions now touring the world under the auspices of the Council and announced plans for sending a major exhibition, CÉZANNE TO MIRÓ, to Buenos Aires, Lima and Santiago in 1968; paintings will be borrowed from private and public collections. This will be followed by a show of recent work entitled: NEW YORK-LONDON. Mr. Rasmussen reported that the Museum is also preparing a large exhibition of Latin American graphics which will tour the United States.

He also announced plans for an extensive tour of a one-man show of work by Willem de Kooning to open in Amsterdam in the fall of 1968, the tour to include the Tate Gallery in London, The Museum of Modern Art and museums in New York, Chicago and Los Angeles. Mr. Rasmussen reported that the exhibition he directed - TWO DECADES OF AMERICAN PAINTING - which opened in Japan last fall and was shown recently in India, is now en route to showings in Melbourne and Sydney, Australia.

Gifford Phillips, Chairman of the Council's program committee said the committee recommends that the Council continue to place increasing emphasis on Latin America, Asia and Africa, areas of the world where large public or private collections of 20th century art do not exist.

Additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. Circle 5-8900, ext. 201 (until May 11); Toronto - Park Plaza Hotel, 4 Avenue Road, Toronto, Ontario (May 12, 13 and 14); Montreal-- Le Chateau Champlain, Place du Canada, Montreal, Quebec (May 15 and 16).