

JEWELRY BY CONTEMPORARY PAINTERS AND SCULPTORS

Special Showing for Contributing Members

Two rings by Georges Braque, a pendant by Picasso, a bracelet, necklaces and buckle by Calder, medallions and a pendant by David Smith, a necklace by Jean Arp, a ring by Jean Dubuffet and pendants by Jacques Lipchitz are among over 100 pieces of jewelry by 70 artists on view in Jewelry by Contemporary Painters and Sculptors, presented specially for Contributing Members of The Museum of Modern Art in the Trustee Room from October 3 - 6, between 2:30 and 5:30 p.m.

Jewelry by Contemporary Painters and Sculptors, selected by Renée Sabatello Neu, Assistant Curator of the Department of Painting and Sculpture, is presented in this special showing before its tour in the United States under the auspices of the Museum's Department of Circulating Exhibitions. The exhibition has been shown previously at the Hessisches Landesmuseum, Darmstadt, Germany, and at the Museum Boymans-van Beuningen, Rotterdam.

"The primary purpose of this exhibition is to reveal an often neglected aspect of the creative genius of some artists of our time," states Mrs. Neu. "Whether he creates jewelry on commission or of his own free will, the artist retains a non-conformist attitude. The intrinsic value of the materials is of less interest to him than is the opportunity to experiment in another medium and scale. This non-conformist attitude and the various motivations lead to work that ranges from witty and playful to simple and severe or outright fierce and barbaric.... The objects have been invested with so strong an emotional charge that for the artists and for the wearers they become powerful charms; thus they carry on the ancient tradition of jewelry used not only as ornament but also as ritualistic emblems or amulets."

Most of the pieces were made by the artists themselves; a few were cast in metal or executed by craftsmen. The jewelry shows such major idioms as surrealism, abstract expressionism, geometric abstraction, "pop" and kinetic art adapted to the

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scale and function of jewelry, as well as atypical examples of well-known artists' styles.

The jewelry in the exhibition spans a period from 1913, represented by the work of the sculptor Julio Gonzalez, to the present. Other artists in the exhibition include Man Ray, Max Ernst, Lucio Fontana, Hans Hartung, Louise Nevelson, José de Rivera, Ibram Lassaw, Richard Pousette-Dart and Richard Lippold.

Jewelry by Contemporary Painters and Sculptors, on view in the Trustee Room on the Museum's 6th floor, is one of the special events offered as a privilege of Contributing Membership in the Museum. In April, 1967, Contributing Members viewed a special showing of The Artist as His Subject, and, in the previous year, Americans Today: 25 Painters as Printmakers, both circulating exhibitions.

Jewelry by Contemporary Painters and Sculptors, the exhibition catalogue by Renée Sabatello Neu, is on sale at the Museum bookstore for \$2.95.

Photographs, exhibition catalogue and additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, and Patricia B. Kaplan, Associate, Press Services, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. 245-3200.