

The Museum of Modern Art

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THE ART OF THE REAL: U. S. A. 1948-1968 by E. C. Goossen. 64 pages; 50 illustrations (9 in color). Paperbound, \$2.50. Published by The Museum of Modern Art, New York; distributed to the trade by New York Graphic Society Ltd., Greenwich, Conn.

In the past two decades, a growing number of American painters and sculptors have produced works that are not intended to create an illusion, nor allude to the perceived world by symbol or metaphor, but to evoke direct emotional response from the spectator. They have wished to achieve a "real" art by creating visible, tangible objects that are not the reflections but rather the equivalents of experiences and objects we perceive every day. In **THE ART OF THE REAL: U. S. A. 1948-1968**, published in conjunction with a major travelling exhibition at The Museum of Modern Art, E. C. Goossen explores this significant change -- the development in abstract art that is maximal in color and minimal in form -- as well as the interaction, unprecedented in the history of art, between painting and sculpture.

E. C. Goossen, Guest Director of the exhibition, a well-known critic, and Chairman of the Department of Art at New York's Hunter College, traces the development of "hard-edge" and "minimal" tendencies in current art through the analysis of works by such artists as Paul Feeley, Ellsworth Kelly, Donald Judd, Kenneth Noland, Tony Smith, and Frank Stella.

The variety and beauty of the works produced by this austere stylistic tendency are amply demonstrated in this profusely illustrated catalogue, which includes nine color plates. Some of the works chosen are familiar, such as the abstract expressionist paintings of Barnett Newman, Mark Rothko, and Clyfford Still, or a famous "flag" painting by Jasper Johns, included because of their historical significance, which Mr. Goossen traces as far back as Georgia O'Keeffe's minimal Blue Lines Number 10 of 1916. Most of the works, however, have seldom

or never been seen before, and several were made specifically for the exhibition by young artists. A selective bibliography on the artists and the tendencies they represent supplements the catalogue essay.

THE ART OF THE REAL: U. S. A. 1948-1968 is available at the Museum bookstore or by mail from the Museum for \$2.50. It is distributed to the trade by New York Graphic Society Ltd.

Review copies, photographs and additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of Public Information, and Patricia Bauman, Associate, Press Services, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N. Y. 10019, 245-3200