ARTHUR DREXLER, DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

Arthur Drexler, Director of the Department of Architecture and Design at The Museum of Modern Art, joined the staff of the Museum as Curator of Architecture and Design in 1951 and has been Director of the department since 1956.

Before joining the Museum, Mr. Drexler was associated with the George Nelson design studios and was architectural editor of Interiors magazine. He was born in New York City in 1925 and attended the High School of Music and Art and Cooper Union.


As Director of the Department of Architecture and Design, Mr. Drexler is responsible for the works which are selected for the collection. He is also the director of the permanent exhibition in the Philip L. Goodwin Galleries for Architecture and Design on the second floor of the Museum's East Wing, where about 320 works drawn from the Museum's Collection of more than 4,5000 objects are installed. The Museum is the only place in the world where an international selection of furniture; machine-tooled and hand-crafted useful objects; architectural models, plans and drawings; textiles; posters and other examples of graphic design, selected on the basis of quality and (more)
historical significance, is permanently on view. The collection surveys the major
styles from Art Nouveau, de Stijl, the Bauhaus, to the present day.

Mr. Drexler has written many catalogs for the Museum exhibitions which he has
directed. His books published by the Museum include: Built in U.S.A.: Postwar
Architecture (with Henry-Russell Hitchcock, 1952), The Architecture of Japan (1955),
Introduction to 20th Century Design (with Greta Daniel, 1959), and Twentieth Century
Engineering (1964). He has also written Mies van der Rohe, published by George
Braziller in 1960, The Drawings of Frank Lloyd Wright published by Horizon Press in
1962 and the introduction to the 1958 Rinascente book, Il Museo d'Arte Moderna di New York,
as well as articles in such periodicals as Harpers magazine, Architectural Record,
Progressive Architecture, Arts and Architecture and Interiors.

In addition to his duties at the Museum, Mr. Drexler has lectured at New York
University, Yale University, Harvard University, Pratt Institute and the Massachusetts
Institute of Technology. In 1964, he participated in the Governor's Conference on
Good Design in Sacramento, California, and on several occasions has been a speaker at
the International Design Conference in Aspen, Colorado. Mr. Drexler is Chairman of
the Board of Trustees of the Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies, established
in 1967 by The Museum of Modern Art in collaboration with Cornell University.

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Photographs and additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director,
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