

The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Tel. 245-3200 Cable: Modernart

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART TO MEET IN LONDON, MAY 5 - 9

The International Council of The Museum of Modern Art, New York, whose English members include Sir Roland Penrose, The Countess of Airlie and the Earl of Airlie, Mrs. George Weidenfeld and Lady Hulton, will hold its spring meeting in London, May 5 through 9. More than 110 members from the United States, Canada, Venezuela, Belgium, Japan, Mexico, Switzerland and Spain are expected to attend. The Council, founded in 1953, is a private membership organization that sponsors The Museum of Modern Art's international exhibition exchange program, the largest in the United States.

A major reason for the Council's selection of London for its meeting is that two exhibitions under its sponsorship will be on view there this spring, The Art of the Real, which opened at the Tate Gallery on April 21, and the Helen Frankenthaler exhibition, which opens at the Whitechapel Gallery on May 6. Earlier exhibitions presented in London under the Council's auspices include the recent de Kooning show, Steichen the Photographer, Visionary Architecture and The New American Painting and Sculpture.

Council members will hold their business meeting on May 5 at The Institute of Contemporary Art, Nash House, The Mall. The agenda includes a discussion of the Council's Art in Embassies program, the Library Overseas Program, which began in Asia and is now being extended to Latin America, and future exhibitions to be circulated abroad, including one-man shows of work by Claes Oldenburg, Frank Stella and Ellsworth Kelly, scheduled for England, and photographs by Dorothea Lange, film cycles, architecture and design shows and drawing and print exhibitions scheduled for various parts of the world. Walter Dowling, Chairman of the Council, will preside at the meeting. Mrs. Donald B. Straus, President of the Council, will report on Council activities. Bates Lowry, the new Director of The Museum of Modern Art, will speak. The British critic, Edward Lucie Smith will speak on "British Art Today."

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Among the members and guests who will attend the Council meeting and special events arranged for them are the American artists Helen Frankenthaler and her husband, Robert Motherwell, whose work was shown at the Whitechapel Gallery in 1966 under the Council's auspices; James Johnson Sweeney, former Director of the Guggenheim Museum in New York and the Houston Museum of Fine Arts in Texas; John M. Cabot, former United States Ambassador to Poland, C. Douglas Dillon, former United States Secretary of the Treasury; and August Heckscher, Administrator of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs for the City of New York. The Museum of Modern Art representatives include Waldo Rasmussen, Director of the Museum's International Program, and William S. Lieberman, Curator of Painting and Sculpture, and Director of the Museum's Department of Drawings and Prints.

Among the hosts and hostesses in London holding dinners and receptions for the Council members are Mrs. John Barry Ryan who is Vice President of the Council, Mrs. Henry J. Heinz II, the Trustees of the Tate, the Arts Council of Great Britain, and the Marquess and Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava, Viscount Eccles at the British Museum and Lord Caccia, Provost of Eton. Council members will also visit the studios of Henry Moore and Lyn Chadwick and will tour Windsor Castle.

During the weekend of May 9 the Council members will visit Bath where they will be conducted on an architectural tour and will meet local artists and visit the American Museum.

Further information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York through April 30, and at the Ritz Hotel in London from May 1 through May 9.

A schedule of the Council's visit is attached, as well as a list of those attending.