

# The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019 Tel. 956-6100 Cable: Modernart

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## RICHARD HUNT, ROMARE BEARDEN GALA AT NEW YORK MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

*Suit to Chicago Defender*

A gala preview of the work of Chicago sculptor Richard Hunt and the collage-paintings of Romare Bearden drew a celebrity-starred throng of 2000 to The Museum of Modern Art in New York, Tuesday evening, March 23.

Prior to the invitational preview, which began at 8:30 p.m., the artists were the guests of honor at a dinner party for 250 people in the Museum's Penthouse. Among those attending the dinner and preview were: Mr. and Mrs. Romare Bearden of New York; Mrs. Gardner Cowles, Chairman of the Hospitality Committee and wife of one of the Museum's Trustees; Miss Nancy Hanks, Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts; Mr. John B. Hightower, Director of The Museum of Modern Art and Mrs. Hightower; Mr. and Mrs. C. Howard Hunt, Richard Hunt's parents; other members of Mr. Hunt's family; Mr. George M. Irwin, Chairman of the Chicago, Illinois Arts Council; Mr. William S. Lieberman, Director of the Hunt exhibition; Mr. and Mrs. John Moran of Chicago; Mr. A. James Speyer, Curator of 20th Century Art, Art Institute of Chicago; and Illinois Congressman and Mrs. Sidney R. Yates. Among the many artists present were: Benny Andrews, Ernest Crichlow, John E. Dowell, John Henry, Jacob Lawrence, Jack Tworkov and William T. Williams.

While guests studied the sweeping metal sculptures by Hunt and Bearden's collage-paintings depicting life in the rural South and Harlem, an N.B.C. news crew filmed the festivities. James Hinton, a Harlem resident, filmed the opening for the British Broadcasting Company.

Mrs. Romare Bearden wore a dress designed by Robert Rogers in colors used in her husband's collages. There were flowing evening pajamas, short shorts in suede and satin, and beautifully embroidered dashikis.

"The Sculpture of Richard Hunt" and "Romare Bearden: The Prevalence of Ritual" will be on view at The Museum of Modern Art in New York through June 7. The Richard

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Hunt exhibition will be shown at The Art Institute of Chicago from August 21 through October 4, 1971.

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Additional information and photographs available from Joan Wallace, Coordinator of Press Services, and Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, New York, New York 10019.  
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