

The Museum of Modern Art

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Comments by Martin E. Segal, Chairman
Commission for Cultural Affairs of
the City of New York

Mayor Beame, Mrs. Rockefeller, Mr. Oldenburg - and my dear friends,
Roy and Niuta Titus:

As many of you know, New York City's Commission for Cultural Affairs is deeply involved with all aspects of the City's cultural institutions and activities, their maintenance and future. So, it is understandable that we are frequently consulted by those who lead those institutions, as well as by private citizens.

Because Roy and Niuta Titus are special and dear personal friends, they consulted with me with respect to the possibility of an important gift to The Museum of Modern Art. Under any circumstances, such discussions would be consequential. But there was an added dimension in this instance; here were personal friends - friends who in their lifetimes have given practical evidence, time and again, of their concern for people as well as institutions that serve them.

In all of my years of experience in communal affairs I have never had more delightful or briefer discussions concerning a matter of special consequence to a great arts institution in our City. Roy and Niuta Titus knew what they wanted to do - and only three relatively short meetings brought to conclusion the marvelous understanding between the Museum and Mr. and Mrs. Titus.

In and of itself, the gift from Roy and Niuta Titus to the Museum is a noble act; and particularly in this period of difficulty for the cultural institutions in our City. This gift is a shining example for other private citizens who can help.

(more)

Roy and Niuta - in behalf of the Commission for Cultural Affairs, I thank you most warmly for what you have done and wish you many many years of good health and happiness during which you will witness the great consequences of your marvelous gift to The Museum of Modern Art.

The fine and caring man I am now privileged to introduce to you is uniquely able to speak in behalf of the City as a whole. It is under his leadership that cultural institutions and activities in our City have been recognized better than ever before for what they are - a major positive force for the people who live and work here and the millions who visit our City each year. He also recognizes the enormous contribution made by the cultural life of our City to the economic well-being of New York.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am honored to present to you Mayor Abraham D. Beame....

Additional information available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 W. 53 St., NY 10019. Tel. 956-7501.