

The Museum of Modern Art

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PAUL KLEE CENTENNIAL: PRINTS AND TRANSFER DRAWINGS

In celebration of the centennial of the birth of Paul Klee, The Museum of Modern Art is presenting an exhibition of approximately 70 of this modern master's prints and transfer drawings. On view in the Museum's third-floor Sachs Galleries from January 8 through April 3, PAUL KLEE CENTENNIAL: PRINTS AND TRANSFER DRAWINGS includes etchings and lithographs as well as works made by the transfer-drawing process pioneered by Klee in 1919. The exhibition is being directed by Howardena Pindell, Associate Curator of Prints and Illustrated Books.

"The graphic work of Paul Klee reveals in its diversity a complex network of interlocking themes realized through inventive working methods," notes Ms. Pindell in the brochure accompanying the exhibition.* "His intricate visual vocabulary was evolved throughout a lifetime in which he conceived and pursued ideas relating to time, music, science, and philosophy." Ms. Pindell goes on to observe that "although Klee's prints represent a small percentage of his oeuvre of more than 8,000 works, his analysis of graphic processes helped to instill a taste for technical experimentation and the expansion of the limits of all media."

In Klee's first etchings on copper and zinc--Virgin in the Tree (1903) and The Hero with the Wing (1905) are two examples of this period--grotesque satirical images rooted partly in life and partly in imagination are rendered with meticulous detail. These fantastic inventions reflect the influence of Goya and William Blake, both much admired by Klee. Following these early works, Klee soon began to utilize the sugar lift etching process as a means

