

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ITALIAN EXHIBITION AT MUSEUM OF MODERN ART HAS QUARTER-MILLIONTH
VISITOR; CLOSES APRIL 7, 1940

The quarter-millionth visitor to the Exhibition of Italian Masters at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, entered the Museum late Friday, March 29, 1940. She was Barbara Gossling, aged 14, a visitor in New York from Sydney, Australia (now living in London). She liked best Titian's Portrait of Pope Paul III, of the Italian paintings and Bernini's Portrait of Costanza Buonarelli of the sculpture. To celebrate the event the Museum presented her with a year's membership and with a bound catalog of the exhibition.

Voting for the public's favorite painting and sculpture in the Italian Masters Exhibition has been remarkably consistent since balloting began. The leading choices are as follows:

ITALIAN MASTERS

1. Titian: Portrait of Pope Paul III
2. Raphael: Madonna of the Chair
3. Botticelli: The Birth of Venus
4. Michelangelo: Madonna and Child
5. Verrocchio: David

MODERN MASTERS

1. Renoir: Little Margot Berard
2. Whistler: The White Girl
3. Eakins: Mrs. Letitia Bacon
4. Renoir: Le Moulin de la Galette
5. Cézanne: Card Players

On Sunday, April 7, New Yorkers will have their last opportunity to see the Exhibition of Italian Masters at the Museum of Modern Art. The exhibition closes Sunday at 10 P.M. Early Monday, April 8, the Italian packing and shipping experts who have travelled with the pictures since they left Italy more than a year ago, will start the final repacking job, taking the utmost precaution for the last lap of the journey homeward.

Saturday, April 13, the priceless paintings and sculpture will leave on the Italian steamship, Rex, bound for Genoa, Italy. They will be taken off the boat at Genoa and will go immediately to Florence, where they will be officially checked and distributed to the lending museums and owners throughout Italy.

On Wednesday, April 3, the Museum will open to the public three new exhibitions: Four American Travelling Shows, arranged by the Museum of Modern Art in collaboration with the WPA Art Program; The Work of Sharaku; and American Designs for Abstract Films.

On April 7, the Museum will resume its usual hours of 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. daily, including Saturdays; and from 12 Noon to 6 P.M. Sundays. In addition, it will be open regularly every Wednesday until 10 P.M. The admission fee will be 25 cents at all times, including Sundays; children under sixteen, 10 cents.