

The Museum of Modern Art

For Immediate Release
November 1987

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

MRS. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER 3RD, PRESIDENT EMERITUS
DAVID ROCKEFELLER, CHAIRMAN

November 11, 1987.....Donald B. Marron, President and Chief Officer of The Museum of Modern Art, announced that Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd, Chairman of the Museum since 1985, was elected President Emeritus at today's meeting of the Board of Trustees. David Rockefeller, a Trustee of the Museum since 1948, was elected Chairman.

Like the office of Chairman Emeritus to which William S. Paley was elected in 1985, President Emeritus is a new title created to honor extraordinary service to the Museum. Mr. Marron noted that Mrs. Rockefeller has made outstanding contributions to the Museum over a span of forty years. She has been a Trustee since 1952 and served as President from 1972 to 1985. Additionally, Mrs. Rockefeller served as Chairman of the Board in 1959 and as President from 1959 to 1962. She was the Founding Chairman of the Museum's Junior Council (now Contemporary Arts Council) from 1948 until 1955 and Founding President of the International Council from 1955 to 1959.

Mr. Marron stated, "Blanchette Rockefeller's dedication, sensitivity, and integrity have inspired trustees and staff alike and have earned her their deep admiration and affection. This meeting marks the fifteenth year of her continuous service as President and Chairman, and she felt that this was an appropriate anniversary on which to reduce her formal responsibilities as one of the chief officers of the Museum. Happily she assures us that she has no

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intention of reducing her commitment of time and energy to the Museum. We are delighted that as President Emeritus she will continue her active involvement, lending us her enthusiasm and the wisdom that comes from her long and intimate knowledge of the Museum and its history."

Mr. Marron also stated that the Museum was fortunate in having persuaded David Rockefeller to assume the office of Chairman. Mr. Rockefeller had previously served in that capacity from 1962 to 1972. He has been a Vice Chairman since 1972 and a member of the Executive and Finance Committees since 1958. Mr. Rockefeller is the former Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of the Chase Manhattan Bank, a position he held from 1969 to January 1980, when he stepped down as CEO to serve as Chairman until his retirement in April 1981.

Mr. Rockefeller stated that he was very pleased once again to serve the Museum as Chairman, remarking that his affection for this institution was very great and long-standing. He has agreed to take on the Chairmanship at this time to give his active support to the Board, to its President, Donald Marron, and its Director, Richard E. Oldenburg, in their continuing efforts to strengthen the institution and ensure its financial stability for the future. Mr. Rockefeller concluded that he was also honored to be succeeding so remarkable a Chairman as Blanchette Rockefeller, stating, "It is fair to say that there are not more than a handful of people who have been connected with the Museum since its founding who have played a role of comparable importance."

Chairman Emeritus William S. Paley is the Founder Chairman of CBS, Inc., the company he founded more than half a century ago. He first became involved with the Museum in 1936 when he joined the Advisory Committee for its Film Library. The following year he became a Trustee, and he has subsequently

served on all its major committees. He served as President of the Museum from 1968 to 1972 and as Chairman from 1972 to 1985.

Mr. Paley stated, "Having served as Chairman with Blanchette Rockefeller as President for a thirteen-year period, I feel well qualified to attest to her superb accomplishments in seeing the Museum through its decade of expansion. I believe that together we make a good team, and I find it very pleasing and appropriate that we should again serve side by side as Chairman and President Emeriti."

With these changes, the list of officers of the Museum is as follows:
William S. Paley, Chairman Emeritus; Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd, President Emeritus; David Rockefeller, Chairman; Donald B. Marron, President; Mrs. Henry I. Cobb, Vice Chairman; Mrs. Frank Y. Larkin, Vice President; and John Parkinson III, Vice President and Treasurer.

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