RECENT ACQUISITIONS: DESIGN COLLECTION

An Italian chair compressed in a vacuum vinyl container for shipping, a German redesign of a well-known American slide projector, an English collapsible baby buggy, a Swiss fiberglass ski boot, an American disposable paint brush and a Danish lamp with plastic and aluminum components which can be combined in 119 different ways are among the more than 70 objects on view in the exhibition RECENT ACQUISITIONS: DESIGN COLLECTION at The Museum of Modern Art from December 1 through January 10.

The exhibition, a review of the most important design acquisitions made since 1967 when the last such exhibition was held, was organized by Arthur Drexler, Director of the Museum's Department of Architecture and Design and Emilio Ambasz, Curator of Design, Department of Architecture and Design. In addition to new furniture, appliances, wall hangings and graphic design, the exhibition also includes some previously unseen architectural drawings from the Museum's recently established Mies van der Rohe Archive. While the bulk of the items on display were designed during the last five years, the exhibition also includes some recently acquired material of historic interest such as a cast iron art nouveau fireplace by Hector Guimard and a desk and window by Frank Lloyd Wright.

Apart from their functional qualifications, Arthur Drexler says, the objects in the Design Collection are chosen according to two criteria: quality and historical significance. "An object is chosen for its design quality because it is thought to embody formal ideals of beauty ... Significance is a more flexible evaluation. It applies to objects which may or may not be beautiful but which have contributed to the development of design ... The visitor to this exhibition will be able to decide for himself whether objects are interesting for quality or historical significance, or for both...."

New furniture in the exhibition includes several "soft" chairs of inflated and
other plastic materials such as the previously mentioned Up-1 Chair designed by Gaetano Pesce in 1969 and compressed in a vacuum vinyl container. Opening of the sealed container allows the chair, made of stretch fabric over injected urethane, to automatically expand. Other "soft" chairs acquired for the collection include the Bean Bag Chair (Sitting Medium) of leather filled with polystyrene beads designed by Pierro Gatti, Cesare Paolini and Franco Teodoro in 1969, and Sebastian Matta's Malitte Lounge (1969) of stretch fabric over polyurethane with interlocking components which can be stacked together like a standing jigsaw puzzle or taken apart and combined in any number of ways.

According to Emilio Ambasz, the abundance of these soft, flexible items in the exhibition reflects the development over the past few years of non-formal furniture which can be arranged and re-arranged at will by the owner and his guests. "There has been a definite movement away from rigid, formal patterns of social relationships due to changes in cultural notions of privacy," he says. "These new forms are more suited to our informal way of living today. Imagine trying to be stuffy while slouching in a bean bag chair," says Mr. Ambasz.

"Some of the pieces," Mr. Ambasz adds, "also reflect a shift away from the traditional concern of the designers of the 20s and 30s for linear and planar treatment of furniture to more volumetric forms presented either as sculptural shapes or as soft, adaptable volumes which only acquire their form with the participation of the user."

Mr. Drexler comments that while the materials in the new furniture remain essentially the same -- glass, wood, metal and plastic -- there has been a formal change in the design character which he sees as a reflection of a certain direction in modern sculpture. "Much of the furniture takes the form of geometric-shaped sculpture you can sit on," he says. "There is also some improvement in the quality and control of plastic," he says.

Mr. Ambasz remarks that in general the newly acquired items in the collection
reveal the range and ingenuity of Italian design and the influence it has had on all design developments in the past few years. He is now preparing a show for late 1971 called *Italy: The New Domestic Landscape* which will not only show Italian objects produced in the last decade but will also present a series of specially commissioned environments made by the leading Italian designers.

In addition to furniture, the exhibition includes several new appliances such as an Italian television set encased in an acrylic dyecast box designed by Marco Zanuso and Richard Sapper (1970) and an automatic record player by Mario Bellini (1969) which operates like a toaster. Other items of interest include new lighting fixtures from here and abroad, medical equipment of plastic and metal, several new wall and desk clocks, a movie camera and an electric tooth brush. There is a Swiss lightweight sewing machine in a self-contained carrying case, a new portable typewriter of red plastic with a case that doubles as a waste basket, ski goggles designed by a dentist with two layers of plastic to prevent fogging, and a paint brush with a plastic handle and detachable foam painting surface which can be discarded after use. The MacLaren baby buggy (1967), designed by the man who designed retractable landing gear for airplanes in 1938 and employing some of the same principles, is made of aluminum and saran polythene fabric. The buggy can be opened and steered with one hand and collapsed, it can be carried over the arm like an umbrella. Two other items that are particularly interesting when juxtaposed as two solutions to the same problem are a German and Italian bathroom scale. The German scale, designed by Braun, is an impeccably straightforward technical instrument made of metal while the Italian version, designed by Marco Zanuso, is a decorative sculptural object made of bright red molded plastic with softly rounded edges.

The exhibition also contains various craft items, three models from the architecture collection and 19 posters. The posters represent the most interesting historical and contemporary works acquired in the past three years. Four works important in the history of poster design by Klimt, Hohlwein, Kauffer and Tschichold date from the beginning of the century while the remainder of the works on display include
examples of typographic, psychedelic and protest posters done mainly in the 1960s. One work of particular interest is 'Fior in Bocca' Centro Cesare Casina, a polyurethane relief done in 1969 by Gaetano Pesce which employs the same principle of compression and expansion as his Up-1 Chair.

The three works selected from the Mies van der Rohe Archive are two preliminary drawings and one final drawing for the Concrete Country House project of 1923, all uncovered since Mies' death in 1969 and never before exhibited in this country. The Archive, established at the Museum in 1969 as a repository for the architect's drawings and documentary materials, has received several thousand drawings. Selected works from the Archive will be placed on view periodically, according to Mr. Drexler.

Exhibitions of recent acquisitions from the Design Collection are organized regularly (about one every three years) by the Department of Architecture and Design as a report to the public of what the Museum has thought worthy of collecting from both the past and the present. "The Museum evaluates the artifacts which man makes in order to bring to a level of public consciousness the system of ideas and emotions embodied in these objects," says Mr. Ambasz. "These artifacts comprise the profile of our man-made environment."

The importance of industrial design in the program of the Museum has been recognized since its founding in 1929. The Design Collection had its origins in the famous Machine Art exhibition of 1934 and now consists of more than 5,000 objects. Since 1964, hundreds of objects including architectural models and drawings, posters and furniture selected from the collection have been continuously on view in the Philip L. Goodwin Galleries for Architecture and Design which opened that year.

This collection, unique in the world, is augmented regularly by recent work and objects needed to fill historical gaps. Virtually all the objects not on public exhibition are available for viewing and study in the Museum's International Study Center which opened in 1967.

Additional information and photographs available from Diana Goldin, Coordinator of Press Services, and Elizabeth Shaw, Director, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. (212) 956-7297-7501.
RECENT ACQUISITIONS: DESIGN COLLECTION
December 1, 1970 - January 30, 1971

Checklist

Environments

Sasa Janez Machtig
Demountable Kiosks (System K-67) 1970.
Polyester, polyurethane sandwich construction
Mfr.: Imgrad Ijutomer, Yugoslavia.
Gift of the Manufacturer

Architectural Details

Hector Guimard
Fireplace and surrounds. c. 1907.
Cast iron painted white, marble surrounds.
Manufactured in France.
Gift of Lillian Nassau.

Frank Lloyd Wright
Glass Window from Darwin Martin House, Buffalo, N. Y. 1904.
Leaded glass.
Purchase.

Furniture

Carlo Bartoli
Solar Lounge Chair. 1969.
Fiberglass and polyester resin.
Mfr.: Arflex, Italy.

Poul Cadovius & Charles Mauro
Demountable display structure (Cube-in-a-Tube) 1968.
Chrome plated tubular steel and connectors.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Pierro Catti, Cesare Paolini, Franco Teodoro
Bean Bag Chair (Sitting Medium) 1969.
Leather, polystyrene, bead filling.
Mfr.: Zanotta S.p.A., Italy.
Gift of the Manufacturer.
Aldo Jacober in collaboration with Pierangela D'Aniello
Trieste Folding Chair. 1969.
Lacquered wood, woven cane seat.
Mfr.: Alberto Bazzani, Italy.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Johannes Larsen.
Folding Cushion. 1968.
Stretch fabric over polyurethane.
Mfr.: France & Son A/S, Denmark

Sebastian Matta
Malitte Lounge. 1969.
Stretch fabric over polyurethane.
Mfr.: Knoll International, Italy.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Giovanni Offredi
Dining Table. 1969.
Lacquered bent wood.
Mfr.: Alberto Bazzani, Italy.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Werner Fenton
Stacking side chair. 1968.
Polyester resin on fiberglass.
Mfr.: Herman Miller, Switzerland.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Pierre Paulin
Amoeba Lounge Chair. 1968.
Stretch fabric over polyurethane on steel frame.
Mfr.: Artifort, Holland.
Gift of the manufacturer and Turner T. Ltd., New York.

Gaetano Pesce
Up-1 Chair. 1969.
Stretch fabric over injected urethane
Mfr.: C & R Italia, Italy.
The finished chair is compressed in a vacuum vinyl container to facilitate shipping. Opening of the sealed container at the site allows the chair to automatically expand.

Afra & Tobia Scarpa
Ciprea arm chair. 1968.
Plastic over urethane foam cast to fiberglass base.
Mfr.: Figi di Amedeo Cassina, Italy.

Frank Lloyd Wright
Desk. 1928.
Wood, painted metal.
Version of a desk designed for Johnson Wax Co., Racine, Wisconsin.
Purchase.
Nicos Zographos
Zographos Side Chair. 1969.
Bent chrome plated tubular steel, leather.
Mfr.: General Fireproofing Co., U.S.A.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Lighting
Danilo & Corrado Aroldi
Periscopio Lamp. 1969.
Lacquered metal, swiveling rubber covered joint.
Mfr.: Stilnovo, S. p. A., Italy.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Fini Bolbroe & Peter Karpf
Spectaculum Lamp, ceiling and table top versions. 1969.
Plastic, aluminum.
Mfr.: Dantek A/S, Denmark.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Antonio Macchi Cassia
Table Lamp 1141. 1969.
Lacquered metal; spheres held together by magnet.
Mfr.: Artelecco, Italy.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Achille and Piergiacomo Castigioni
Toio standing lamp. c. 1964.
Lacquered metal.
Mfr.: Flos, Italy.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Joe Colombo
Spring Lamp. 1969.
Lacquered metal, moveable stainless steel spring, plastic adjustable joint.
Mfr.: 0-Luce, Italy.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Peter Hamburger
Light Structure. 1968.
Lumiline bulbs, metal wires and caps.
Gift of the designer.

Vico Magistretti
Eclipse table lamp. 1967.
Lacquered metal with adjustable shield.
Mfr.: Artemide, Italy.
Gift of Scarabaeus Ltd., New York, and Moreddi Inc., U.S.A.

Jay Monroe
Disposable flashlight. 1968.
Polystyrene.
Gift of the manufacturer.
Tony Palladino and John Mascheroni
Reading lamp. 1968.
Polished aluminum.
Gift of the Designer.

Theodore Waddell
Table light. 1970.
Plastic base, chromed metal rods.
Mfr.: Zanotta, Italy.
Gift of the designer.

Theodore Waddell
Table light. 1970.
Glass jar and light sticks.
Prototype manufactured in Italy.
Gift of the designer.

Office Equipment

Mario Bellini
Programma 203 computer. 1967.
Plastic, metal parts.

Eliot Noyes and Associates
Transcribing unit - Model 272. 1968.
Plastic and metal.
Mfr.: International Business Machines Corp., U.S.A.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Ettore Sottsass
Plastic and metal.

John Stram, Jack Stringer, and Carl Norby
IBM tape storage container, Series 500. 1967.
Styrene: opaque and transparent.
Mfr.: International Business Machines Corp., U.S.A.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Electric Equipment

Mario Bellini
Automatic record player. 1969.
Plastic, metal parts.
Mfr.: Minerva S.p.A., Italy.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Braun Company
Electric toothbrush. c. 1967.
Plastic.
Mfr.: Braun A.G., Germany.
Gift of Braun Electric America
David Gammon
Transcriptor record turntable. 1968.
Polished aluminum, brass, plywood, plastic.
Gift of Transcriptors, New York.

Reinhold Hacker and Hans Gugelot
Carousel S. slide Projector. 1964.
Plastic; lacquered metal.
Mfr.: Kodak A. G., Germany.
Gift of Eastman Kodak Company, U.S.A.

Hans Rucker Co. (Laurids Ortner, Gunter Kelp, Klaus Pinter)
Environmental control helmet. 1970.
Polyethylene, aluminum.
Mfr.: Dovoplast, Austria.
Purchase.

Marco Zanuso and Richard Sapper
Brionvega portable radio. 1964.
Plastic, aluminum.
Mfr.: Brionvega, Italy.
Gift of George Belcian Ltd., New York.

Marco Zanuso and Richard Sapper
Acrylic dyecast box, metal parts.
Mfr.: Brionvega S.p.A., Italy.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Timepieces

Nathan Horwitt
Wall clock. 1970.
Lacquered aluminum, glass.
Mfr.: Howard Miller Clock Co. U.S.A.
Gift of the manufacturer.

George Ladas
Orbita clock. 1970.
Acrylic dyecast box, moving lights.
Mfr.: Rathcon Inc. U.S.A.
Gift of the manufacturer.
Blue dot of light represents the hour hand, green dot the minute hand, and white dot the second hand.

Pio Manzu
Cronotime clock. 1968.
Plastic, metal parts.
Mfr.: Ritz Italora, Italy.
Gift of Mrs. Pio Manzu and Purchase
Medical Equipment

Rido Busse
Chrome plated brass, polycarbonate handle.
Mfr.: Bayer A.G., Germany.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Concept Incorporated
Flexible Surgical light - Model 023. 1968.
Extruded UPC plastic, metal parts.
Mfr.: Concept Inc., U.S.A.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Concept Incorporated
Disposable cobalt blue slit beam pocket light - Model 022. 1968.
Extruded UPC plastic, metal parts.
Mfr.: Concept Inc., U.S.A.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Arthur Pulos
Injected molded plastic, metal clip.
Mfr.: Welch Allyn Inc., U.S.A.
Gift of the designer.

Arthur Pulos
Injected molded plastic, metal clip.
Mfr.: Welch Allyn, U.S.A.
Gift of the designer.

David Staub
Nail drill - Model 087. 1967.
Extruded UPC plastic, metal.
Mfr.: Concept Inc., U.S.A.
Gift of the manufacturer.

David Staub and Richard Naylor
Disposable Cautery. 1967.
Extruded UPC plastic, metal.
Mfr.: Concept Inc., U.S.A.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Household Equipment

Braun A.G.
Nizo S 80 Movie camera. 1968.
Lacquered metal, plastic.
Mfr.: Braun A.G., Germany.
Gift of Braun North America.

Braun A.G.
Bathroom scale. 1969.
Lacquered metal, plastic foot pad.
Mfr.: Braun A. G., Germany.
Gift of Braun North America.
Continental Can Company
Stacking cups. 1968.
Clear plastic.
Mfr.: Continental Can Company, U.S.A.

Bud Esry and Saul Nesbitt
Dax frame. 1969.
Injection molded polystyrene, laminated boxboard.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Arne Jacobsen
Cylinda ashtray. 1967.
Stainless steel.
Mfr.: Stelton of Denmark, Denmark.

O. F. Maclaren
Baby buggy. 1967.
Aluminum, saran polythene fabric.
Gift of Bell Enterprises, U.S.A.

Dieter Rams
Lighter. 1969.
Metal, chrome and plastic.
Mfr.: Braun A. G., Germany.

Gunter RocheIt
Instant frame. 1967.
Polystyrene, glass.
Mfr.: Rochelt Designs, Germany.

Timo Sarpaneva
Set of 5 glasses. 1969.
Glass.
Mfr. Karhula-Iltala, Finland.
Gift of Emilio Ambasz.

U.S. Plywood
Paintbrush (Snap-a-Brush). 1968.
Polyethylene, urethane foam blade.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Marco Zanuso
Plastic, metal.
Mfr.: Terraillon, S.R.L., Italy.
Gift of the manufacturer.
Sports Equipment

Willy Kaufmann
Raichle fiber jet super ski boot. 1968.
Fiberglass, metal, leather.
Mfr.: Raichle Boot Co. Ltd., Switzerland.
Gift of G. H. Bass & Company, U.S.A.

W. D. Randall, Jr.
Attack-survival knife, Model 1B. 1963.
Stainless steel, brass.
Mfr.: Randall Made Knives, U.S.A.
Gift of the designer.

Robert E. Smith
Anti-fog ski goggle. 1967.
Plastic, foam elastic strap.
Mfr.: Robert E. Smith, U.S.A.
Gift of the designer.

Crafts

Magdalena Abakanowicz
Yellow Abakan. 1967.
Sisal.
Purchase.

Gunnar Cyren
Bowl. c. 1968.
Glass.
Mfr.: Orrefors, Sweden.

Mary Walker Phillips
Near East. 1964.
Linen, knit.
Gift of the designer.

James Prestini
Bowl. 1953-1957.
Mottled Honduras mahogany.
Gift of the designer.

James Prestini
Bowl. 1957-1957.
Curly birch.
Gift of the designer.

Ed Rossbach
Constructed Color. 1965.
Synthetic raffia; braided.
Purchase.

Susan Weitzman
Tapestry for Frances Lynn. 1967.
Hand-spun wool; exposed warp with differential of twist.
Purchase.
Gunta Stadler-Stolzl
Cottons, wools, synthetics.
Gift of Jack Lenor Larson.

Miscellaneous
Theodor Buschkarski
Aluminum, rubber.
Mfr.: Klem System, Austria.
Gift of the designer.

Hans Staeger and Manfred Malzacher
Plastic, glass shelves.
Mfr.: Staeger and Company K.G., Germany.
Gift of George Beylerian Ltd., New York.

Drawings from the Mies van der Rohe Archive
Ludwig Mies van der Rohe
Concrete Country House, 1924.
Pastel. 33 1/4 x 89 1/2.
Gift of the architect.

Ludwig Mies van der Rohe
Concrete Country House. 1924.
Brown Pastel. 28 1/4 x 86 1/4.
Gift of the architect.

Ludwig Mies van der Rohe
Concrete Country House, 1924.
Charcoal. 28 11/16 x 85 3/4.
Gift of the architect.

Ludwig Mies van der Rohe
Concrete Country House, 1924.
Charcoal. 22 5/8 x 86 3/8.
Gift of the architect.

Models from the Architecture Collection
Hermann Finsterlin
Study for a "House of Sociability" c. 1920.
Polychromed plaster.
Gift of D. S. and R. H. Gottesman Foundation.

Le Corbusier
Plaster.
Gift of Philip Johnson.
Posters

Seymour Chwast
Milton Glaser
Filmsense. 196.
Silk screen on aluminized paper. 17 1/2 x 25 3/4.
Gift of Push Pin Studios.

Roman Cieslewicz
Offset Litho 32 1/4 x 21 1/2.
Gift of the designer.

Gianakos, Cristos
Send Our Boys Home. 1966.
Offset litho, 12 1/4 x 17.
Gift of the designer.

Juan Carlos Distefano
Ruben Fontana
Carlos Soler
Offset Litho 28 3/8 x 12 1/2.
Gift of the designers.

Walter Dexel
Fotografie Der Gegenwart. 1929.
Lino cut, 33 1/4 x 23 1/4.
Gift of the designer.

Lothar Fischer
Silk Screen on mylar. 37 1/4 x 22.
Gift of the Galerie Casa, Munich.

Milton Glaser
Big Nudes. 1968.
Offset litho 24 1/4 x 37 1/4.
Gift of Push Pin Studios.

Ludwig Hohlwein
Zoologischer Garten Munchen. 1912.
Gift of Bates Lowry.

C. H. Johansen
Offset litho, 35 x 23.
Gift of Joseph H. Heil.
E. McKnight Kauffer
*Bananas.* 1926.
Lithograph. 40 x 59 1/2.
Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Barr, Jr.

Gustav Klimt
*Kunstausstellung Secession, Gartenbau.* 1898.
Lithograph. 38 x 27.
Gift of Bates Lowry.

Krothl - Offenberg
*Gutenberg Gedankjar in Mainz.* 1968.
Offset litho. 46 1/2 x 32 3/4.
Gift of the designers.

Jan Lenica
*Olympische Spiele München.* 1972
Silk screen. 40 1/8 x 25 1/4.
Gift of the designer.

Victor Moscoso
Offset litho. 19 3/4 x 14.
Gift of the designer.

Gaetano Pesce
Francesco Binfare
*Fior in Bocca* Centro Cesare Casina. 1969.
Polyurethane. 24 x 24.
Gift of Atelier International.

Hans Jurgen Spahn
Offset litho. 23 5/8 x 33.
Gift of the designer.

Ruichi Yamashiro
Ruichi Yamashiro 1968.
(Poster for exhibition of designer's work)
Gift of the designer.

Tadanori Yokoo
*Poster for a Noh Play.* 1969.
Silk Screen. 40 1/2 x 28 3/4.
Gift of the designer.

Jan Tschichold
*Die Hose.* 1928
Linoleum cut and gravure. 47 x 33
Gift of Armin Hofmann.
CHECKLIST - ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Theodor Bogler
Tea pot and kitchen storage pot. 1923.
Ceramic with metal-colored glaze.
Estée & Joseph Lauder Design Fund
Theodor Bogler was a student at the Bauhaus, where these objects were made.

Erich Dieckmann
Armchair. c. 1952
Painted oak frame, moveable upholstered seat.
Estée & Joseph Lauder Design Fund
Dieckmann was a student at the Bauhaus, where he designed this chair for his own use.

Leonardi Cesare
Dondolo rocking chair. 1968.
Fiberglass.
Mfr.: Elco, Italy.

Neal Small
Lamp. 1967.
Plastic, chrome.
Gift of the designer.

Marco Zanuso & Richard Sapper
Plastic, metal.
Mfr.: Brionvega, Italy.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Studio OPI
Brushed stainless steel.
Mfr.: Cini & Nils, Italy.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Marco Zanuso
Plastic, metal.
Mfr.: Terraillon S.R.L., Italy.
Gift of the manufacturer.

CEL-Raymond Loevy
Elna lotus sewing machine. 1969.
Lacquered metal.
Mfr.: Tavaro S.A., Switzerland
Gift of the manufacturer.
Raymond Abraham
Photomontage.
Gift of the architect.

R. C. Gdanski
Coin sorter (for English money). 1967
Plastic.
Mfr.: Nadex Industries, Inc., USA
Gift of designer.

Arne Jacobsen
Cylinder Ice Bucket. 1967.
Stainless steel.
Mfr.: Stelton of Denmark.
Gift of Bonniers, Inc., New York

Vittorio Gregotti, Lodovico Meneghetti,
and Giotto Stoppino.
Equilibrium Table Lamp. 1967.
Lacquered metal.
Mfr.: Arteluce, Italy.
Gift of the manufacturer.

Ludwig Mies van der Rohe
(Mock-up of one column and corresponding
wall and roof section).
Wood, plexiglas, masonite, scale 1:5.
Gift of the office of Mies van der Rohe.