

# The Museum of Modern Art

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## 20 GIFTS IN HONOR OF MYRON ORLOFSKY

A group of 19 drawings and one print recently acquired in memory of art collector Myron Orlofsky (1928-1976), is now on view at The Museum of Modern Art through January 9. As a memorial tribute, Mr. Orlofsky's friends created a fund at the Museum, for the purpose of purchasing drawings. These recent acquisitions were chosen with the Museum's Collection specifically in mind: in the case of a number of the Symbolist artists, these are the only examples of their work in the collection; other works significantly compliment and extend the Museum's present holdings. 20 GIFTS IN HONOR OF MYRON ORLOFSKY, on view in the first-floor Northeast Gallery, has been directed by Lisa M. Messinger, Curatorial Assistant in the Department of Drawings.

Several drawings in the exhibition represent the turn-of-the-century Symbolist movement. Works by the Belgian artists Xavier Mellery and George Minne, and by the Italian sculptor Adolfo Wildt are expressive of the Symbolist quest for the "soul of things" and spiritual harmony. Georges Lacombe, the French artist of the Nabis group, and English artist Byam Shaw are two other representatives of this period and its sensibility.

The first decade of the twentieth century witnessed the birth of modernism. Included in the exhibition is an unpublished postcard design Oskar Kokoschka did (ca. 1908) for the Vienna Workshop, marking a transition between Symbolism and Expressionism. František Kupka's 1909 illustrations for Aeschylus' Prometheus are a link to the artist's later abstract style.

