

The Museum of Modern Art

50th Anniversary



NO. 75
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ADVANCE FACT SHEET

- EXHIBITION:** EILEEN GRAY: DESIGNER
- DATES:** The Museum of Modern Art, February 7 through April 1, 1980
- SPONSOR:** The exhibition has been made possible through generous grants from the Helena Rubinstein Foundation and The British Council, and was prepared under the auspices of the International Council of The Museum of Modern Art.
- DIRECTOR:** J. Stewart Johnson, Curator of Design, Department of Architecture and Design, The Museum of Modern Art.
- CONTENTS:** This exhibition is devoted to the extraordinarily original work--both in furniture and objects and in architecture--produced by the British designer Eileen Gray, in the course of a career that spanned more than seventy years. Working in France from the turn of the century until her death in 1976 at age 97, she developed multi-purpose and built-furniture made of metal, plywood, cork, plastics and industrial materials, and thus anticipated many of today's design trends. Although early on in her career she gained the respect and admiration of such major architects as Le Corbusier and Oud, she is still virtually unknown to the American public.
- A wide variety of Gray's work will be shown, ranging from the elegant Art Deco furniture and lacquered screens of her early period to her daring design and industrial experiments of the 1920s and 30s. Her architecture will be portrayed in drawings and photo blow-ups of executed works and by the rough models she constructed of projects. In addition, there will be a selection of early publications featuring her work, as well as her notebooks setting forth instructions for lacquer techniques and her daybooks documenting her output and the clients for whom she made objects.
- The exhibition will contain material lent by the Victoria and Albert Museum and the Royal Institute of British Architects in London, the Musee des Arts Decoratifs in Paris, and a number of private English collectors as well as objects in the collection of The Museum of Modern Art.

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LECTURE: Lecture at 4:00 p.m., Thursday March 20, 1980: "Eileen Gray, Designer," by J. Stewart Johnson.

BOOK: Eileen Gray: Designer. By J. Stewart Johnson. 68 pages; 62 illustrations. \$12.50 clothbound; \$7.95 paperbound. This book is published and distributed by The Museum of Modern Art.

PRESS PREVIEW: Wednesday, February 6, 1980, 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.

PUBLIC
OPENING: Thursday, February 7, 1980.

MOVING, the current exhibition/sale of The Museum of Modern Art's Art Lending Service, features works exploring the theme of man's many and varied modes and means of movement, from dancing and swimming to cars and sneakers. Inspired by the Junior Council's 1980 Museum Appointment Calendar, the exhibition, which will be on view in the sixth-floor Members' Penthouse through February 19, 1980, includes photographs, drawings, and prints as well as works in mixed media. Prices range from \$75 to \$5500.

Among the works are Robert Rauschenberg's Scrape from his well-known "Hearfrost" series, combining elements of collage and fabric imprinted with offset. Additionally, there are four other works by Rauschenberg in the exhibition. Red Swans is represented by Track, a lithograph, and Bicentennial Handwagon, a silkscreen. Also on view is Hermine Freed's photograph collage Transformation (East Hampton/Iran) and Dennis Oppenheim's lithograph Objectified Counter Forces. Landen Clay's Forty-Second Street, North Side, Between 7th and 8th Avenues, NYC, 1979 is 15 feet long and is composed of 22 color photos pieced together to create a photographic frieze of this singular part of the city.

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