

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

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20TH-CENTURY WORKS AT NATIONAL GALLERY
FROM HARVARD'S BUSCH-REISINGER MUSEUM

WASHINGTON, D. C. March 21, 1980. Approximately 100 Northern and Central European 20th-century paintings, drawings, watercolors and sculpture from Harvard University's Busch-Reisinger Museum will go on view at the National Gallery of Art June 15.

Founded in 1903, the Busch-Reisinger Museum has in its holdings a distinguished collection of German expressionist and Bauhaus works which include important acquisitions made in the 1930s, among them works by Paul Klee, Lyonel Feininger, Wassily Kandinsky, George Grosz, Ernst Barlach and Emil Nolde.

Following the Third Reich's "purge" of modern painting in German museums, the Busch-Reisinger gradually acquired a number of works once in German public collections. These include Max Beckmann's Self-Portrait in Tuxedo (1927), Erich Heckel's Landscape with Bathing Women (1914) and his triptych Convalescence of a Woman (1913), Emil Nolde's Mulatto Woman (1915) and Karl Schmidt-Rottluff's Harbor Scene (1911), all of which will be in the Gallery's exhibition.

Also on view will be German expressionist works by Barlach (Seated Girl, 1937), Beckmann (The Actors, 1941-42), Feininger (Bathers, 1912) and Ernst Ludwig Kirchner (Portrait of Alfred Döblin, 1913).

(more)

In addition to Josef Albers, Bauhaus artists will include Laszlo Moholy-Nagy (Composition A 18, 1927), Naum Gabo (Construction in Space with Balance on Two Points, 1925), Willi Baumeister (Composition [Untitled], c. 1930), and Oskar Schlemmer (Three Figures with Furniture-Like Forms, 1929).

The exhibition will also include paintings by Edvard Munch, Gustav Klimt, Egon Schiele, Alexei Jawlensky and Kasimir Malevich.

The Busch-Reisinger Museum: The Twentieth-Century Collection will be on view at the National Gallery through September 1. The exhibition will be installed on the mezzanine and upper level galleries of the East Building.

The exhibition has been organized by Gabriella Jepson, former acting curator of the Busch-Reisinger Museum and recently appointed assistant director at Harvard's Fogg Art Museum. E. A. Carmean, Jr., the Gallery's curator of 20th-century art, coordinated the exhibition for the Gallery. He has also written the checklist which will accompany the show.

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