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# *News Release* FROM THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

MICHIGAN AVENUE AT ADAMS STREET, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, 60603, U. S. A.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:  
MARTHA BENNETT KING CE 6-7080

Photographs by Imogen Cunningham will be exhibited in the main floor gallery of Photography, The Art Institute of Chicago, from July 10 through September 6, 1964.

Imogen Cunningham who has achieved international fame says that she began using a camera seriously (a 4 by 5 view camera) in 1901, a year after she first saw reproductions of the work of Gertrude Kasabier. Her first serious study of photography began while she was a student at the University of Washington. Working in the Seattle studio of Edward Curtis, renowned for his photographic documentation of the American Indian, she learned to make platinum prints. Years later, in San Francisco, Edward Weston selected eight of her best platinum prints of plants for the great international "Film and Foto" exhibition in Stuttgart (1929).

A scholarship for foreign study sent the young Imogen off to work in the technical school of Dresden, Germany, where she had for a teacher the photo-scientist, Robert Luther. On her way home she visited Alvin Coburn in London and Alfred Stieglitz in New York City. Back in Seattle, she opened her own studio and soon won renown for her portraits and for pictorial work.

In 1934 she joined Group f/64, the distinguished group of photographers led by Ansel Adams and Willard Van Dyke. For a number of years she taught photography at the San Francisco Art Institute, conducted a portrait studio, contributed articles to magazines, served on photographic juries and won numerous awards for her own photographs.

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Married to the noted etcher, Roi Partridge, the mother of three sons, Imogen Cunningham stated her philosophy as early as 1914, a philosophy to which she still subscribes: "One must be able to gain an understanding at short notice and close range of the beauties of character, intellect and spirit so as to be able to draw out the best qualities and make them show in the outer aspect of the sitter".