

# News Release FROM THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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An exhibition of photographs by Walker Evans opens in The Art Institute of Chicago, Friday November 13, and continues through Sunday, January 10, 1965. Although some of the photographs shown in this exhibition were made as early as 1929, it is largely devoted to his recent work.

In the 1930's, Walker Evans, a self-taught photographer, began to record the indigenous architecture of New England. The Museum of Modern Art exhibited some of these photographs in 1934, and in 1938 chose Evans' work for a one-man photographic exhibition.

Simultaneously, the Museum published AMERICAN PHOTOGRAPHS BY WALKER EVANS. In an introductory essay, Lincoln Kirstein said, "The power of Evans' work lies in the effect of circumstances on familiar specimens so that the single face, the single house, the single street, strikes with the strength of overwhelming numbers, the terrible cumulative force of thousands of faces, houses and streets."

Evans also had become the chronicler of "the depression," revealing through his camera the long period of human suffering, arousing the social conscience of a nation. In poignant, understated flashes he revealed despairing men without jobs, despondent families, hungry children.

In 1941, Evans and James Agee joined forces to produce the book, LET US NOW PRAISE FAMOUS MEN, a unique vision of American people and American architecture during the depression and has now become a classic.

Walker Evans has had great influence on the younger generation of photographers. At present he is Professor of Graphic Arts (photography) in Yale University's School of Art and Architecture.

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Since 1945 he has been an Associate Editor of Fortune Magazine. He served as Art and Cinema Editor of TIME Magazine from 1943 to 1945. Many museums, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Museum of Modern Art, The Art Institute of Chicago (a one-man exhibition of his work was held in 1947) and George Eastman House own Evans' work.

Evans was born in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1903. His boyhood was spent in Kenilworth, Illinois. He was educated at Philips Academy, Williams College, and in Paris. He received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1941 and in 1962 received the Carnegie Corporation of New York Award. His residences are New York City and Old Lyme, Connecticut.