

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

NEW YORK 19

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DEPARTMENT OF CIRCULATING EXHIBITIONS
AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

ELODIE COURTES, DIRECTOR

VICTOR D'AMICO, EDUCATIONAL SUPERVISOR

June 6, 1946

Dear Mr. Porter:

Many thanks for your very kind letter of May 24. I have been involved with the preparation of our annual budget or I would have written you sooner. Meanwhile, Beaumont has returned to New York and I have had an opportunity to talk to him again. Needless to say, he was delighted to hear that you would lend us several of your pictures for the traveling exhibition, "Leaders in Photography".

As I would like to include a representative selection of your work, covering some of the fine landscapes I saw in Beaumont's office last year as well as some of the bird pictures we have in our collection, I wonder if it would be possible for you to send me about twenty or twenty-five prints which you sent to the Museum last year. Beaumont and I will then make the final selection of fifteen prints from this group, as well as those owned by the Museum. Beaumont asks particularly that you send us photographs you made of the "Black Place".

May I ask that Beaumont's and my selection be the final one as in selecting your prints we want to keep in mind the prints we have chosen to represent the other photographers in this exhibition. As the exhibition was conceived and planned by Mr. Newhall and myself you can be certain that no one else in the present Photography Department will have anything to do with the selection of prints. Let me also assure you that the prints will be well protected, that they will not become soiled nor the mounts punched with holes. Important prints are always framed or covered with glass or clear plastic to protect them from handling. We never send out circulating exhibitions without first protecting the prints in this manner. In addition to guaranteeing the protection of the prints we find that the exhibitions we send out, with these frames and plastic coverings, make a better showing if we plan the installation ourselves.

Yours very sincerely,

Elodie Courtes

Dr. Eliot F. Porter
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