

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

NEW YORK 19

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DEPARTMENT OF CIRCULATING EXHIBITIONS
AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
ELODIE COURTER, DIRECTOR
VICTOR D'AMICO, EDUCATIONAL SUPERVISOR

May 21, 1946

Dear Dr. Porter:

Before Mr. Newhall left the Museum we planned together a new exhibition which would be sent on tour in September of this year. The exhibition is to be entitled, "Leaders in Photography", and will be composed of virtually six small one man shows. Each of the artists will be represented by fifteen of their best prints and we expect to include the work of Atget, Brady, Walker Evans, Ansel Adams, Cedric Wright and, I hope, yourself.

Mr. Newhall promised that he would direct a letter to you asking whether or not you would agree to our making a selection from your recent prints, as well as those which we have in our collection. As Mr. Newhall is at present out of town, and I have heard nothing from you regarding your work for this exhibition, I am afraid the letter to you may have slipped his mind. We are most anxious to complete arrangements for this exhibition as soon as possible so that Mr. Newhall can write an introduction to the exhibition and furnish us with critical material on each of the photographers represented. Frankly, I had been led by Mr. Newhall to expect that we would be able to include your recent photographs in this exhibition and have therefore made our catalog announcement of the show on that basis.

I saw your work in Mr. Newhall's office earlier in the year when the prints were here and it was one of the reasons we were inspired to do the exhibition. I very much hope that you will not feel it necessary to disappoint us now. As your name has already been included in the catalog, it would be necessary for us to limit the representation of your work to the few items which we have in the collection.

I shall appreciate hearing from you at your early convenience. If you have not already heard from Mr. Newhall our letters may cross in the mails.

Sincerely,

Elodie Courter

Dr. Eliot Porter
469 Maple Street
Winnetka, Illinois

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