The Echoes Report Magazine

The Echoes Report Magazine is a glossy quarterly publication focused on Mid-20th century style & design. Specific emphasis is placed on the 1920s, '30s, '40s, '50s and '60s eras, including Art Deco, Streamline Moderne, Biomorphic '50s and Abstract '60s styles and movements, from kitsch to high-end. As the only publication devoted entirely to the 1930s-1960s eras. The Echoes Report serves as the best resource for informative articles, vintage specialty shops, auction results, events, shows, books, and exhibitions regarding the Modern Movement. The Supplemental is published between magazine issues to keep our readers abreast of the changes and events in the marketplace. The Supplemental also provides a venue for shop owners, dealers and individuals to present a photograph of the current inventory they have for sale. This combination of pictures and descriptions pro vides readers with a first-hand look at what's for sale within the Modern Market!

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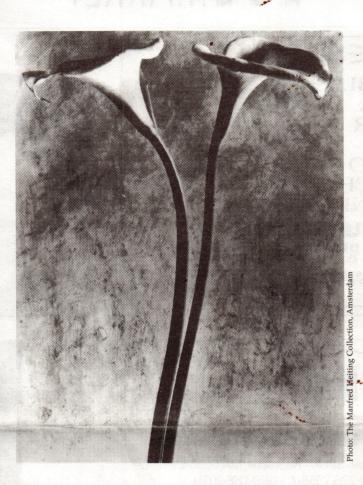
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SUPPLEMENTAL

to The Echoes Report Magazine

WINTER 1996 \$1





Tina Modotti: Photographs

Tina Modotti once said of her work: "I consider myself a photographer, nothing more." Yet she was, perhaps, one of the most fascinating and complex women of her time. Her photographic career evolved with her political activism as she developed a modernist vision and adapted it in unique ways to capture the struggles of the working class in Mexico, Germany, the Soviet Union, Italy, and Spain. Her images, however, reveal the beauty in ordinary objects and flowers as well as the harsh realities of the proletarian experience.

As an artist, Modotti received limited recognition for her aesthetic contributions to the field of photography, in part because of the focus on her unconventional lifestyle, her legendary beauty, and her personal liasons with well-known artists and revolutionaries, but also because most of her work was produced outside of European and North American artistic centers. Now, during the centennial of her birth, a major retrospective focuses exclusively on Tina Modotti.

On view December 17, 1995 through February 25, 1996, at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston,

Above left: Tina Modotti's "Calla Lilies" c. 1925, platinum print, The Manfred Heiting Collection, Amsterdam. Above right: Tina Modotti's "Woman of Tehuantepec" c. 1929, gelatin silver print, Philadelphia Museum of Art: Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Zigrosser, Lynn Rosenthal, 1993. Both photographs courtesy the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston.

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Tina Modotti

(continued from cover) Tina Modotti: Photographs features 116 prints, nearly half of which have never been on view nor reproduced, inclusing exquisite still lifes, images of Mexican workers and peasants, portraits of fellow artists, and photographs of folk art and indigenous architecture. In addition, nine case objects show examples of the work Modotti contributed to leftist political journals, as well as photographs of Mexican artist Diego Rivera's murals. Organized by the Alfred Stieglitz Center of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, this retrospective showcases images drawn from 52 public and private collections in the United States, Mexico, Canada, England, the Netherlands, and Australia.

"Tina Modotti was one of the most important contemporary photographers of our time," said Peter C. Marzio, director of the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston. "Her poignant photographs of post-revolutionary Mexico represent the synthesis of her personal and artistic expression. We are pleased to share her pioneering vision with the people of Houston."

Anne Tucker, Gus and Lyndall Wortham Curator of Photography, said, "As a photographer, Tina Modotti drew upon the richness and diversity of her surroundings to produce visually compelling and intellectually stimulating works of art. The public will see that the melding of her political and artistic pursuits allowed Modotti to leave an important legacy."

Modotti's Background

Tina Modotti was born Assunta Adelaide Luigia Modotti on August 17, 1896, to a modest family in northern Italy. After emigrating to the United States in 1913, Modotti became an actress in the San Francisco Italian theater. Four years later she



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Kenneth McIntire, painted four-panel screen, 1933. Mies van der Rohe, pair MR20 chrome and wicker side chairs, early 1930s. Period folk-art ashtray made of badminton rackets.



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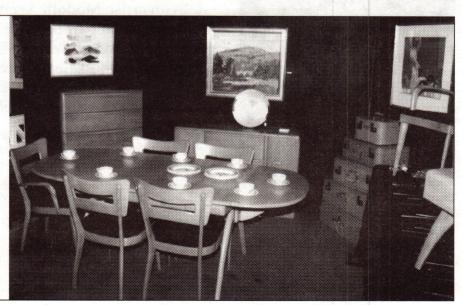
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married Roubaix de l'Abrie Richey (Robo), an aspiring painter and poet. The couple moved to Los Angeles, where Modotti worked as a silent film actress in Hollywood's burgeoning movie industry. She moved within a circle of bohemian artists and writers, including her future mentor and lover, renowned American photographer Edward Weston. Modotti's world view and ideologies were shaped through these friendships as she discussed issues of psychology, socialism, religion, and art. Following the sudden death of her husband, Modotti and Edward Weston moved in 1923 to Mexico and opened a photographic studio. They made a professional agreement that Weston would teach her photography, taking her on as a studio assistant, while she, speaking fluent Spanish, would run the household and the busi-

As Weston's pupil, Modotti adopted the "straight" aesthetic of his studied formalism and later evolved to incorporate more narrative themes. For Modotti, photography became a vehicle for expressing her emerging social conscience and political activism. Although sometimes criticized as propaganda, Modotti's staged images symbolized the union of art, labor, and struggle. Likewise, her beautiful portraits of the women of the Tehuatepec gracefully depicted their dignity and the elegant designs of their traditional dress. These photographs appeared internationally, in art journals and in left-wing periodicals such as El Machete (Mexico), New Masses (US), and Arbeiter Illustrierte Zeitung (Germany).

While in Mexico, Modotti became more interested and involved in politics. Her friendships with vanguard Mexican muralcontinued on page 8

EVENT REMINDERS

FEBRUARY

- 1 Swann Gallery's Autographs Auction in NY (212) 254-4710
- 2-4 Metropolitan Art & Antiques Vintage Fashion & Antique Textile Show in NYC (212) 463-0200
- 3-4 Second Annual Bay Area Pottery Show in San Jose, CA (408) 978-8408
- 8 Christie's East Antique & Fine Jewelry Auction in NYC (212) 606-0400
- 15 Swann Gallery's Modern Press & Illustrated Books Auction in NY (212) 254-4710
- 17-18 Triple Pier Show in NYC (201) 384-0010
- 20 Christie's Fine Watches and Wristwatches Auction in NYC (212) 546-1000
- 20 Christie's East Impressionist and Modern Art Auction in NYC (212) 546-1000
- 22 Christie's Contemporary Art Auction in NYC (212) 546-1000
- 24-25 Triple Pier Show in NYC (201) 384-0010

MARCH

- Treadway Gallery's 20th Century Auction in Chicago, IL (513) 321-6742
- Modern In Manhattan Auction in NYC (800) 419-3060
- 16-17 20th Century Ltd. Show in Oak Park, IL (708) 879-5603
- 16-17 Cyclorama Show in Boston, MA (617) 426-8196 16-17 Modern Times Show in Glendale, CA (310)
- 455-2894 16-17 Maven Company's Vintage Clothing, Jewelry and Textiles Show & Sale in Yonkers, NY (203) 758-3880
- 23-24 Atlantique City Show in Atlantic City, NJ (609) 926-1800
- 23-24 New York Coliseum Antique Show in NYC (212) 255-0020

APRIL

17 William Doyle Galleries Lalique Auction in NYC (212) 427-2730

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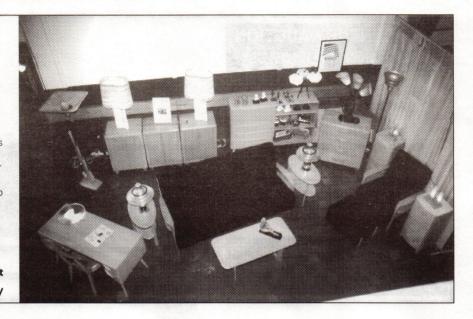
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ONGOING

Through March 24 "A Slice of Schiaparelli: Surrealism in Fashion" at the Brooklyn Museum in NY (718) 638-5000 Through March 31 "Friedrich Adler: From Art Nouveau to Art Deco" at the Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies in Chicago, IL (312) 322-1747 Through June 15 "Something For Everyone: The 1964-65 New York World's Fair" multimedia exhibition at the Flushing Council on Culture and the Arts in Flushing, NY (718) 463-7700 March 31 - July 14 "Hot Cars, High Fashion, Cool Stuff: Designs of the 20th Century" at the Dallas Museum of Art in Dallas, TX (214) 922-1200

*

IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF

ECHOES

THOS. MOLESWORTH

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SHOW UPDATES

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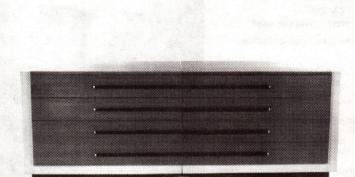
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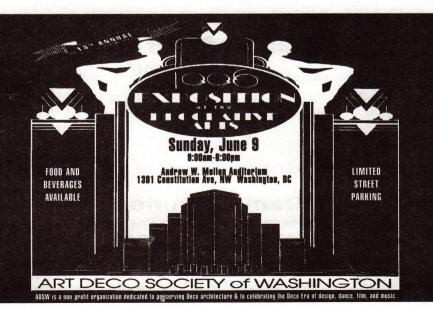
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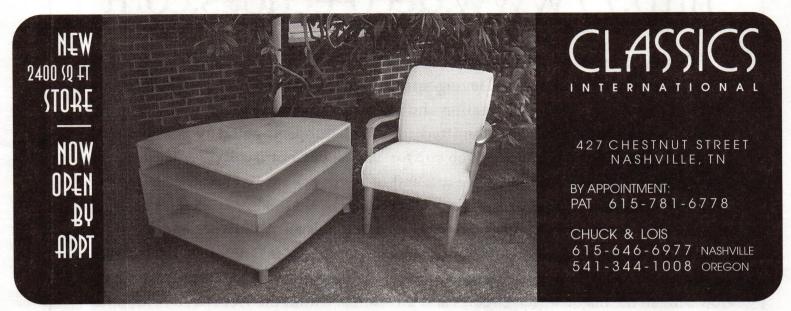
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- Deco Echoes Publications has mutually agreed with Vanderhagen Interiors of Laguna Beach, California formerly the West Coast representatives for Deco Echoes - to terminate their relationship.
- •The new advertising rate card for 1996 is available from Deco Echoes Publications, and will be in effect for the March 1996 issue. Call (508) 428-2324 to request one today.
- The Echoes Report magazine is completing negotiations to establish an office in the UK which will report on the Modern scene overseas. The March 1996 issue will mark the premier of this overseas addition to our publication, featuring a 4page review of auction results, show dates, a feature article, and overseas advertisers. This will provide our readers with a more complete view of the activities of the 1930s-1960s market throughout the world.

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(continued from page 3) Diego Rivera, Jose Clemente Orozco, and David Alfaro Siqueiros and other friends like Xavier Guerrero and Vittorio Vidali nurtured her communist involvement and led to photographic commissions. As a member of the Communist party, she was under surveillance by the Mexican government. The harassment increased after she was charged and later acquitted of murdering her lover, exiled Cuban journalist Julio Antonio Mella, in 1929. The following year Modotti organized a one-woman exhibition of her work which was billed as "the first revolutionary photographic exhibition in Mexico." A few months later, she was deported from Mexico as a suspected coconspirator in the plot to assassinate the Mexican president Pascual Ortiz Rubio. She lived briefly in Germany, the Soviet Union, and Italy, and eventually gave up photography in order to work for the party full time. In 1939, Modotti was finally able to return to Mexico and clear her name before her death in 1942.

TOUR SCHEDULE

Following its presentation at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, the exhibition will travel to the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art where it will run from March 28 - June 2, 1996.

EXHIBITION CATALOG

The exhibition is accompanied by a fully illustrated catalog written by Sarah M. Lowe, Modotti's biographer. A paperback edition published by the Philadelphia Museum of Art is available from the museum store for \$25. A clothbound trade edition published by Harry N. Abrams is available from Deco Echoes for \$45 plus \$4 shipping and handling.

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