Jeffrey Saltenik

Dreier, Katherine S. (1877–1952)  **Words: 224**

An impresario, collector, and painter, Katherine Dreier directed her attention and personal wealth to the promotion of European Modernism in the United States, most notably by co-founding, with Marcel Duchamp, the Société Anonyme, Inc. in 1920. Dreier guided the group’s lecture series; art and library acquisitions; publications, including the short-lived journal *Brochure Quarterly*; as well as its program of exhibitions, among them the first exclusively devoted to Fernand Léger in the United States and, in 1926, the *International Exhibition of Modern Art* at the Brooklyn Museum. These intermittent and often small-scale initiatives were relatively ineffective in achieving Dreier’s goal of introducing the international avant-garde to an American audience; however, the collection she assembled in the group’s name, and her personal art collection, remains significant. She deposited the former at Yale University. Dreier exhibited her own paintings at the 1913 Armory Show, among other venues.

References and further reading

Bohan, R. (1982) *The Société Anonyme’s Brooklyn Exhibition: Katherine Dreier and Modernism in America*, Ann Arbor, Mich.: UMI Research Press.

Dreier, K., et al. (1949) *Three Lectures On Modern Art: "Intrinsic Significance" in Modern Art,* New York: Philosophical Library.

Gross, J., and Bohan. R. (2006) *The Société Anonyme: Modernism for America,* New Haven: Yale University Press.

Herbert, R., et al. (1984) *The Société Anonyme and the Dreier Bequest At Yale University: A Catalogue Raisonné,* New Haven: Yale University Press.