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01/25/1984 - The Sound Of The Wind In the Ladder Of The Jaguar

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

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HARRY READ, Director of Information and Publications (217) 581-2820

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--"The Sound of the Wind in the Ladder of the Jaguar" and "The Lord of the Viking Sees the Jaguar" are two paintings recently added to the permanent collection at the Tarble Arts Center at Eastern Illinois University.

The paintings were donated by the estate of the late Ms. Alice Baber, the artist. Born in Charleston in 1928, Baber attended school in Kansas, Ill., during her formative years. She served as a special consultant to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington from 1975 until her death in 1982.

Tarble Arts Center Director Don Carmichael said the paintings, one done in oil and the other in watercolor, are from the years 1980-81 and "are representative of her (Ms. Baber's) works."

Carmichael said neither painting is currently on exhibit in the gallery, but both will be placed there in the near future. The oil painting is temporarily on display in Eastern President Stanley G. Rives' home, while the watercolor has yet to be framed.

Negotiations between the arts center and Ms. Baber's estate were handled by Nancy Baber McNeil, the artist's sister, and John Kern, her nephew.

Also recently donated to the arts center were a number of works from the collection of Dr. Lynn Trank, a retired art professor at Eastern.

Included in this gift are two watercolor paintings, two drawings and 19 original prints from artists such as Leonard Baskin, Julian Levi and Adolf Denn.

(more)

Tarble Arts Center
Add 1

Carmichael said the works were Trank's parting gift to the university upon his retirement in 1983. The works are currently being stored in the vault and will tour with the permanent collection to different places on campus as well as to outside exhibits, Carmichael added.

In addition, two paintings by Dr. Ralph Wickiser, a 1934 graduate of Eastern, were also donated to the arts center recently. Carmichael said the paintings were done in 1934, while Wickiser was a student.

Mrs. Leila Gates of Charleston presented the untitled oil-on-board paintings depicting the old greenhouse and Embarras River to the arts center. Carmichael said the works will serve as a form of record of those sites.

Wickiser has served as Head of the Department of Graduate Art and Design at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, N.Y. He received a Distinguished Alumni Award from Eastern in 1974.

Neither of the paintings is yet prepared for display in the gallery, Carmichael said.

Another recent donation is a painting by Lawrence Calcagno, who Carmichael described as "an abstract expressionist." Calcagno was the first exhibitor in the Tarble Arts Center following its opening in 1982.

Among the other recent donations are paintings by Dr. Carl Shull, a former professor of art at Eastern, and Nancy Graham, who exhibited paintings of classic cars at the arts center last summer.

Carmichael said about 50 works of art were donated to the gallery during the past year.