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South Dakota Art Museum Newsletters and Publications

Spring 1992

South Dakota Art Museum News, Spring 1992

South Dakota Art Museum

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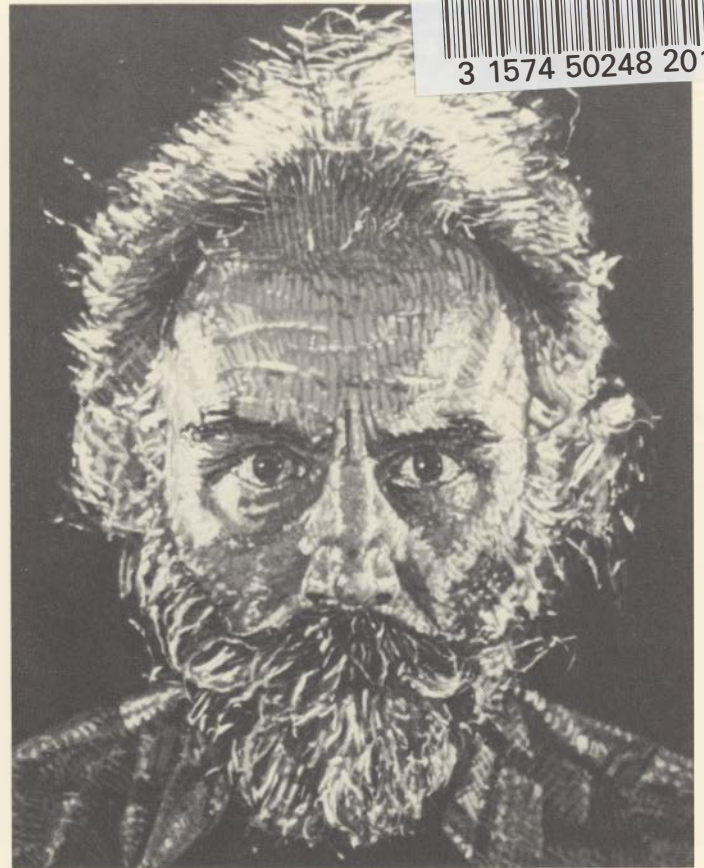
SOUTH DAKOTA ART MUSEUM NEWS

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Chuck Close's "Self Portrait"



Chuck Close's "Lucas" (Lucas Samaras)

CLOSING IN ON CHUCK

The last special exhibition of the Museum's 1991-92 season is Chuck Close: Editions, April 5 — 26, with a preview for Museum members on Saturday, April 4, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Close has emerged as one of the most respected of the photo-realist painters. Using a face-on Polaroid of such friends as composer Philip Glass, painter Lucas Samaras, and photographer Cindy Sherman, he translates the image to a large canvas, applying paint with an airbrush and using scaled grids on the Polaroid and canvas to maintain proportions. It has been said that his portraits are of photographs, not people. Whatever the case, his paintings reinforce the

distortions and psychological distance of photography.

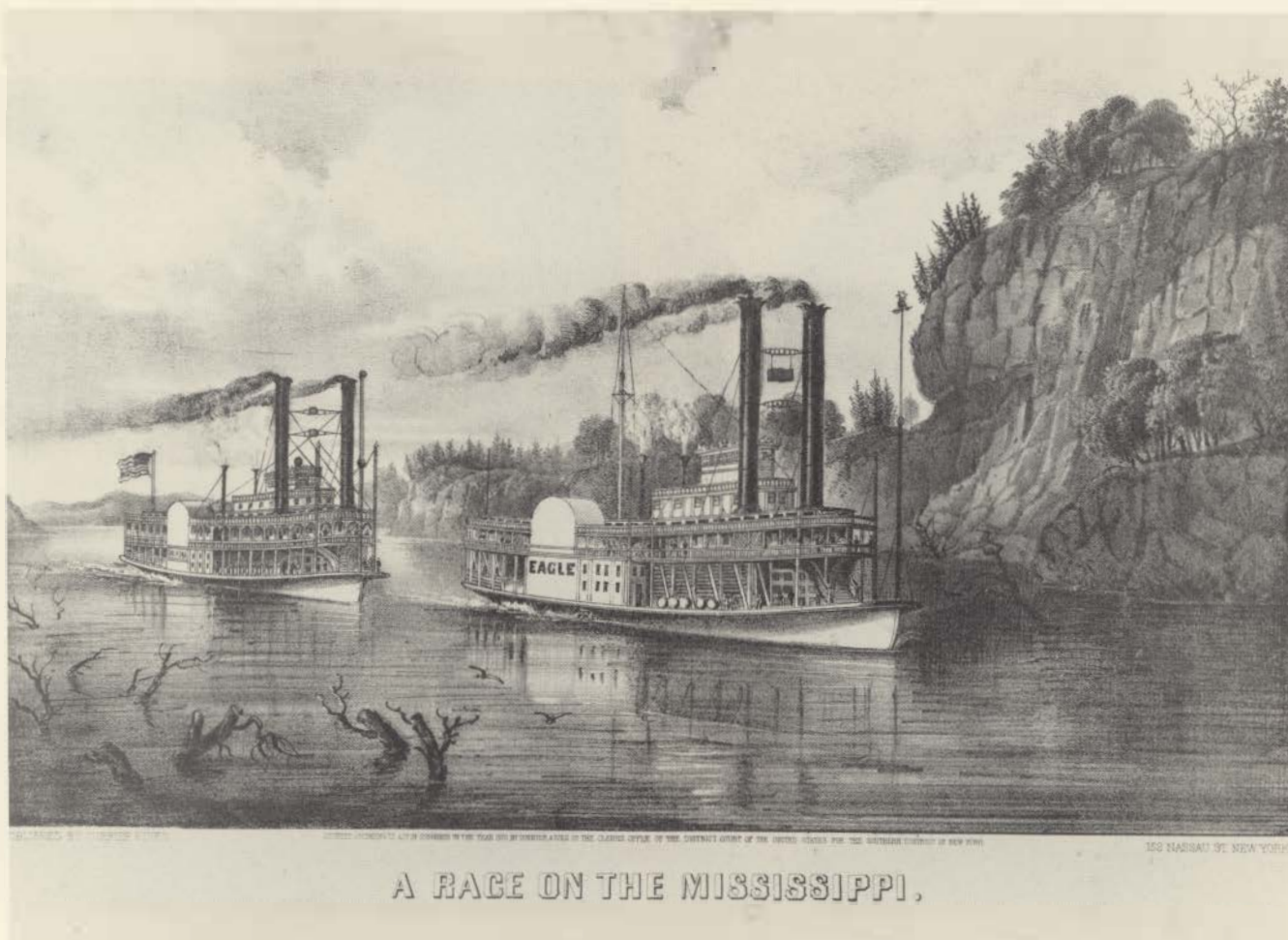
Forty prints are included in this exhibition. Close began making limited-edition prints in 1972, working in such techniques as etching, lithography, and woodcut. They, too, are large-scale, some as high as six feet. He is much more experimental with the prints, using a variety of methods, including fingerprints, to create images.

Close was born 1940 in Monroe, Washington. He studied at the University of Washington and Yale University, and won a Fulbright for study at the Akademie der Bildenden

Kunste in Vienna. During 1965-72 he taught at the University of Massachusetts, School for the Visual Arts in New York City, University of Washington, and Yale Summer Art School. His representation in the Documenta V exhibition in Kassel, Germany, brought international celebrity and the opportunity to devote full time to his art. A stroke in 1987 left him paralyzed from the neck down, but he continues to work with the help of assistants.

This exhibition was organized by the Butler Institute of American Art in Youngstown, Ohio, and is circulated by Exhibits USA, a national division of the Mid-America Arts Alliance.

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Currier & Ives' "A Race on the Mississippi"

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

A hand-colored lithograph published by Currier & Ives, "A Race on the Mississippi," was given by Zora Colburn of Brookings. Employing a stable of artists, Nathaniel Currier and James Ives published over 7,000 "Cheap and Popular Pictures" during 1834-1907, with prints ranging in price from five to 25 cents each.

Eleven Dakota Indian articles from the Sisseton area, including a jingle blouse decorated with tin cones and a man's headband with horsehair medallion, have been given by Joanita Kant Monteith of Watertown, South Dakota. The Kant Tribal Art Collection at the Museum now includes 46 objects.

Three landscape paintings by Charles Greener (1870-1935) of Faulkton, South Dakota, have been given by Joanita Kant Monteith, Nadine Lambert of Mitchell, and Marjorie Stuart of Santa Ana, California. The Museum now has 45 works by Greener in its collection.

Four paintings and a drawing by Jes Schlaikjer (1897-1982) have been given by his grandson, Joseph Biegel of Bethesda, Maryland. Schlaikjer was born in New York City and raised on his family's homestead near Carter in Tripp County, South Dakota. He served in the Army Intelligence Corps during World War I, and studied art in Lyons, France, at the Art Institute of

Chicago, and with fellow South Dakotan Harvey Dunn in Tenafly, New Jersey. He and wife Gladys deGroot settled in New York City and became successful magazine illustrators. Among the paintings given to the Museum is "The Pink Cameo," a portrait of his wife that won the First Hallgarten Prize at the 1926 National Academy of Design Annual Exhibition. "The Cooling Well" of 1937 and "The Homestead" of 1939 are South Dakota scenes with figures posed by his wife and children, and have impressive exhibition records.



Jes Schlaikjer's "The Homestead"



Dakota Indian Headband with Horsehair Medallion

READER'S DIGEST CHOOSES GREENER PAINTING

Charles Greener's 1910 masterpiece in the Museum collection, "Honkers at Sunrise," has been chosen for reproduction in color on the cover of a forthcoming *Reader's Digest*. Greener (1870-1935) came to Dakota Territory from Wisconsin with his family in 1883, and settled in Faulkton, South Dakota, in 1890. He studied at the University of North Dakota, Cincinnati Academy of Fine Arts, with J. H. Kaumeyer in Minneapolis, and with Anson Kross in Boston.

Among the major exhibitions including his work were the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago, 1915 Northwestern Artists at the Saint Paul Institute in Minnesota, and the 1932 American Scene at the John Herron Art Institute in Indianapolis.

Among his commissions were the 1906 Faulk County Courthouse murals, portraits of Governors Frank Byrne and Charles Herreid and Congressman John Pickler, and a 1928 South Dakota panorama, "Looking Towards Washington," for President and Mrs. Calvin Coolidge.

"Honkers at Sunrise" was the first Greener painting acquired by the Museum, a gift from his daughter, Dorothy Greener Olson, and her husband Clarence in 1971. It was most recently reproduced in William Gerds' three-volume art history, *Art Across America*, published by Abbeville Press in 1990.

A 16-painting selection from the Greener Collection, including "Honkers at Sunrise," is available for tour around the state. The modest fee for a 21-day showing includes transportation, insurance, installation assistance, labels, introductory text, and press kit. For non-traditional but secure spaces like banks and libraries, free-standing partitions are available at no extra cost. For further information on this touring exhibition, contact Francine Marcel at the Museum.



Charles Greener's "Honkers at Sunrise"

A SPECIAL NOTE OF APPRECIATION

Programs at the Museum this season are supported in part by a \$14,340 General Operating Support Grant from the South Dakota Arts Council, a state agency with funds from the National Endowment for the Arts and South Dakota Legislature.

Friends of the Arts, the organization that allocates funds from the annual Evening for the Arts in Brookings, has provided \$2,500.

NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS



Jean Bibby

JEAN BIBBY

Jean Bibby of Brookings, a charter member of the Museum Board of Trustees who served on the Board during 1969-82, died January 24. She was 66. She was a pharmacist at the South Dakota State University Dispensary, violinist with the University Civic Orchestra, and was active in many volunteer organizations. She and husband John were instrumental in establishing the Ada B. Erwin Endowment at the Museum, which now helps pay for maintenance of the Museum collections.

FILM SEASON ENDS WITH SCIENCE-FICTION THRILLER

Stalker shows April 23 at 7:30 p.m. Andrei Tarkovsky's first science-fiction film, **Solaris**, has become a cult classic. **Stalker**, 1979, is a Dante-esque journey into a mysterious region known as "the Zone." Sealed off by troops and barbed wire, the Zone is an eerie hybrid of industrial wasteland and primeval forest, where mirages and mind-bending traps await the unwary traveller. Special guides—"Stalkers"—have powers which enable them to penetrate the Zone and lead expeditions to its interior. There, "the Room" awaits, where it is rumored that the innermost desires of those who enter may be granted. **Stalker** has been called excessive, exasperating, uncompromising, and pessimistic. Perfect. Russian with English subtitles.

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