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South Dakota Art Museum Newsletters and Publications

Winter 1974

South Dakota Memorial Art Center News, Winter 1974

South Dakota State University

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Greener goose painting acclaimed as 'finest work on display in Center'

The following is the fifth in a series of profiles of South Dakota artists based upon the Memorial Art Center's Survey of the Visual Arts in South Dakota. This profile is written by Joseph Stuart, survey director. The survey has been funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts through the South Dakota Arts Council.

In September of 1971 Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Olson of Custer, South Dakota presented a painting by Mrs. Olson's father to the Memorial Art Center for its collections. The painting, **Honkers at Sunrise**, executed in 1910, was acclaimed by a visitor from the Addison Gallery of American Art at Andover, Massachusetts as the finest

'Civilisation' series to end December 5

"Heroic Materialism," the last episode of the 13-film series, *Civilisation*, will be shown at the Center on Wednesday, December 5th, at 7:30 p.m. The series, written and narrated by Lord Kenneth Clark, has been rented from Augustana College in Sioux Falls, where it was acquired with matching funds from the National Endowment for the Arts through the South Dakota Arts Council. Negotiations are now underway to schedule Lord Clark's series on *Pioneers of Modern Painting*.

Mrs. Holst appointed

Mrs. Ed (Kathryn) Holst, Pierre, is the newest member of the Art Center's Board of Trustees:

work on display in the Center. Subsequent gifts of paintings by the Olsons, the Homer Cordts of Faulkton, the Charles J. Gilberts of Brookings, and Mrs. F. T. Wall of Houston, Texas, and access to a wealth of archival material in the collections of the Olsons and the Cordts, made it apparent that Charles Theodore Greener ranks as one of the outstanding painters of this state.

Charles T. Greener was born at Lancaster, Wisconsin on March 16th, 1870, one of six children of Christian and Albina Greener. The family moved to a homestead in Hand County, Dakota Territory in 1883, and then to Faulkton in 1890, where Charles spent the rest of his life.

Displaying a strong interest in art as a youth, Greener studied at the Art School of the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks, at Galesburg, Illinois, with Anson K. Kross in Boston, at the Academy of Fine Arts



in Cincinnati, and with J. H. Kaumeyer in Minneapolis.

In Faulkton he established a studio, which he maintained until his death on July 4th, 1935, and in 1900 married Florence Jones. They had one child,

GREENER, page 3

CHARLES T.
GREENER
(1870-1935)

"... a man
of integrity and
exemplary habits."



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Joint painting/ceramic exhibition scheduled

Paintings by Kawa

An exhibition of recent paintings by Florence Kawa of Des Moines, Iowa will be held at the Center from December 9th through January 13th. Her work will be remembered by our audience from the 1972 Northwestern Biennial Exhibition at the Center.

Ms. Kawa studied at the Minneapolis School of Art, University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, Black Mountain College in North Carolina, Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan,

honors, including being listed among Women of Achievement in 1971 and 1972.

The ceramic sculpture of Charles Evans of Springfield, South Dakota will be on display at the Center from December 9th through January 13th. Evans is a professor of art at the University of South Dakota, Springfield, and last summer received a purchase award from the Center's South Dakota Biennial Exhibition. He studied art at the College of Idaho, Caldwell and at the University of

Ceramic sculptures by Evans

Massachusetts Institute of Technology at Cambridge, and Corcoran Summer School Abroad at Leeds College of Art in England. She is an Associate Professor of Art at Drake University in Des Moines. She has served as a designer with the W.P.A. and taught at Louisiana State University and Florida State University. She has won numerous awards and

Montana in Missoula. He has been at Springfield since 1971.

Evans will discuss the development of his work at the Center on Tuesday, December 11th, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. The public is invited to attend. That afternoon from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. he will conduct a ceramics workshop in the Ceramics Studio in Solberg Hall on the campus of South Dakota State University.

Gift of studio grand climaxes Mrs. Sexauer's support of arts

Shortly before her death on Oct. 7, 1973 Mrs. E. H. (Cecile Welch) Sexauer of Brookings gave her 1916 Steinway studio grand piano to the Memorial Art Center.

The piano has been placed in the northwest gallery, where the Harvey Dunn Painting Collection is displayed. It can be moved via the elevator to the Center's Alumni Auditorium for recitals there, or recitals may be on occasion presented in the north galleries with the folding walls opened.

According to Mary Spencer, professor of music at South Dakota State University, the instrument is in "excellent condition and perfectly

suited for professional recitals at the Center."

Mrs. Sexauer studied music at Boston Conservatory and for many years taught piano in Brookings. She married Elmer Sexauer in 1916, and the couple moved into their new house at 627 8th Avenue, where they lived until this past summer. She was a 1910 graduate of South Dakota State University.

Mrs. Sexauer was an active supporter for an art center in South Dakota. Her husband was chairman of the drive that realized \$500,000 for the construction of the Memorial Art Center.

Memorials for Mrs. Sexauer are now being accepted at the Art Center.

Nine works join collection at art center

Anonymous (Tibet)
untitled temple painting, mid-19th century
tempera on silk, 24 3/4" x 17"
gift of Adaline Hsia, Brookings

Henry C. Balink (U. S.)
Paccaneh
intaglio print (40/50), 5 1/2" x 4"
(impression)
gift of Dr. and Mrs. Fredrick Bunce, Brookings

Takee Quala
intaglio print (40/50), 6 1/4" x 4 1/2"
(impression)
gift of Dr. and Mrs. Fredrick Bune, Brookings

Ada B. Caldwell (U.S., 1869-1938)
untitled landscape, ca. 1936
watercolor, 9" x 6 1/2" (inside mat)
gift of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Evenson, Brookings

Harvey Thomas Dunn (U. S., 1884-1952)
Portrait of Eleanor Burnet, 1906
oil on canvas, 30 1/4" x 19 1/4"
purchase

Maud Bushnell Kelton (U. S.)
untitled floral (roses)
watercolor, 4 1/4" x 9"
gift of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Evenson, Brookings and Mrs. E. J. Seiferle, Atlanta

untitled pastoral, ca. 1900-04
pastel, 8 1/4" x 9 1/4" (inside mat)
gift of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Evenson, Brookings, and M. E. J. Beiferle, Atlanta

Max A. Peterson (U. S., born 1939)
They Made It a Waste, 1970
watercolor, 22" x 18" (inside mat)
gift of the artist.

Isabelle Weeks (U. S., 1851-1907)
The French Scene, 1873
oil on canvas, 12 1/2" x 9"
gift of Mrs. Hubert Buswell, Philip, and Mrs. Wayne Fairchild, Philip

untitled pastoral, ca. 1900-04
pastel, 8 1/4" x 9 1/4" (inside mat)
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Time-Life films use Dunn painting

The Harvey Dunn painting, *The Old Settlers*, will be used in the forthcoming educational filmstrip on the history of America being produced by Time-Life Films. *Scholastic Magazine* is also utilizing some of Harvey Dunn's work in a film it is producing.

GREENER, from page 1

Dorothy. According to a letter of recommendation from his banker, he was "a man of integrity and exemplary habits," which, one supposes, meant that among other things he paid his bills. He was indeed a model of Midwest citizenship. He served as deacon in the Congregational Church of Faulkton and sang in the choir. He served on the Faulkton City Council. He was a member of Free Masons. Being a conscientious artist, he maintained memberships in the American Federation of Arts, National Art Society of Chicago, the Artists Guild, and the American Artists Professional League.

Greener received considerable attention through his portraits of Governors Frank M. Byrne and Charles N. Herreid and U. S. Senator J. A. Pickler (all at Pierre). His greatest coup, however, was the 1928 commission from the Young Citizens League of South Dakota for a painting to be presented to President and Mrs. Calvin Coolidge following their summer vacation in the Black Hills in 1927. The painting, eventually titled *Looking Towards Washington*, was meant to suggest a view from the Black Hills towards the eastern prairies. On April 29th, 1929, Mr. Coolidge wrote Greener this note about the work:

"The picture which you painted for us of a South Dakota scene has been received and I cannot tell you how pleased we are with the work. I want to express my appreciation of the artistic merit of the beautiful painting."

Greener applied for copyright for this painting as well as *Honkers at Sunrise*, *Early Start* (also in the Center collection, a gift from the Cordts), and *Coyote at Sunrise*, and so it can be supposed that, in his opinion, these were his finest works.



His painting received recognition by being included in several major salons held in the Midwest, including the 1915 showings at the St. Paul Institute, the Minneapolis Art Institute, and at the Omaha Public Library, and in 1933 at the Herron Art Institute in Indianapolis.

Work by Greener in South Dakota is at the Faulk County Courthouse, State Capitol Building and State Museum at Pierre, the Administration Building at South Dakota State University and the Memorial Art Center in Brookings.

American environment collection slated

Forty contemporary artists, including Kenneth Callahan, Ralston Crawford, Peter Hurd, William Gropper, and Elmer Bischoff were commissioned by the Bureau of Reclamation of the Department of the Interior to paint the American environment and, we suspect, the effect upon it by the Bureau's work. This collection has been organized as an exhibit by the Smithsonian Institution and will be shown at the Center from February 24th through March 24th.

Both the national and state flags recently were presented to the South Dakota Memorial Art Center at South Dakota State University by members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Auxiliary. This past summer the U. S. flag was a gift of the state organization, and in October the Brookings unit presented the state flag. Joseph Stuart, art center director, left, and Harold Bailey, SDSU vice president for academic affairs, accepted the flags from VFW Auxiliary members, Mrs. Harvey Schroeder, left, Brookings unit president, and Mrs. Stanley Corlett, past department president. The VFW Auxiliary also provides the Art Center with a wheel chair for use by disabled visitors.

New memorials established

Memorials are now being accepted at the Art Center for Mrs. Elmer Sexauer as well as Mrs. Herbert Cheever. A memorial from the Twentieth Century Club at Redfield was received in October in memory of Mrs. Lenna Coleman.

<p><i>Types of Annual Membership</i></p> <table> <tr><td>STUDENT MEMBER</td><td>\$</td></tr> <tr><td>ACTIVE MEMBER</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>PARTICIPATING MEMBER</td><td>25</td></tr> <tr><td>CONTRIBUTING MEMBER</td><td>50</td></tr> <tr><td>PATRON MEMBER</td><td>100</td></tr> <tr><td>SUPPORTING MEMBER</td><td>250</td></tr> <tr><td>SUSTAINING MEMBER</td><td>500</td></tr> <tr><td>SPONSORING MEMBER</td><td>750</td></tr> <tr><td>LIFE MEMBER</td><td>1,000</td></tr> </table> <p>Gifts and memorials are welcome.</p>	STUDENT MEMBER	\$	ACTIVE MEMBER	10	PARTICIPATING MEMBER	25	CONTRIBUTING MEMBER	50	PATRON MEMBER	100	SUPPORTING MEMBER	250	SUSTAINING MEMBER	500	SPONSORING MEMBER	750	LIFE MEMBER	1,000	<p><i>Charter Membership Application</i> for the <i>South Dakota Memorial Art Center</i></p> <p>Name _____ <small>Mr. and Mrs.</small></p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip code _____</p> <p>Amount enclosed \$ _____ Date _____</p>	<p><i>General Membership Privileges</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly calendar of events and Members Newsletter Reduced fees for art classes and workshops Reduced subscription rates to leading art magazines Rental and purchase of original works of art through the Sales and Rental Gallery Discounts on most items sold in the Art Center Shop Participation in the Art Center's Tour Program Discounts on Art Center publications Invitations to Member's previews of major exhibitions
STUDENT MEMBER	\$																			
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SPONSORING MEMBER	750																			
LIFE MEMBER	1,000																			

Donation of painting brings unknown S.D. artist to light

A 100-year-old painting by a South Dakota pioneer has been given to the South Dakota Memorial Art Center.

The painting, by Mrs. John A. (Isabelle May Little) Weeks, who spent her adult life in Yankton, was given to the Center by her

MEMORIAL ART CENTER WINTER 1974 PROGRAM

Harvey Dunn Paintings

on permanent view, north galleries

Marghab Linens

on permanent view, Marghab Gallery

Charles T. Greener Paintings

winter, central gallery

Myra Miller Paintings

winter, central gallery

Prints and Drawings from the Collections

winter, southwest gallery

Selections from the Archives

winter, lower hall gallery

Florence Kawa Paintings

December 9-January 13, south galleries

Charles Evans Sculpture

December 9-January 13, south galleries

Eskimo Art

January 20-February 17, south galleries

The American Artist and Water Reclamation

February 24-March 24, south galleries

granddaughters Mrs. Hubert Buswell and Mrs. Wayne Fairchild of Philip.

Art Center Director Joseph Stuart said the oil painting, *The French Scene*, was a significant addition to the Centers' permanent collection of art by South Dakota artists.

Mrs. Weeks was born in Michigan but moved to Yankton in 1872. She painted the picture the following year. Her husband operated a business in Yankton for many years.

A nearly completed survey of South Dakota artists had not brought to light the works of Mrs. Weeks. Stuart said she would now be added to the survey's catalog. The survey was made possible by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts through the South Dakota Arts Council.

The painting was given to the Center after Mrs. Fairchild contacted Mrs. C. L. Ferguson, a member of the Center's Board of Trustees, from rural Philip.

Eskimo sculptures, prints scheduled

From January 20th to February 17th a special exhibition of 28 prints and 29 small sculptures by Canadian Eskimos will be shown at the Center. This exhibit was put together by the Canadian Embassy and comes to the Center through the Smithsonian Institution.

Art Center membership grows

New

William T. Anderson; Mr. and Mrs. John C. Bell; Mr. and Mrs. Ben Buer; Mrs. R. Y. Chapman; Ruth DeLien; Melanie Frank; Mrs. William Grady; Mr. and Mrs. George Gulbranson; Mr. and Mrs. Gilmore Halverson; William Hibbard; Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Higgins; Mrs. Derald Hughes; Mr. and Mrs. William Kamps;

Mrs. Roy Kundel; Mrs. Florence Kurtz; Ada Martin Laughlin; Mr. and Mrs. Curtis B. Mateer; Mrs. Hazel Matjka; Mr. and Mrs. Steven Mayes; Mrs. Gilbert Meyer; Mr. and Mrs. Don Miller; Richard J. Morgan; Beverly Parry; John Royster; Mrs. Thelma Whidby Shaw; and Melvin Spinar.

Renewed

Jeannette Abbey; Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Bahr; Dr. and Mrs. Allen Barnes; Mrs. Effie Bertsch; Mrs. E. R. Binnewies; Grace Wasson Bonnel; Mr. and Mrs. Eric Brown; Robert Carey; Mrs. R. A. Cave; Mr. and Mrs. Don Costain; Miss Geneva Croll;

Mr. and Mrs. Henry DeLong; Mr. and Mrs. Clare Denton; R. J. Drew; East Pierre Women's Club; Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Evenson; Mrs. Merle L. Gunsalus; Helen C. Habicht; Leotta R. Hampson; June Harter; Dr. and Mrs. Robert Henry; Mrs. Ray Jennings; Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Kelton;

Mrs. Margaret Laughrey; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Law; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Morgan; Maxine Nichols; Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Olson; Dr. and Mrs. William Patt; Joseph T. Paulson; Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Richardson; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rittershaus; Dr. and Mrs. C. R. Roberts;

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Sauer; Ella Seyer; Dr. and Mrs. Robert Shaskey; Mrs. Larry Skelton; Cora Sivers; Lawrence Stine; Windsor A. Straw; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Stuart; Rev. and Mrs. Frank Thorburn; Mrs. Eldon Tompkins; Mr. and Mrs. Herman Ulrich; Mr. and Mrs. Louis Williams; Lloyd Wilson; and Mrs. John Younger.