

South Dakota State University

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South Dakota Art Museum Newsletters and Publications

Spring 1974

South Dakota Memorial Art Center News, Spring 1974

South Dakota State University

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Water reclamation exhibit now open

An exhibition made up of paintings from the collection of the Bureau of Reclamation of the United States Department of the Interior and circulated by the Smithsonian Institution, The American Artist and Water Reclamation, will be shown at the Memorial Art Center February 24-March 24. Artists such as Kenneth Callahan, Ralston Crawford, Richard Diebenkorn, Joseph Hirsch, Peter Hurd, and Norman Rockwell give their impressions of great water reclamation projects such as Glen Canyon, Grand Coulee, and Hoover Dams.

John W. McCoy's Tule Lake Refuge from the American Artist and Water Reclamation exhibition.

Exhibits of South Dakota student art to be regular biennial feature

A selection of recent work by elementary and secondary art students of South Dakota will be featured at the Memorial Art Center March 27-April 3, during Fine Arts Festival Week on the campus of South Dakota State University. This exhibition is being arranged with the cooperation of the University's Division of Continuing Education and school art instructors from throughout the state.

The work of art students from South Dakota colleges and universities will be shown at the Center May 19-June 16. This regular biennial feature at the Center is being arranged with the cooperation of the chairmen of art departments at the various schools.

Efforts are being made to arrange touring exhibits from these shows for

circulation throughout the state. Information regarding the tours may be had by writing the Memorial Art Center.

Spring 1974 Exhibits

The American Artist and Water Reclamation
February 24-March 24

South Dakota Student Art
March 27-April 3

A Sense of Place: The Artist and the American Land
April 7-28

South Dakota College Art Student Exhibition
May 19-June 16





PAUL WARCLOUD (1930-73)

Paintings and lectures made South Dakota Indian artist latter-day tribal historian

The following is the sixth 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.

Paul WarCloud was born at Sica Hollow on the Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Reservation in South Dakota on June 18th, 1930. He attended school

at the Tekakwitha Indian Mission at Sisseton, the Fort Thompson (South Dakota) Indian School, the Wahpeton (North Dakota) Indian School, and completed high school at the Stephan (South Dakota) Mission.

WarCloud was interested in art as a teenager, and in 1950 considered applying for admission to the renown United States Indian School in Santa Fe, New Mexico. With the outbreak of the Korean conflict he instead volunteered for service in the United States Air Force, serving there and in

Paul WarCloud discussing his mural, *Unity Through the Great Spirit*, with Governor Richard Kneip.

the United States Army from 1950-60.

Following those years in the service WarCloud returned to South Dakota and began to paint seriously, though without benefit of formal instruction. He admired the painting of Charles Russell and Fredric Remington, and they probably account for the greatest influence on his painting.

While his painting was developing from the technical standpoint, WarCloud was becoming increasingly concerned with the plight of his Sioux people. He discovered that his status as a Sioux artist, could gain him entree to lecture circuits throughout the country, and a special opportunity to tell the Sioux story. The Sioux have traditionally been conscious of their history, perhaps more so than any other American Indian people. Their pictographic histories constitute one of the great art forms of North

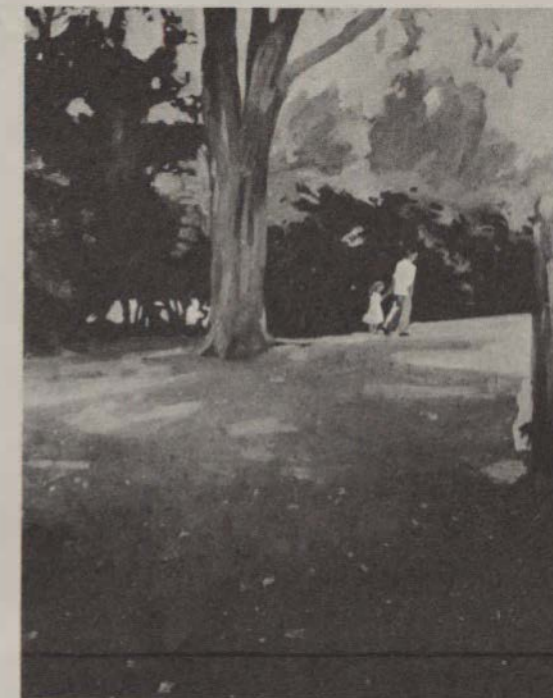
America. In his own way WarCloud served as a latter-day tribal historian, depicting great Sioux leaders and events in his painting, and describing them in his lectures.

During this same period he became involved with the Indian Alcoholism Program, and lectured extensively on that problem. In 1971 he published his *Sioux (Dakotah) Dictionary*, with Sioux entries spelled phonetically. With his wife, Marcella, he founded WarCloud Products in Sisseton, a business dedicated to promoting Sioux arts and crafts on an economically significant scale.

His greatest coup came in 1971 when the State of South Dakota commissioned his mural, "Unity Through the Great Spirit," for the Governor's Conference Room in the Capitol at Pierre. This mural, dedicated on June 23rd, 1972, seems the perfect embodiment of WarCloud's philosophy regarding white-Indian detente in South Dakota. Through a central figure representing the Great Spirit, the two cultures in state are brought together. The more sordid episodes of the past are not forgotten; the mass grave of the Wounded Knee victims is depicted, and a suggestion is made of the Indian male's emasculation in the figure of a man idly watching his wife work. The spirit of the mural is positive, however, and the theme seems to be progress through cooperation.

This commission must have been all the more sweet for WarCloud since it was intended to be the replacement of a 1910 mural in the Conference Room painted by Edwin Howland Blashfield called "The Spirit of the People." The Blashfield mural has drawn increasing criticism of late because it depicts South Dakota as a fair maid being escorted by Hope and armed pioneers across the land, and over the fallen figures of Indians.

Fairfield Porter's *A Short Walk from the Sense of Place* exhibition.



A Sense of Place exhibit offers view of America by landscape artists

A special exhibition coordinated by the Mid-America Arts Alliance, *A Sense of Place: The Artist and the American Land*, will be shown at the Memorial Art Center April 7-28. This view of America through the eyes of such landscape painters as Milton

Many people considered it to be an affront to the Indian people of the state, and there was talk of getting rid of it.

One could not invent artists of more different backgrounds and philosophies as Blashfield and WarCloud. Blashfield was a product of the East, being educated at the Boston Latin School, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, under William Morris (WarCloud, page 4)

Avery, John Frederick Kensett, John Marin, and Fairfield Porter is largely the dream of painter Alan Gussov (whole work is included in the exhibition). With the backing of the State Arts Councils of Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska *A Sense of Place* will be shown in twenty-two cities in the region. The only showing in South Dakota will be at the Memorial Art Center.

Robert Sudlow, one of the sixty-two artists in the exhibition, will be artist-in-residence at the Memorial Art Center on April 9th and 10th. Mr. Sudlow, Professor of Painting and Sculpture at the University of Kansas, will address the public on Tuesday, April 9th, at 10:00 a.m. in the galleries devoted to the exhibition.

Types of Annual Membership

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	

Gifts and memorials are welcome.

Charter Membership Application

for the

South Dakota Memorial Art Center

Name _____

Mr. and Mrs.

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip code _____

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Date _____

General Membership Privileges

- 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

Art Center to host Fine Arts Festival Week film showings

Sunday, March 31—The Best of New Cinema—A collection of short films by the directors of the 70's

"Enter Hamlet," Fred Mogubgub, U.S.A.

"Rennaissacne," Valerian Borowczyk, Poland

"Les Mistons," Francois Tuffant, France

"The Running, Jumping and Standing Still Film," Richard Lester, England

"Dialog," Zlatko Pavlinic, Yugoslavia

"The Fat and the Lean," Roman Polanski, Poland

"Corrida Interdite, Denys Colomb de Daunant, France

"Maschine," Wolfgang Urchs, German

"La Jettee," Chrismarker, France

A HISTORY OF SEX IN THE CINEMA 1896-1963, The Love Goddesses

The Love Goddesses is a movie about the movies. It is a 60-year history of how sex has been treated on the motion picture screen, and how the Love Goddesses have been a reflection of the customs, manners and morals of the times.

Monday, April 8 — BEAUTY AND THE BEAST, Jean Cocteau's Classic Fantasy

Cocteau's "Beauty and the Beast" is

an authentic, personal statement by the great French poet. It is also a faithful adaptation of the classic legend. What emerges is a magnificent work of art, enjoyable on the level of a fairy tale and meaningful on the level of great poetry.

WarCloud continued

Hunt in New York, and with Leon Bonnat in Paris. He was author of *Italian Cities and Mural Painting in America*. His commissions include the 1893 Chicago World's Fair, Minnesota State Capitol, and the Library of Congress. He was a National Academician, a founder of the Society of Mural Painters, a member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and was appointed by President Taft to a National Commission of Fine Arts.

Because the Blashfield mural is well painted and of historic value, the decision was reached to allow both murals space in the Capitol. Certainly the two paintings will serve as outstanding examples of changing sensitivities in this state.

With the mural commission, a successful lecture tour of Finland in 1970, the publication of his dictionary, and an increasing demand

Art Center membership grows

New

James Lee Anderson; Wilma Babka; Mr. Ford M. Ferguson; Mrs. J. G. Hawkes; Mrs. Vera Way Marghab; Mrs. Bentena Nelson; Mrs. Curtis Nelson; Victor D. Peterson; Mrs. William P. Peterson; Nancy M. Randgaard; Mrs. Mae Rust; Mrs. Ray H. Smith; South Dakota Federation of Women's Club, c/o Mrs. Everett Eneboe; Mrs. Donald L. Thompson; Mr. W. A. Wieland.

Renewed

Mrs. Everett Baxter; Mr. and Mrs. John Beatty; Mr. and Mrs. Russell Berry; Mrs. Effie Bertsch; B. L. Brage; Kathleen Cheever; Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Cheever; Mrs. P. H. Collins; Ima Crisman; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Edie; Steven Richard Eide; Mrs. Margaret Fishback; Mrs. E. Fredrickson; Mrs. Joseph Hill; Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hughghins; Dr. and Mrs. Allan Lindstrom; Dr. and Mrs. Alfred Musson; Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Olson; S. D. Ext. Homemakers of Harrisburg; Mrs. C. W. Speirs; Alfred Stumley; Mrs. Mildred Herick.

for his painting, WarCloud seemed to have turned the corner towards success. While on tour in Tulsa, Oklahoma, however, he became ill with pneumonia and died on December 17th, 1973.

Biographical information included in this profile had been provided by Paul WarCloud. Special acknowledgement should be given to Jack Marken, Brookings, and David Hartley, Pierre, for their assistance in preparing this profile.