

News of the arts

Treasures to University of Toronto

The Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies of the University of Toronto will house a large collection of ancient, Christian and medieval artifacts bequeathed by New York psychiatrist Lillian Malcove Ormos.

Sheila Campbell, a professor of fine art and archaeology, who specializes in early Christian and Byzantine art, has been appointed curator of the collection and the works will be tended by the Royal Ontario Museum.

Lillian Malcove Ormos, who died in 1982, collected the works over 40 years. Included are some 500 paintings, drawings, textiles, manuscripts, liturgical vessels, sculptures and architectural elements from prehistoric to modern times.

Christian and medieval collection

While a few pagan fragments from the Roman Empire and some works from the European Renaissance and later are part



Bronze oil lamp in form of foot in sandal. Cover is decorated with man's head wearing head-dress (circa 4th-5th century A.D.)

of the collection, it is primarily Christian and medieval in nature. Among the chief attractions are 50 pieces of Coptic textiles, 72 icons and 14 pieces of gothic furniture. There are limewood carvings from medieval Germany, a Lucas Cranach painting of Eve giving Adam the apple, a van Dyke painting of the Duke of Bavaria, as well as a bronze oil lamp in the form of a foot in a sandal, dated about the fourth or fifth century. Drawings by twentieth century artists Paul Klee, Henri Matisse, Picasso and Henry Moore are also included.

As the University of Toronto does not have an associated museum or gallery, a public showing is not expected for at least four years, during which the objects will be catalogued and studied. When it is finished, the Malcove collection will have a special showing on the St. George



Sketches by Picasso (signed and dated 1905).

campus.

According to *The Graduate*, September/October 1982 issue, published by the University of Toronto, Lillian Malcove Ormos began searching for a suitable recipient of her collection about seven years ago when she discovered she had a terminal illness.

"Anxious that the pieces not just form a 'pretty display' but be a 'hands-on' resource for scholars, she investigated the credentials of various centres for medieval studies. She was told the University of Toronto was among the foremost.

"Then there was the added advantage of the University's association with the Royal Ontario Museum, whose planned renovations would result in superb, climate-controlled facilities where the works could be both exhibited and carefully conserved.

"Though Lillian Malcove lived in New York as an adult, her adolescence was spent in Manitoba.... After putting herself through medical school, Malcove went to New York for her specialized training. There she married Laszlo Ormos, a Hungarian director of documentary films....

"Most of the pieces were purchased on her travels, before so many countries began imposing export restrictions to stop the outflow of their antiquities. Among the places she visited on her annual trips were Greece, Turkey, Japan,

Russia, Scandinavia and the Middle East...."

Further information about the collection may be obtained from Professor Sheila Campbell, Curator, Malcove Collection, Pontifical Institute of Medieval Studies, University of Toronto, 59 Queen's Park Crescent, Toronto, Ontario, M5S 2C4, Canada.

UNICEF Christmas card



Canadian artist Ken Danby presents Lily Schreyer, wife of the Governor General, with a copy of Danby's UNICEF Christmas card painting for this year. The card's model is Danby's son.

Malcove Collection University of Toronto

Chris Mikula, The Citizen