

Art Exhibitions on Campus

by Sneelagh Russell

Currently on display at the University of New Brunswick are four exhibitions of artistic talent. At the Art Centre in Memorial Hall are three exhibits: prints by Vera Frenkel, weaving by Rae Demopoulos, and watercolours by Mary Pacey. This article will deal with the latter two of these exhibits.

It is a difficult task, unless one attempts to set himself up as a critic of art, (which this reviewer sees little hope of becoming), to pass any sort of critical judgement on these works. Therefore, in this article, I intend merely to comment on and set forth my reactions to these displays, and hope that they will be at least partially representative of a small consensus of opinion, and that they will induce others to visit the Art Centre. to enjoy these exhibitions.

Raimonde Demopoulos was born in 1943 in Chicago, Illinois. She studies fine arts at the University of Minnesota 1962-65. She has her Handweaving Studio at 856 George Street, Fredericton, NB. She has previously exhibited at:

25th Annual Exhibition of the Craftmen's and Weaver's Guilds, Pittsburgh, Pa., April, 1969.

Three Rivers Exhibition, Pittsburg, Pa., July, 1969.

Avante Garde Weaving, University of West Virginia, August 1969.

Joint Exhibition of Weavers and Embroiderers' Guilds, Pittsburgh, Pa., February, 1970.

26th Annual Exhibition, of the Craftsmen's and Weaver's Guilds, Pittsburg, Pa., March 1970.

Pennsylvania State Crafts Exhibition, Penn. State University, July 1970.

The display is organized by the UNB Art Centre for the Atlantic Provinces Art Circuit. (notes taken from display catalogue.)

The weaving is displayed in the gallery section of the Art Centre, along with the Vera Frenkel prints. The selections are hung from the walls and ceiling and displayed on the low tables, and range from rugs, table mats, pillows and baskets to a tapestry, a robe and a vest. Of the twenty pieces, fifteen are for sale, with prices, actually quite fitting for the high quality of workmanship, ranging from \$15 for each of three baskets of reed,

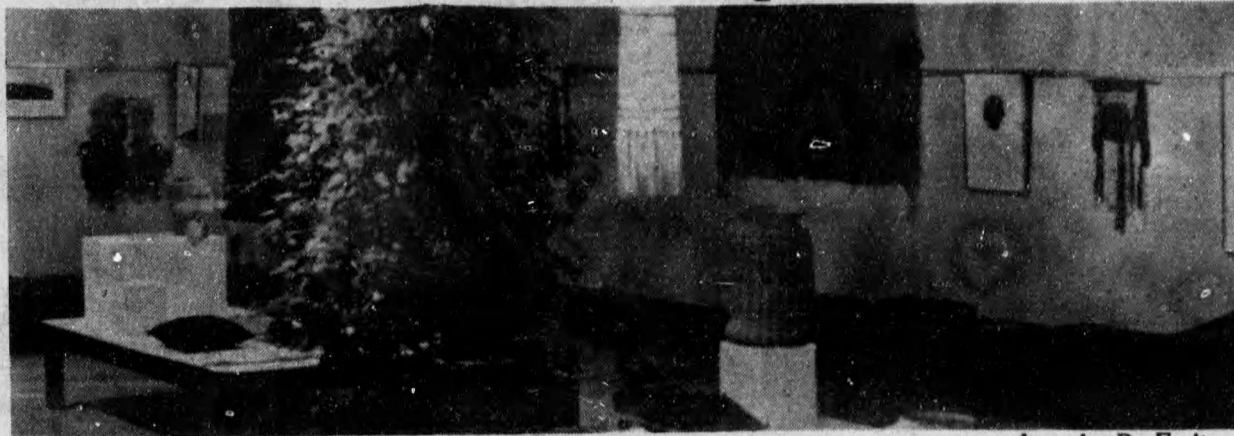


photo by De Freitas

The Gallery at the Art Centre in Memorial Hall is this month exhibiting the Vera Frenkel exhibit from the National Gallery and the weavings of Raimonde Demopoulos, a Fredericton resident. Both the handweaving collection and the Frenkel exhibit will tour the Atlantic Circuit.

reed and rafia, and reed and rope, and a Mexican homespun wool belt, \$350 for a Rya rug.

The weaving combines interesting colour combinations with a high degree of originality and great skill. The rya rug, beautifully textured, seems to display to great effect the colours which most denote the autumn, while the robe is made of a most brilliant shade of blue.

The woven baskets are outstanding in their simplicity of design and warm colour, as well as a variety of sizes. But I found to be most intriguing, two lanterns which hang from the ceiling. One of golden yellow and one of orange, they are tubular in shape, with a border of fringe. The light found inside gives to the weaving a mellowness of and sets to advantage its simplicity.

A display of weaving, especially of this quality, is an event that this area does not often enjoy, and one should be pleased to view such a display of skill and originality in this ancient art.

In the studio section of the Art Centre is found the display of watercolours of Mary Pacey. The thirty-two paintings carry one New Brunswick to Britain and France.

A feeling for colour and detail and a light touch, almost as though a heavier outline would disturb the repose of the subject in its surroundings, are the qualities which Mrs. Pacey brings to her art. Flowers on wallpaper

and windblown grass on cliff are not set in with a heavy measured hand, but seem to be there to add to the total effect.

Mrs. Pacey's watercolours deal in the main with landscapes, interesting buildings or views. A fortunate choice was the counterposing of two paintings, "Ile de la Cite, Paris" and "A View of Saint John, N.B.", where one sees the colourful gentle gaiety of Paris and the harsh, complex outline of Saint John.

The paintings which I found the most striking were "Three Cliffs Bay, Wales", where the starkness of the cliffs and the blue-grey depth of the sea waves are brought together in a landscape of great power and loneliness; "Old Abbey Farm Near Blair's Bite Lock, Cambridgeshire, a delicately precise view of traditional England; and "House on the Washedemoak," the grey-shingled battered farmhouse that seems so familiar to one growing up in New Brunswick, or for that matter, anywhere, where even the red flowers echo desertion.

This display is to be savoured slowly and thoughtfully, for in its range is something for every taste.

In both of these exhibits, it is what the audience brings to the art which influences the view taken away from it. The reviewer's words reveal his own tastes, strengths and weaknesses; it is our hope that this review will induce you to see the exhibition for yourself.

Children's Film Society Holds Premiere

"Boy With Glasses", a film from Japan, is the first feature in the newly formed Children's Society. It will be shown at 1:30 and 3:30 on Saturday October 23 at Head Hall.

The Children's Film Society, sponsored by the UNB Film Society, is offering monthly films this year after a trial of three films proved successful last year. The eight feature films with supporting cartoons cost \$1.75.

All of the films are foreign, but are dubbed in English. The films are suitable for children from five to eleven years old. The children will be well supervised by at least three adults at each performance and a squad of sixteen junior officers, older children with special duties.

Tickets may be purchased from Mary Flagg, on the third floor at the Harriett Irving Library, Seraf Studio at the K-Mart Mall, and Herby's on Queen Street.

All films are held on Saturdays at 1:30 and 3:30 at Head Hall. The schedule for the first season is:

OCTOBER 23, 1971

BOY WITH GLASSES (Japan) Story of a small boy's reluctance to wear his new glasses. Susumu fears being laughed at, feeling insecure within his family group, being identified with frightening people.

NOVEMBER 20, 1971

THE WISHING MACHINE (Czechoslovakia) Honza and Vasek visit an international world's fair. There they become entranced by the wishing machine that can grant any wish.

DECEMBER 11, 1971

BRNO TRAIL (Czechoslovakia) A little Russian girl is left behind in the middle of Czechoslovakia in her night-dress. In addition, there are two bold and fearsome young Czech cowboys who are camping out alone for the first time.

DECEMBER 23, 1971

THE RED BALLOON (France) A balloon begins to live a life of its own as a small boy makes friends with it. It follows him to school, in the bus, even to church. Boy and balloon try to elude a gang of urchins who want to destroy the balloon.

JANUARY 15, 1971

THE MAGIC KITE (France-China) The story of a strange Chinese kite.

FEBRUARY 12, 1972

IVANA (Czechoslovakia) What do you do when you're the best player on the neighbourhood team can't win without you, and other teams won't accept you as a player. That's Ivana's problem.

MARCH 11, 1972

THE LITTLE POSTMAN (India) - To be confirmed - This is a film about Ahmal and the letter from the king. Ahmal is a little boy, confined to his bed with illness. His most urgent desire is to wander about visiting everyone in the village. In his fancy he sees himself as a postman, eagerly awaited by all, as he delivers letters on his daily rounds.

APRIL 8, 1972

THE CAPTAIN (Bulgaria) Rivalry between two gangs of boys, the Pirates and the Sailors. After fighting for possession of a flat-bottomed boat anchored in the river, two groups band together to build a real launch.