

# HONOLULU ACADEMY OF ARTS

## *News Bulletin and Calendar*

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*"Madonna and Child Between Saints Michael and Augustine"*  
By Luca Signorelli (1441?-1523)  
Kress Collection.

HONOLULU ACADEMY OF ARTS Philip E. Spalding, President; Theodore A. Cooke, Treasurer

**25th Anniversary Season**

## The Kress Collection

The political development of the United States from a colonial status to that of a great power within the short space of less than two hundred years is a phenomenon with which every school-child is intimately familiar. The equally remarkable growth of American cultural institutions in general and of American art museums in particular, however, is generally less well-appreciated. It is obviously beyond the scope of these pages to discuss this matter at length; it must be sufficient to recall here the fact that the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and the National Gallery in Washington—two of the world's most important and influential institutions of their kind—are only eighty-two and eleven years old, respectively, while their European counterparts look back upon a history of centuries. Furthermore, it is also important to remember in this connection that the Metropolitan and the National Gallery are only two of a large number of art museums which have been established in practically every sizeable city throughout the land, with the result that the artistic heritage of the European and Asiatic past has become part of the immediate cultural opportunity of millions of American citizens living today.

The unparalleled growth of the American museum owes its being to a number of contributing factors, but no single one of these has been of more intrinsic significance to it than the generosity of private collectors. In almost every American museum the gift of private collections can be shown to be the nucleus about which the museum's development has been charted, and names like Morgan, Altman, Frick, Mellon, Widener, Bache, Dale, Pillsbury, Kress and many others have become familiar to art lovers everywhere as donors of great monuments of the history of art which have

found permanent homes in American institutions.

For the most part, logically enough, the great private collections have been given, more or less intact, to museums with which the name of the collector-donor has thus become inextricably associated, as has Mr. Mellon's with the National Gallery, for example. The subject of these lines, however, is not the general tradition but rather the exception, as represented by the vast collection begun by Mr. Samuel H. Kress and continued within recent years by the Foundation which bears his name, under the leadership of his brother, Mr. R. H. Kress.

In the public mind the Kress Collection, like Mr. Mellon's, is usually thought of in connection with the National Gallery where the paintings and sculpture identified with the Kress name have become familiar to art lovers throughout the world. Careful observers of American museums will have noticed, however, that the National Gallery has not been the only recipient of Kress gifts. Individual paintings given by the Kress Foundation are to be found in museums in a great many parts of the United States, a case in point being the *Madonna and Child with Saint Joseph and Saint John the Baptist* by the Venetian artist of the sixteenth century, Vincenzo Catena, which has been a Kress gift on exhibition in the Academy since 1938.

Within recent months, however, the Kress Foundation's program of assistance to American museums has been broadened even further, in a manner and to an extent unparalleled in history, to plan for the establishment of Kress Collections of groups of paintings in the museums of twenty American cities from the East Coast to Hawaii, and the Honolulu Academy of Arts is one of the first to be so honored. The collection selected





*"Madonna and Child" by Segna di Bonaventura, Sienese School, active 1298-1331.  
Kress Collection.*





*"St. Jerome Penitent Kneeling in the Wilderness" by Lorenzo Lotto, Venetian School, c. 1480-1556. Kress Collection.*

for exhibition here has been installed in the newly renovated galleries six and seven, where it will be on public view after the sixth of this month.

The importance of the Kress Collection to the Academy and to the people of Hawaii can scarcely be overestimated. To anyone familiar with the Academy, it is obvious that the collection is the most valuable single contribution that has ever been made to this museum. The

pictures to be exhibited represent the flowering of the great Italian schools of painting of Siena, Florence, Perugia, Milan, Bergamo, and Venice, the collection being especially rich in Venetian painting of the sixteenth century. A number of the paintings are world famous, and their authors include such names as Giovanni Bellini, Andrea del Sarto, Luca Signorelli, Lorenzo Lotto, Jacopo Tintoretto, and Paolo Veronese. The period

illustrated by the work of these artists ranges from the fourteenth through the sixteenth centuries—the very foundation upon which all Western art since that time has developed. In the paintings the pervasive religious tradition inherited from the Middle Ages joins hands with the new philosophy of humanism which was the contribution of Renaissance man to the history of ideas. And finally these pictures document, with remarkable thoroughness and consummate beauty, the great creative genius of Renaissance Italy to which modern man owes so vast an intellectual and spiritual debt.

A reception on the evening of June sixth will mark the first viewing of the Kress Collection, on which occasion Mr. R. H. Kress will represent the Foundation. All members of the Academy are cordially invited to attend and to bring their friends. At the time of the opening, a handbook illustrating each picture in the collection together with notes as to attribution and history of the paintings prepared by Dr. William E. Suida, eminent art-historian and Curator of Research for the Samuel H. Kress Foundation, will be available for purchase at a moderate fee. Designed by Mr. Joseph Feher of the Academy staff, this publication will remain on sale at the Information Desk.

ROBERT P. GRIFFING, JR.

### **Additional Donors to the Academy's Anniversary Fund**

The Academy is deeply grateful for contributions to the twenty-fifth anniversary fund received from the following donors since the May issue of the *Bulletin*:

Mrs. L. O. Alexander, Mr. John J. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Bradley, Miss Faith Bradley, Mrs. J. J. Carney, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore C. H. Char, Mrs. Bertha E. Clyde, Mrs. E. F. Cushnie, Miss Mary M. Damon,

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### **Activities for Members**

#### *Wednesday Programs:*

"The Shady Garden" and the use of tropical plants recently imported for this purpose will be discussed by Mansfield Page Claffin, landscape architect, on June 4 at 10:30 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

On July 2 at 10:30 a.m., and again at 8:00 p.m., Miss Loraine Kuck will speak on "Japanese Private Gardens." Miss Kuck is the author of several books on this popular subject, available in the Academy's library.

At 10:30 a.m. on July 9, and repeated at 8:00 p.m., Mrs. Sadasuko Terasaki, exponent of the Ikenobo School, will demonstrate "Japanese Flower Arrangement."

"Hawaiian Archaeology" will be the subject of a lecture by Dr. Kenneth P. Emory, of the Bernice P. Bishop Museum staff, on July 16 at 10:30 a.m. and at 8:00 p.m.

Films will illustrate recent archaeological research.



*Tour of Kress Collection:*

A special gallery tour of the Kress Collection of Italian Painting, conducted by Jean Charlot, has been scheduled for June 18 at 10:30 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

All morning activities are for members only. However, escorts may accompany members to any of the evening programs.

*July Film:*

"Song of My Heart," a film based on the life and music of the great Russian

composer, Tchaikovsky, is announced for Friday, July 25, at 8:00 p.m. Members may be accompanied by escorts and by their children of 12 years or over.

Please use the Kinau Street entrance for all evening activities listed above.

*Annual Meeting:*

A supper at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 25, will open the Annual Meeting of the membership, after which reports will be read and officers for the coming year elected.



"The Descent from the Cross" by Paolo Caliari, called Il Veronese, 1528-1588. Kress Collection.

The Academy is very happy to announce that the guest speaker that evening will be Dr. Grace L. McCann Morley, distinguished director of the San Francisco Museum of Art.

Guest privileges for the supper are limited to members of the family or escorts. Reservations accompanied by cash or check (\$2.50 per person) must be in the Membership Office not later than 4:00 p.m. Friday, June 20.

### Members Who Have Joined Since March 1, 1952

CONTRIBUTING — Mrs. Katherine F. Johnson, Mrs. Malcolm MacNaughton.

TRANSFER TO CONTRIBUTING — Mrs. Ralph J. Borden, Dr. Charlotte M. Florine, Miss Emy Matsushige.

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### "Artists of Hawaii" Exhibition

The Exhibition Committee of the Academy is sponsoring an exhibition of work by artists living in Hawaii, to be held from July 10 to 27. Entries must be brought to the museum on June 19, 20 and 21.

Artists are invited to submit work in the fields of sculpture and painting (including watercolor and pastel) for consideration by a Jury of Selection.

Copies of the Rules of Entry are now available at the Beretania Street information desk.



## June and July Activities

### JUNE

#### Public Programs:

- 1—4:00 p.m.—Piano recital by Madge Goto.
- 6—8:00 to 10:30 p.m.—Opening-permanent exhibition of the Kress Collection of Italian Painting.
- 7—8:30 a.m.—Registration, Summer Creative Art Classes for Children.
- 12—8:00 to 10:00 p.m.—Reception opening exhibition of work by art students of University of Hawaii and Art School of the Academy.

#### For members only:

- 4—10:30 a.m.—"The Shady Garden," talk by Mansfield Page Claflin.
- 4—8:00 p.m.—Above lecture repeated.\*†
- 18—10:30 a.m.—Gallery tour of the Kress Collection of Italian Painting, conducted by Jean Charlot.
- 18—8:00 p.m.—Above tour repeated.\*†
- 25—6:30 p.m.—Annual Meeting of Membership (Supper).

### JULY

#### Public programs:

- 3—4:00 to 6:00 p.m.—Opening-exhibition of paintings by Max Ernst and Dorothea Tanning.
- 10—8:00 to 10:00 p.m.—Opening—"Artists of Hawaii" exhibition.

- 13—8:00 p.m.—Harpsichord recital by Gertrud K. Roberts.

#### For members only:

- 2—10:30 a.m.—"Japanese Private Gardens," lecture by Miss Loraine Kuck.
- 2—8:00 p.m.—Above lecture repeated.\*†
- 9—10:30 a.m.—Japanese Flower Arrangement. Demonstration by Mrs. Sada-suko Terasaki.
- 9—8:00 p.m.—Above demonstration repeated.\*†
- 16—10:30 a.m.—"Hawaiian Archaeology," lecture by Dr. Kenneth P. Emory.
- 16—8:00 p.m.—Above lecture repeated.\*†
- 25—8:00 p.m.—Film: "Song of My Heart" Life of Tchaikovsky.\*†

\* Escort privileges.

† Use the Kinau Street entrance.

## June and July Exhibitions

To June 8—Buddhist Art.

June 10 to 29—Woodcuts by Martin Barroshian, lent by Charles D. Childs Gallery, Boston, Massachusetts.

June 12 to 29—Work by art students of University of Hawaii and Art School of the Academy.

July 1 to 27—Chinese Engravings.

July 3 to 27—Paintings by Max Ernst and Dorothea Tanning.

July 10 to 27—"Artists of Hawaii."

**HOURS OF ADMISSION**—Free at all times: *Open Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sunday from 3 to 6 p.m.* **EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT**—*The lending collection of objects, framed color reproductions and slides, is available to all teachers. Schools wishing appointments for visiting the Academy for talks by staff members may make them by calling the Educational Office.* **PRINT ROOM AND REFERENCE LIBRARY**—*Open during Academy hours.* Mrs. Arthur E. Restarick, **MEMBERSHIP Secretary**, has her office in the building. R. P. GRIFFING, Jr., *Director* J. FEHER, *Designer* MARVELL A. HART, *Editor*

## HONOLULU ACADEMY OF ARTS

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