

# HONOLULU ACADEMY OF ARTS

## NEWS BULLETIN AND CALENDAR

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VOLUME III

OCTOBER, 1941

NUMBER 7

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### PAINTING BY DELACROIX

The recent acquisition of *La Justice de Trajan*, by Eugène Delacroix—a sketch for the artist's massive painting on the same subject now in the Rouen Museum—is of special significance to the Academy, inasmuch as it gives continuity to the collection of 19th century art which includes the work of Manet, Renoir and Cezanne. The central figure in the Romantic Movement, Delacroix was the first great master of the modern school, and his early experiments based on the relation of light and color pointed the way for the Impressionists and those who were to follow.

Eugène Delacroix was born in Charenton-St. Maurice in 1799 and died in Paris in the summer of 1863. As early as 1822 his remarkable talent was recognized by certain members of the artistic world of that day, though then and throughout his life he endured the attacks of many who were followers of Ingres and the classic tradition.

Romantic history and literature strongly appealed to Delacroix, and the subjects for many of his paintings were taken from these sources. The idea for the *Justice of Trajan* was suggested by an epigraph taken from Deschamps's version of Dante's *Divine Comedy*. In it Delacroix has painted a moment of tremendous excitement, a theme that afforded him ample opportunity for dramatic expression. Trajan, entering a conquered city in triumph, is halted at the gates by the small, pale figure of a woman who pleads mercy for her son. The atmosphere is charged with conflicting emotions as the procession—suddenly halted—is thrown into confusion. The impatient horses rear

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### TENTH ANNIVERSARY

The Tenth Anniversary of the opening of the Educational Department, which actually occurred on September 20, will be celebrated during the week of October 7 to 12 with special programs and activities in which both children and adults are invited to share.

It would be difficult to imagine the Academy without its Educational Department, and yet the main portion of the Museum was erected several years before this wing was added. Prior to that time, and even before the Academy building became a reality, work with children had been conducted by Mrs. Norman C. Schenck who went out to the schools, carrying with her material assembled for classroom use. Mrs. Schenck was appointed Director of Education in 1931, and it is through her inspired leadership that this department has become the vital force in the community that it undoubtedly is today. Miss Caroline Gleick succeeded Mrs. Schenck in 1938 and carried on the work of the department until her resignation in August of this year. On September 1, Miss Alyce Hoogs, the Academy's Instructor in Oriental Art, was appointed to fill this vacancy.

From the beginning the facilities offered by the Educational Department and the services of members of its staff have been constantly adjusted, to meet the changing and growing needs of the people of this community. Whereas in 1929 there were only 300 framed pictures in the lending collection, today there are 1,000. The teacher who fails to make her selection within a day or two of the time this material is ready for distribution finds little to choose from.

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## HONOLULU ACADEMY OF ARTS

C. M. Cooke, Jr., *President*

Honolulu, Hawaii

C. H. Cooke, *Treasurer*

Mrs. Theodore Richards, *Vice-President*

## HONOLULU ACADEMY OF ARTS NEWS BULLETIN AND CALENDAR

In 1928-29, 9,540 children heard lectures or attended programs and tours offered by the Academy; in 1940-41, 39,157 children came to the Academy for these and for many new activities—community singing, puppet shows, craft demonstrations, etc.

Creative Art classes, offered during the school year and in a six weeks' summer session, give the children experience in painting, drawing, clay modelling and pottery. Story Hour provides a popular late afternoon attraction.

Classes for adults, likewise sponsored by the Educational Department, are given in pottery, woodcarving and life drawing. These have attracted many local students and craftsmen. The annual Racial Festivals—the most popular of all the summer evening programs—are presented under the direction of members of the educational staff.

It is difficult to estimate the effectiveness of all parts of the educational program. However, the following incident reported by a member of the staff a year or two ago is encouraging evidence of seeds cast on fertile ground.

A child stood with her parents before a shop window which contained hideous examples of modern pottery. They were distorted in form and gaudy in color. The child waved her hand at the depressing array and stated with feeling that none of the pieces were good. Her father rather angrily argued the point, while the mother, obviously less sure of herself but very curious, asked the child why they were not good. Whereupon her daughter replied very proudly, "Because they're an awful shape and have too much on them. I know because I learned it at the Art Academy!"

Tales such as the above could be multiplied many times.

In celebrating its Tenth Anniversary, the Educational Department is planning programs and exhibitions of creative work by both children and adults.

Throughout the week classrooms may be visited in which lectures on primitive, western or oriental art are being given by Academy instructors. Community Singing, conducted by Fritz Hart, Professor of Music at the University of Hawaii, will be held at 10:30 on Wednesday morning, October 8. Open House for children is planned for the afternoon of October 7 at 3:00, and for adults on October 9 from 8 to 10 p.m. On Sunday, October 12, at 4:30 p.m. a special concert for children is being given by a group of well-known musicians. You are invited to share in any or all of these events.

### CREATIVE ART

There are still a few vacancies in several of the Creative Art classes conducted by Elizabeth T. Watson. As the term opened on September 30, late-comers should register at the educational office as early as possible this week. Members of these groups will be given experience in a variety of art media. The \$5.00 registration fee covers tuition and the cost of materials. The term closes on January 24, when a tea for the children and an exhibition of their work will be held in the educational court.

### JUANITA VITOUSEK

Though not born in Hawaii, in the twenty years since she has made her home here, Juanita Vitousek has become one of Honolulu's best-known painters of Island subjects. An exhibition of her watercolors—flower studies and landscapes—is currently on view in Gallery 10.

Mrs. Vitousek paints with freedom and originality and her fine sense of design is admirably expressed in her strongly patterned studies of Island landscape and of tropical foliage and flowers. In these the atmospheric quality of the Hawaiian scene—stripped of non-essentials—is interpreted in all its variations of mood.

### WALKING WOMAN

A bronze figure, *Walking Woman*, by Gaston Lachaise—a model for a much larger work—given recently by an anonymous donor, makes a distinguished addition to the Academy's collection of modern sculpture.

The death of Lachaise, on October 18, 1935, robbed America of one of her most gifted sculptors. Born in Paris in 1882, he studied at the Bernard Palissy School of Industrial and Applied Arts, and later at the famous L'École National des Beaux Arts. In 1906 he came to America, where he remained until his death.

From the first Gaston Lachaise had a consuming interest in portraying the human form in heroic proportions—though much of his earlier work in this country was of a purely decorative type, and done as a means of livelihood. It is almost impossible to believe that he had for his first job in America the carving of belt buckles on Civil War monuments in the studio of Henry Hudson Kitson!

In a very few years, however, Lachaise—in a very small studio of his own—began serious work on the life-size figure of a standing woman. This was to take him more than ten years to complete, but it served as a first step in the development of his later career. From this time on Lachaise, though now working as an assistant in the studio of Paulanship, and with little or no public encouragement, continued to produce his exaggerated figures of men and women. A few months before his death a retrospective exhibition of his work was held at the Museum of Modern Art.

*Walking Woman* has that vital sense of balanced form and abundant quality of ripe maturity which characterize many of Lachaise's female figures. The rich surface treatment of the metal serves to enhance the harmonious curves and flowing rhythms of this very beautiful figure. Though but eighteen inches in height, it has all the poise and magnificence of a massive image.

### MUSEUM PRIVILEGES

It came as rather a shock the other day to hear a long-time resident of Honolulu exclaim in surprised tones that she had not known it was possible to borrow books from the Academy's library! For the benefit of others who may wish corroboration of this fact, and advice concerning ways and means, the following information is offered.

Members of the Honolulu Art Society, an auxiliary to the Academy, are privileged to borrow books from the library—except, of course, current magazines, reference volumes and those that are oversized.

Any one may become a member of this organization by invitation or by application to the Executive Secretary of the Society. There are three types of membership: (1) *Sustaining*, upon payment of \$100 or more; *Contributing*, upon payment of \$10 per year; *Annual*, upon payment of \$2.00 per year.

Everyone joining the Society before January 1942 will receive full membership for the calendar year.

There are a number of good and sufficient reasons why one should become a member of the Honolulu Art Society other than the above mentioned library privilege.

1. Members receive the *Monthly Bulletin*, giving advance notice of exhibitions and programs and announcement of acquisitions.
2. Special morning and evening lectures on art and allied subjects are arranged for members during the year.
3. A yearly exhibition, hung in several main galleries at the Academy, is planned and arranged by members.
4. Invitations to previews and receptions given by the Trustees of the Academy are sent to all members.
5. By coming to the Academy yourself on frequent occasions, your children will undoubtedly become more interested in the Museum's programs and activities.

If you have allowed your membership to lapse, or if you have friends who would like to join the Honolulu Art Society, please communicate with Mrs. Arthur Restarick, Executive Secretary.

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and paw the air, and the nervous fluttering of the imperial banners of Rome serves to emphasize the dramatic nature of the encounter.

Discussions about art were waged no less heatedly one hundred years ago than they are today, for when the *Trajan* was exhibited at the French Academy in 1840, there were bitter protests against the "new style", the scandal—in the eyes of the Classicists—being "the famous pink horse of Trajan." By some it was likened to one of "a procession of fat cows" and Trajan to "a butcher boy, colored brick red." More penetrating critics, however, proclaimed it "the one authentic work of art in the 1840 Salon"! Perhaps the most interesting contemporary observation about this painting was made by no less a person than the artist himself when he saw it in the Rouen Museum in 1849, almost ten years after it was first exhibited in Paris. The following comments appear in Delacroix' *Journal*, on page 201 of the English translation by Walter Pach, published in 1937.

"When I arrived at the museum my *Trajan* was half covered by the scaffold- ing erected for the exhibition of Norman painters.

"I do not recall that any of my pictures, seen in a gallery a long time after I had forgotten it, ever gave me as much pleasure as this one. Unfortunately one of the most interesting parts, perhaps the most interesting, was hidden, that is, the woman at the feet of the Emperor. What I was able to see of it appeared to me to have a vigor and a depth which eclipse everything, without exception, that was around it. How strange it was that the picture should appear brilliant, for in general it is dark in tone."

In the preliminary sketch the figure of the unfortunate son is barely discernible, but the picture as a whole is painted with the freedom and vigor which so often characterized the sketches of Delacroix. In comparing it with photographs of the

Rouen painting, it would seem that in the latter the artist had resorted to a more impressive use of chiaroscuro in order to give dramatic importance to the figures of the Emperor and the pleading mother.

The Academy's painting was formerly in the collection of Count de Lenclos.

## HONOLULU ART SOCIETY

The Executive Secretary announces that she has many incorrect addresses on her mailing list. It is impossible to keep a correct file without the co-operation of the members themselves. Will you please check your address as it appears on this *Bulletin* and advise Mrs. Restarick if there has been any change.

The Wednesday Morning Knitting group for members will continue to meet weekly at ten o'clock throughout the year. The list of special lectures offered during October is given below.

October 1—Russian Music (with recordings), by Mrs. Pearl Fishbourne.

October 8—Reviews of current books, by Miss Jane Fairweather.

October 15—Occupational Therapy, by Mrs. Herbert Dowsett. An exhibition of Arts and Crafts from the Occupational Therapy departments of the different hospitals has been arranged in connection with this talk.

October 22—The Music of Ravel (with recordings), by Peter Boynton.

October 29—Oriental Gardens, by Miss Loraine Kuck.

Persons who have become members since June 1 are Mr. Roger P. Benezet, Mrs. Frank O. Blake, Mrs. Theodore C. H. Char, Mrs. Robert O. Fergusson, Mrs. R. G. Frownfelter, Mrs. M. Flint Haralson, Mrs. James M. Hobson, Mrs. William H. Huston, Mrs. John H. Linson, Mrs. Ben H. Lowry, Mrs. J. A. Radway, Mrs. Lathe B. Row, Miss Sara J. A. Ryan, Mr. H. D. Sines, Mr. Eric W. Smith.

# HONOLULU ACADEMY OF ARTS NEWS BULLETIN AND CALENDAR

The new Board of Directors for the coming year is as follows:

Mr. Benjamin L. Marx, *President*; Mrs. Spalding Bowen, *Vice-President*; Mrs. Thomas Nickerson, *Recording Secretary*; Mrs. Arthur E. Restarick, *Executive Secretary*; Mr. J. Russell Cades, *Treasurer*.

*Committee Chairmen—Contact:* Miss Myra Angus; *Exhibitions:* Mr. Ben Norris; *Finance:* Mr. White Sutton; *Membership:* Mr. Harold W. Boynton; *Music:* Mrs. A. G. M. Robertson; *Study Interests:* Mrs. Colin J. Herrick; *Representative of Art Interests:* Mr. Huc M. Luquiens; *Representative of the Honolulu Academy of Arts:* Mrs. Alva E. Steadman.

## RECENT ACQUISITIONS

### PERMANENT COLLECTION

#### *Gifts*

Anonymous donor—"Walking Woman" bronze figure by Gaston Lachaise.

C. M. Cooke Estate—Platter, blue and white transfer pattern.

The Friends of the Academy—Abstraction, oil painting by Georges Braque.

Mr. Franco Montanari—Two pen and pencil sketches by Giorgio de Chirico.

Miss Wilhelmina Tenney—Cup and Saucer of Sevres porcelain, formerly in the collection of King Kalakaua.

Professor and Mrs. Alfred M. Tozzer—Icon Triptych, representing the Deisis.

#### *Purchases*

"La Justice de Trajan," oil painting by Eugène Delacroix.

"Head of a Woman," encaustic painting by Milton Douthat.

"Jewess, Sad and Beautiful," encaustic painting by Rifka Angel.

Piece of Point d'Alencon lace.

### LIBRARY

#### *Gifts*

Mrs. C. W. Bartlett—Koku hou bijutsu tai sei (National Treasure of Fine Arts) 6 vols.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Castle—Original leaves from famous Bibles.

Mr. James Clarke—Maloney: Pageant of Photography.

Mr. A. E. Ives—Sorine: Portraits.

Maggs Bros., Ltd.—The Bible in Many Languages, a catalogue.

Mr. Stanley Charles Nott—Nott: Rare Chinese Jade Carvings.

Michigan University Press—Kinietz: The Indians of the Western Great Lakes 1615-1760.

Orrefors Galleries—Journal and catalog of Carl Milles exhibition.

Robinson Galleries—Weinberger: The George Grey Barnard Collection.

## CALENDAR

### October

To Oct. 12—Exhibition of Japanese Pottery. Elsie Das' Collection. Gallery 8.

To Oct. 12—Exhibition of Watercolors by Juanita Vitousek. Gallery 10.

To Oct. 12—Exhibition of Early Chinese Prints. Gallery 3.

To Nov. 2—Exhibition of Native New Zealand Art. Gallery 2.

1—10:00 a.m.—Honolulu Art Society Knitting Group.\*

2—8:00 p.m.—Public lecture on Watercolors by Juanita Vitousek, by Madge Tennent.

6 to Oct. 12—A Decade of Creative Art Classes. Gallery 1.

6 to Nov. 2—A Decade of Education in Hawaii. Gallery 13.

7 to Oct. 12—Celebrating Educational Department's Tenth Anniversary.

7—3:00 p.m.—Open House for Children.

8—10:30 a.m.—Community Singing for Children, conducted by Fritz Hart.

9—8:00 to 10:00 p.m.—Public reception for Adults. Educational Department's Tenth Anniversary.

11—9:00 to 10:00 a.m.—Exploring the Academy. Ten free classes for children, aged 6 to 9 years.

11—9:00 to 10:00 a.m.—Travellers' Group. Ten free classes for children, aged 9 to 12 years.

11—9:00 to 11:00 a.m.—Designing Christmas Cards and Paper. For children, aged 12 to 14 years. Ten lessons, \$2.00.

11—3:30 to 5:30 — Demonstration by Craft Workers.

12—4:30 p.m.—Tenth Anniversary Concert for Children.

14 to Nov. 2—Lines that Live, exhibition. Galleries 1 and 3.

16—4:30 and 7:00 p.m.—Public phonograph concert. Schubert: Symphony No. 8 in B Minor (Unfinished); Mozart: Symphony No. 41 in C Major (Jupiter).

16—8:00 p.m.—Public lecture on Marquesan Art, by Willowdean Handy.

23—4:30 and 7:00 p.m.—Public phonograph concert. Beethoven: Symphony No. 5 in C Minor.

30—4:30 and 7:00 p.m.—Public phonograph concert. Brahms: Variations on a Theme by Haydn. Haydn: Symphony No. 13 in G Major.

30—8:00 p.m.—Opening reception for Honolulu Printmakers' Thirteenth Annual Exhibition. Gallery 3.

30—Nov. 30—Honolulu Printmakers' Thirteenth Annual Exhibition.

\* One of a series, given each week at the same hour.

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**HOURS OF ADMISSION**—*Free at all times*: Open Tues., Wed., Fri., from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays from 3 to 6 p.m. **EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT**—The lending collection of objects, pictures, slides and phonograph records is available to all teachers. Schools wishing appointments for visiting the Academy or for talks by staff members may make them by calling the Educational Office. **PRINT ROOM AND REFERENCE LIBRARY**—Open during Academy hours. **THE HONOLULU ART SOCIETY**, affiliated with the Academy, has an office in the Oriental wing. Executive Secretary, Mrs. Arthur E. Restarick.

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EDGAR CRAIG SCHENCK, *Director*.

MARVELL ALLISON HART, *Editor*.

HONOLULU ACADEMY OF ARTS  
HONOLULU, HAWAII

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