

**CALENDAR NEWS** *Honolulu Academy of Arts*

*Pieter de Hooch, Dutch, 1629/32-1677/83*

*"A Musical Conversation," 1674, oil on canvas, 38 $\frac{5}{8}$ " x 45 $\frac{1}{4}$ "*

*Purchase, 1971*



## **WORKS BY MORRIS LOUIS**

During May the Academy will exhibit a group of major works by this important innovator of contemporary painting. The Academy showing provides a rare opportunity to enjoy Louis' canvases, too seldom seen in the United States outside New York, though widely exhibited in Europe. From Honolulu the exhibition travels to Melbourne, Auckland and then Santa Barbara.

Beyond the sheer beauty and amplitude of his sensuously compelling works, probably Louis' most notable contribution to the new direction of contemporary painting was to liberate color from naturalistic or illusionistic space so it could function in purely pictorial relationships. The enormous, mural-like canvases in this exhibition (the largest is 23 feet wide) demonstrate the strength and magnitude of this remarkable achievement. Their expressive range moves from the soft transparency of his "veils" to the crisp brilliance of his "unfurled" paintings.

A recent Venice Biennale catalogue pays high tribute to the late artist. "Morris Louis brought painting a long way along the path of that unique fusion of lyrical expressiveness and suppressed relational considerations which has become the most powerful force in contemporary abstract American painting."

## **PAINTING BY DE HOOCH ACQUIRED**

Dutch painting entered a specially brilliant period in the 17th century, producing such masters as Hals, Steen, Hobbema, Vermeer and de Hooch. Pieter de Hooch (1629/32-1677/83), once described as "painter and footman" to a wealthy merchant in Delft, became one of Holland's foremost *genre* painters. The Academy has purchased an exceptionally fine oil by de Hooch entitled "A Musical Conversation," signed and dated 1674, which now hangs in Gallery 6.

De Hooch has been called a "magician of interior light" because of his particular handling of domestic interiors. He makes intriguing use of open doors and windows to give a view from one room into another and to light his subjects with striking effects, as demonstrated so well in the Academy's example. Musicians, presumably tuning up for a quartet, are seen at a moment in time, the arabesque movement between the figures suggestive of the music they are about to play. One can recognize Vermeer's influence on de Hooch in the play of light through the open side window, which is such an important element in the composition.

This painting offers an absorbing study of de Hooch's concern

with contrasting elements of design: light and shadow, warm and cool, curvilinear and rectilinear, rhythmic and static, rough and smooth, near and far. It is an eloquent statement of Dutch life and art of the period.

#### **OTHER ACQUISITIONS**

Three areas of Academy holdings have been enhanced by generous gifts, two in memoriam.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. Griffing, Jr. have honored the memory of Mrs. Theodore A. Cooke with the gift of a gilded bronze ritual object of the Shingon sect, a Katsuma Kongo of the early Kamakura Period, or 13th century. The Katsuma Kongo is a type of thunder symbol used in Buddhist rituals. The Shingon sect is noted for the elegance of its religious utensils, which is attested to by the superlative craftsmanship of this gift.

Last year Mrs. John Christopher Plews gave three fine pieces of Georgian English silver. Mrs. Plews has now made an additional gift of a sterling creamer, the work of an unknown London silversmith in the 1760's. All of these items are given in memory of her husband.

The Academy also acknowledges with appreciation the donation by Mr. Edgardo Acosta of Los Angeles of a painting by Alexander Calder, American abstract sculptor of "mobiles" and "stabiles." The work is an untitled gouache of 1967.

#### **VOLUNTEERS' DAY**

Those indispensable friends of the Academy, the active volunteers, will be honored on Monday, May 10, which has been declared Volunteers' Day. Invitations have been extended for a special program planned by the Director and staff, to be followed with refreshments.

#### **CLASSICAL ARCHEOLOGIST AT WORK**

Art and archeology are closely allied. Dr. Mario A. Del Chiaro, Professor of Art and Chairman of the Art Department at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and an internationally distinguished archeologist, will be presented in an illustrated lecture, "The Classical Archeologist at Work," on Wednesday, May 5, at 10:30 a.m., for Members, preceded by a coffee period at 10. It will be repeated the following night at 8 for the public, admission free. He will give an insight into his investigation of classical arts through archeological excavation.

Dr. Del Chiaro, born in San Francisco, received his Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley in 1956 and has held a number of faculty positions at the University since 1950. He has been awarded several fellowships, including a Prix de Rome. Dr. Del Chiaro has participated in archeological expeditions to Sicily, Italy, Turkey, Egypt, Yugoslavia and elsewhere for leading universities and academies. Reproductions of Etruscan vases, pottery and fabrics discovered by him have been published in America and abroad. He is the author of two books on Tarquinian and Etruscan vase art and a long list of articles in professional journals.

#### **MASTERWORKS BY MINOR ARTISTS**

Greatness is relative, and lesser masters are none the less masters. From its permanent collection of prints, the Academy will present a selection of inspired works by printmakers of the past who do not have major ranking today.

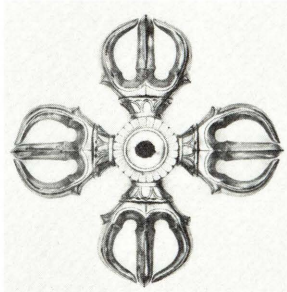
The selection includes examples by European and American artists mainly of the 18th and 19th centuries, among them Alphonse Legros, Rodolphe Bresdin, Stephen Parrish and Felix Braquemond. The exhibition will be in the Graphic Arts Galleries from May 6 through May 30.

#### **SUMMER SCHOOL**

The school bell rings for summer art classes to begin at the Academy June 15. Registrations are now being accepted in the Young Peoples' Education Office. Applications by mail are available upon request.

Classes for young people from kindergarten through high school age will be held daily Tuesday through Friday through July 23. Tuition is \$45 (for children of Members \$40), all supplies included. Classes for mothers and their pre-school children meet on Mondays, June 21 through July 19, from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Tuition is \$20.

*Gilded Bronze Shingon Sect Ritual Object — Katsuma Kongo  
Kamakura Period, late 13th-early 14th century, 4¾" x 4¾"  
Given by Mr. and Mrs. Robert P. Griffing, Jr. in memory of  
Mrs. Theodore A. Cooke, 1971*



## **YOUTH ART**

The Fountain Court of the Academy will be the scene of a celebration of the arts by intermediate and high school students on Friday evening, May 21, from 7 to 10 o'clock, and Saturday, May 22, from noon to 10 p.m. All ages are invited to participate.

The *Youth Art* celebration will include live theater and music, a laser light show, experimental films and a wide range of popular creative activities, including sketching, body painting, ceramics, jewelry work, weaving and macramé; also, printmaking, photography, batik and tie dye demonstrations. Students from public, private and parochial schools will perform and conduct the demonstrations.

## **GARDEN CAFE**

The Garden Cafe will complete its second highly successful season following the luncheon hour Friday, June 4. It will reopen Tuesday, June 15, serving beverages and light refreshments only Tuesday through Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. After July 30 the cafe will be closed for the remainder of the summer, opening again for complete luncheon service on Tuesday, September 14.

## **SPALDING HOUSE EVENTS**

### **JAPANESE ROBES**

The aristocratic form of entertainment known as *Noh* is one of Japan's most precious heritages. While its origins probably go back to primitive times, it is generally associated with Shinto and Buddhist ritual dance plays of the early Heian period (710-895). In the 14th century a group of entertainers developed these into a highly stylized dramatic form, played by men and consisting of music and dancing accompanied by instruments and recitation. They are mostly historical romances with strong Buddhist, especially Zen, meaning.

Perhaps the most spectacular quality of the *Noh* drama are its magnificent costumes, which were designed by some of Japan's greatest masters and drawn by leading artists of the period. The robes are exquisite, both in their elaborate patterns and their sumptuous fabrics, richly woven and often ornamented with gold or silver.

A selection of *Noh* robes from the Academy's oriental collection will be placed on exhibition for the summer at Spalding House, from May 21 through August 29.



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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 1971

- Through May 2** SILK SCREEN PRINTS BY BARBARA ENGLE.
- Through May 9** HELEN GILBERT/LIGHT SYNTHESIS.
- Through May 9** YOUNG PEOPLE'S ART EXHIBITION.
- Through May 16** ORIENTAL LACQUERWARE, Spalding House.
- Through May 30** WORKS BY MORRIS LOUIS.
- Through May 30** LANDSCAPE PRINTS BY HOKUSAI, Spalding House.
- May 4** THE DISCARDED CENTURY, final subscription lecture by Murray Turnbull, 10:30 a.m.
- May 5** THE CLASSICAL ARCHEOLOGIST AT WORK, Members' Lecture by Dr. Mario Del Chiaro, 10:30 a.m. Coffee at 10.
- May 6** MASTER WORKS BY MINOR MASTERS opens, continues through May 30.
- May 6** THE CLASSICAL ARCHEOLOGIST AT WORK, repeat lecture by Dr. Mario Del Chiaro, 8 p.m.
- May 10** VOLUNTEERS' DAY.
- May 21** JAPANESE ROBES opens, continues through August 29, Spalding House.
- May 21** YOUTH ART, 7 to 10 p.m.
- May 22** YOUTH ART, 12 noon to 10 p.m.
- ART OF BONSAI, subscription lecture-demonstrations, Spalding House, 9:30 a.m., May 5 and 12.

## HONOLULU ACADEMY OF ARTS

GALLERIES OPEN *Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Sunday, 2-5 p.m.*  
*Closed Monday.*