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Calendar of Events December 1938

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COMMUNITY ART PROJECT

CALENDAR of ART EVENTS

DECEMBER 1938

Volume Six Number Two
The Art Libraries of Providence

The picture of the Art Department reproduced here shows only a part of the room devoted to the collection. Quite recently much larger quarters were provided so that the whole third floor of the Public Library on Washington Street is now occupied by the Art Department.

The PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Art Department of the Public Library has by far the largest number of books dealing with the subject of art; these are owned by the Providence Public Library, the Rhode Island School of Design, the Brown University Library and the Providence Athenaeum. As each of these libraries serves a very different group of persons, it is easy to see that the collections must vary greatly as to size and special subjects treated. The present comparison is made with the idea that the people of this city may be interested to know the wealth of material located here, and where to find the largest resources on certain phases of the subject.

THE PROVIDENCE PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Art Department of the School of Design is located in the new School Street building, only above the Benefit Street entrance. Anyone interested in art is most welcome to use all its resources for reference purposes. The new Reading Room has ample seating capacity so that hospitality to outsiders can be truly genuine.

There are at present 12,650 volumes in this library. These have been either treated in the library of the museum staff and the art school students in mind. Since there are ten different departments in the School and since the Museum has a large and varied collection of objects, the Library, of necessity, has books that treat of nearly every phase of art. Against this general background, a few groups of books stand out as being especially fine. The architectural group, for instance, is strong in the American Colonial period: the books on interiors and furniture treat of all periods and countries and include some of the rarer items. The textile collection is notable, containing as it does many portfolios on historic textiles especially those with the color plates of the important German firm of K. Kunststoffdruckerei, Berlin. A basic collection of costume books is held with evidence. Libraries of national design: Many of the unusual books owned by this library are the gift of Mrs. Jesse H. Metcalf who has been extremely generous over a period of many years. In the field of jewelry design there is a very inclusive group of books, most of which have been purchased with the Englehart Cornelius Ostby Memorial Fund.

Although the emphasis is on applied and decorative arts, as would be expected in a School of Design, there are about 1,100 books that deal with the subject of European drawing and painting from both the technical and the historical angles. These are used by the students as well as the museum staff. Many de luxe catalogues of privately owned collections such as the John Pierpont Morgan and the P. A. B. Widener collections are among this group. As for Oriental art, some of the finest books in the city are held here, such as the Catalogues of the George Eumorfopoulos Collection.

The School of Design also has a picture collection of about 20,000 items. They are for the most part mounted reproductions of paintings, drawings, jewelry, textiles, furniture, glass and silver, and so forth. There is also a clipping file of similar subjects and of many others. On occasion, pictures may be borrowed by outsiders. Separate sections—Museum bulletin, museum yearbook—are received regularly, and most of these are bound. Many of the early numbers of foreign magazines, not held by either library, have been purchased recently so that almost complete sets are now held of "L'Art et les Artistes" and "La Revue de L'Art." All the magazines have their usefulness greatly increased by the regional library index to the late L. Earle Rowe over a long period of time. This is continued by the Art Index published since 1892—copies of which are owned by all the libraries described here.

1838 was subscribed to by the Athenaeum at the time that it was issued. It is also interesting to know that it was probably the copy, now owned by the Athenaeum, of James Gibbs" Book of Architecture" that was used in selecting the design of the spire of the First Baptist Church. Besides these and other rare items the Athenaeum has a special collection with copies, which is the best of the art reference books. Readable books about the lives of artists are to be found in the Art Room, and the interests of the shareholders are reflected in the general supply of books on antiques, including furniture, china and glass. The excellent collection of books on costume includes most of the standard and many of the unusual titles that treat of this subject. The Athenaeum also has a large number of boxes full of clippings and articles about artists, and another set of clippings descriptive of different countries. These were the gift of Mrs. Theodore W. Foster.

These four art libraries of Providence have among them a total of nearly fifty thousand volumes. To be sure many of the titles may be duplicated in each library because they are needed so constantly by the persons using the different collections. It has, however, been the plan for one library not to purchase expensive books in subjects in which another library is specializing. The result is that the people of Providence have available to them in these libraries a carefully chosen and representative selection of books on the art of the time.
**EXHIBITIONS IN RHODE ISLAND**

Faunce House Art Gallery, Brown University  
Nov. 28-Dec. 17—Recent Works by the Faculty of the Rhode Island School of Design.

John Carter Brown Library, Brown University  
Dec. 1-Dec. 31—Books and Maps relating to the Settlement of the West in connection with the Sesqui-centennial of the Northwest Territory.

Museum of the Rhode Island School of Design  
Dec. 11-Jan. 29—Masterpieces of Dutch Painting.

Rhode Island School of Design School Gallery, 14 College Street  
Dec. 1-Dec. 31—Exhibitions related to professional subjects of the School. Students' and professional work included.

Rhode Island School of Design Research Laboratory, 11 Waterman Street  
Nov. 30-Dec. 23—Exhibition of Japanese Prints.

Armour Gallery  

McCork-Murray Studios  
Dec. 1-Dec. 31—Etchings including work by Arthur Heintzleman and John Taylor Arms.

Providence Public Library  
Nov. 21-Dec. 5—Exhibition of the Fifty Best Books of the Year, assembled by the American Institute of Graphic Art.

Providence Art Club  
Dec. 1-Dec. 4—Travel Sketches by Edna W. Lawrence.

Tiden-Thurber Gallery  
Nov. 23-Dec. 3—Paintings by Colonel H. Anthony Dyer.

Leisure Time Activities Club  

Westerly Public Library Art Gallery  

**CALENDAR**

**Friday, December 2**  
*The Komians present "Fresh Fields," by Ivor Novello. Alumnae Hall, 8:30 P. M.*

**Saturday, December 3**  
*The Komians present "Fresh Fields," by Ivor Novello. Alumnae Hall, 8:30 P. M.*

**Sunday, December 4**  
Talk by colonial H. Anthony Dyer, "An Afternoon with the Dutch Masters." Museum of the Rhode Island School of Design, 3:30 P. M.

**Monday, December 5**  
Basement Studio Group: Dramatic reading of "The Wild Duck," by Henrik Ibsen. Tea, 80 Benefit Street, 8:10 P. M. The Providence Ostorato Society presents "The Fall of Babylon," by Soph, William J. DeRoin, director, Zion Methodist Episcopal Church, 8:00 P. M. *The Players present "Jane Eye." Adaptation by Marjorie Carleton. The Barker Playhouse, 8:15 P. M. Tickets may be obtained through members.

**Tuesday, December 6**  
*The Players present "Jane Eye." Adaptation by Marjorie Carleton. The Barker Playhouse, 8:15 P. M.*

**Wednesday, December 7**  
*Lecture by Mr. Lawrence Apagar, "Enjoyment of Music." 112 Prospect Street, 3:15 P. M. *The Players present "Jane Eye," Adaptation by Marjorie Carleton. The Barker Playhouse, 8:15 P. M.*

**Thursday, December 8**  
*Sock and Buskin presents "Till the Day I Die," by Clifford Odets. Faunce House Theatre, 8:30 P. M.*

**Thursday, December 8**  
*The Players present "Jane Eye." Adaptation by Marjorie Carleton. The Barker Playhouse, 8:15 P. M.*

**Friday, December 9**  
*Sock and Buskin presents "Till the Day I Die," by Clifford Odets. Faunce House Theatre, 8:30 P. M.*

**Saturday, December 10**  
*New England Opera Company presents "Rigoletto," at the Metropolitan Theatre, 8:00 P. M.*

**Sunday, December 11**  
Basement Studio Group: Dramatic reading of "The Man Who Married a Dumb Wife," by Anatole France. Tea, 80 Benefit Street, 8:10 P. M.

**Monday, December 12**  
Meeting of the Rhode Island State Federation of Music Clubs, Wayland Manor, 8:00 P. M.

**Wednesday, December 14**  
*Lecture by Professor Alphons Vorenkamp, Smith College, on "Masterpieces of Dutch Painting." Memorial Hall, 8:15 P. M. *Concert by Mrs. Lila Horton Singane and the Teverslund String Quartet. Mrs. Emma Winslow Childs, accompanist, Churchill House, 8:30 P. M.*  
*Admission charged*

**EXHIBITIONS OUTSIDE OF RHODE ISLAND**

Andover, Mass., Addison Gallery, Phillips Academy  
Dec. 1-Dec. 31—Drawings and Watercolors from the Permanent Collection.

Boston, Mass., Museum of Fine Arts  
Nov. 16-Dec. 15—Paintings, Drawings, and Prints by Frank W. Benson and Edmund C. Tarbell.

Boston, Mass., Guild of Boston Artists  
Nov. 28-Dec. 10—Sketches of England and Belgium, by H. Dudley Murphy, Nelly Littlehale Murphy, and John F. Enser.

Cambridge, Mass., Germanic Museum, Harvard University  
Dec. 1-Dec. 31—19th and 20th Century German Watercolors and Drawings.

Cambridge, Mass., Fogg Museum of Art, Harvard University  
Dec. 7-Dec. 31—French Drawings and Paintings. XIX Century.  
Dec. 7-Dec. 31—Continued German and Italian Graphic Arts.

Springfield, Mass., Museum of Fine Arts  
Nov. 22-Dec. 11—Exhibition of Local Artists.  
Dec. 5-Jan. 2—Berkson Painters.  
Dec. 6-Dec. 31—Paintings by John Barnard.

Wellesley, Mass., Farnsworth Museum, Wellesley College  
Dec. 5-Dec. 15—Drawings of Peruvian and Bolivian Types, by Eben F. Comins.

Worcester, Mass., Art Museum  
Dec. 8-Jan. 8—Shaker Art and Crafts, assembled by Mr. and Mrs. Edward D. Andrews.

New Haven, Conn., Gallery of Fine Arts, Yale University  
Dec. 1-Dec. 15—Modern German Church Architecture Prints by Herman Webster.

Northampton, Mass., Smith College Museum of Art  
Dec. 2-Dec. 20—New Acquisition of Japanese prints and Drawings by Hokusa and the Hokusa School.

New York, N. Y., The Museum of Modern Art  

**Thursday, December 15**  
*Lecture by Professor Will S. Taylor, "Contemporary Art," Handicraft Club, 11:00 A. M. *Concert by the Brown University Orchestra. Professor Coolidge, director, Faunce House Theatre, 8:15 P. M. Exhibition of paintings by Robert K. Stephens. Providence Plantations Club. Open from 2:00 P. M. until 5:00 P. M.

**Sunday, December 18**  
*Lecture by Miss Miriam A. Banks, "Footprints in the Near East's Sands," Museum of the Rhode Island School of Design, 3:30 P. M.*

**Monday, December 19**  
*Sock and Buskin presents "The Second Shepherd's Play," by Wakefield. Faunce House Theatre, 8:30 P. M. For subscribers only.

**Thursday, December 15**  
*Lecture by Professor Will S. Taylor, "Contemporary Art," Handicraft Club, 11:00 A. M. *Concert by the Brown University Orchestra. Professor Coolidge, director, Faunce House Theatre, 8:15 P. M. Exhibition of paintings by Robert K. Stephens. Providence Plantations Club. Open from 2:00 P. M. until 5:00 P. M.