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Calendar of Events March 1940

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COMMUNITY ART PROJECT

CALENDAR of ART EVENTS

MARCH 1940

Volume Seven Number Five
American Cartoonists

and Catholicism. Daumier satirized the Chamber of Deputies, the peers, and the Kings of France. In Spain Goya was the artist to be feared for his attacks on war. Rowlandson and Hogarth made names for themselves in England. Hogarth's series entitled "A Rake's Progress" were the forerunner of the "continuity" idea of the modern comic strip.

In America the American revolution incited some political cartoons; notably those by Paul Revere, the patriot whose midnight ride fame has outlived his fame as a silversmith and engraver, and by Benjamin Franklin, The War of 1812 was the period of William Charles and Doolittle, but the Civil War was the time when the full power of caricature was felt in this country. Thomas Nast is the name connected with this period.

"Punch," the first comic weekly paper in the United States was started in 1876. "Life," a magazine interested in social caricature began in 1883. The Whitney Museum of American Art has published "A History of American Graphic Humor" by William Murrell. The first volume covers from 1747 to 1865, and the second volume from that date to contemporary work.

To-day over twenty million people read a daily comic strip or see a caricature. It is no longer an event or a topic of discussion. However, the fundamentals are the same.

Whether a sketch is a cartoon, a caricature, or a humorous drawing, or whether it was drawn in Greek centuries ago or in New York to-day the common technique is economy of line.

Phil May, an English caricaturist, once met the director of a newspaper for which he was making a drawing a week. The man commented on the cleverness of May's work but remarked that May was getting an enormous salary and his last drawing had had only seven lines. The artist replied that if he could only do it with five he would have charged twice as much.

Max Beerbohm, contemporary English caricaturist, gives the following as essentials—1st, to get at the soul or pith of the subject swiftly; 2nd, simplicity, a quick and firm line; 3rd, statement with minimum of explanatory text; 4th, quality of kindness or irony, satiric or satiric, always humor.

Humorous drawings can be divided into two classes. There are the drawings whose humor is an end in itself and whose purpose is to provoke laughter. A drawing by Carl Rose recently appeared in The New Yorker. It depicted a little girl and her mother seated at a table. It was just an ordinary drawing but the gag read "It's broccoli, dear," "I say it's spinach, and I say the hell with it." The other type of drawing is a humorous statement of political or social or personal viewpoint whose purpose is to awaken perception through laughter.

A famous cartoon by Art Young shows a slums scene with a small boy and girl looking up at the sky. The line reads "Chee, Annie, look at de stars—thick as bedbugs."

The cartoonist has to have a knowledge of the fundamentals of anatomy. He has to know how to get freedom and looseness into his drawings of figures and animals. He has to express action. He has to be able to draw draperies, to show differences in textures, and to know the expressive details.

Art Young at seventy-one is still busy drawing. He studied at the Académie Julien in Paris in 1890. During the World War he was one of the four editors of The Masses who were placed on trial on the charge that they had conspired to obstruct the draft. His political


A well-known drawing by Young is the one of a woman standing by a stove and a tired man sitting nearby. The lines read "There you go! You're tired. Here I be a standin' over a hot stove all day, ain' you go workin' in a nice cool sewer?" Another cartoon shows several bulky arms-of-the-law dragging off a thin little

man. Two bystanders comment on the scene. "What's he been doing?" "Overthrowin' the government."

Denys Wortman is one of the best-known artists of the time. His "Metropolitan Movies" was begun in 1924 for the old New York World and was then used in the World-Telegram. A complete file of proof is kept by the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the New York Public Library. He has made over six thousand.

Gluyas Williams has a studio in Boston. It is said that he gets to his studio at eight-thirty and leaves before one in the afternoon. Four days a week of this and he has a week's supply of "Suburban Heights." He has illustrated all the books by Robert Benchley.

William Gropper is a draughtsman of first rank. He has illustrated over twenty books, won a Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship in 1927, and has a painting in the Metropolitan Museum, the Whitney Museum of American Art, and the Museum of Modern Art. In 1926 he nearly created an international crisis between the United States and Japan by lampooning Emperor Hirohito hauling the Nobel Peace Prize in a cart.

The New Yorker is an exponent of American sophistication. It ignores national and international difficulties and instead portrays man's cruelty to man, woman to woman, and the battle of the sexes. Amusement with a cynical touch and ridicule with a tinge of malice characterizes the cartoons. Some of the contributors included in this exhibition are Peter Arno, an able draughtsman, whose tipsy old maids and fat bald-headed men have become famous; Barbara Shermund, whose drawings express themselves; William Steig, a profound student of humor who tells of Freud and Schopenhauer and psychic repression, and who has created "small fry;" and James Thurber whose dogs are a delight to all who

own animals, and whose vaing men and women go through life tripping over trivialities. Thurber, strangely enough, was a code clerk in the United States Embassy in Paris during the Peace Conference.

All these artists and others are represented in the exhibition at the Museum of Art during the month of March. You'll laugh and you'll wonder and you'll exclaim, for a cartoonist not only sees humorous subjects but he sees humorously! D. Daly.
EXHIBITIONS IN RHODE ISLAND

Faunce House Gallery, Brown University
Feb. 16-Mar. 9—Sculpture, Drawings, and Fabricated Designs

Museum of the Rhode Island School of Design

School Gallery, Rhode Island School of Design, 14 College St.

Research Laboratory Gallery, Rhode Island School of Design
Mar. 1-Mar. 10—Exhibition of Student Loan Pictures.

Providence Art Club

Armour Gallery

Tilden-Thurber Gallery

Leisure Time Activities, Inc.
Mar. 1-Mar. 31—Continuation of February Exhibition.

EXHIBITIONS OUTSIDE OF RHODE ISLAND

Andover, Mass., Addison Gallery, Phillips Academy
Feb. 10-Mar. 10—One Picture Picasso Exhibition, “La Coffure.”

Boston, Mass., Museum of Fine Arts
Feb. 17-Mar. 24—Arts of the Middle Ages, An important exhibition of Medieval art assembled through the courtesy of many important collectors and institutions.

Boston, Mass., Guild of Boston Artists

Cambridge, Mass., Fogg Art Museum
Mar. 1-Mar. 6—Paintings by Burchfield from the collection of Edward Root, Mar. 11-Mar. 31—Chinese Loans. (Persian)

CALENDAR OF ART EVENTS

Sunday, March 3

Gallery talk by John Howard Benson, “Bronze Sculpture,” Museum of the Rhode Island School of Design, 3:30 P. M.

*Concert by the Rhode Island WPA Symphony Orchestra. The program will include the Bach Concerto in D minor and Liszt’s “Totentanz” for piano and orchestra, Soloists: Alexandre Peloquin, pianist, Gilbert Stuart Junior High School, 8:00 P. M.

Monday, March 4

The Players present “Family Portrait” by Lenore Coffee and William Joyce Cowen, Barker Playhouse, 8:30 P. M. Tickets may be obtained through members.

Baseball Studio Group: Dramatic reading of “Cymbeline” by Shakespeare, 80 Benefit Street, 8:10 P. M.

Tuesday, March 5

*The Players present “Family Portrait” by Lenore Coffee and William Joyce Cowen, Barker Playhouse, 8:30 P. M.

*The Providence Community Concert Association presents John Charles Thomas, baritone, Metropolitan Theatre, 8:30 P. M.

Wednesday, March 6

The Players’ radio dramatization, WJAR, 7:30 P. M.

*The Players present “Family Portrait” by Lenore Coffee and William Joyce Cowen, Barker Playhouse, 8:30 P. M.

Thursday, March 7

*The Players present “Family Portrait” by Lenore Coffee and William Joyce Cowen, Barker Playhouse, 8:30 P. M.

Friday, March 8

*The Komians present “Hedda Gabler” by Henrik Ibsen, Alumnae Hall, 8:30 P. M.

*The Players present “Family Portrait” by Lenore Coffee and William Joyce Cowen, Barker Playhouse, 8:30 P. M.

Saturday, March 9

The Komians present “Hedda Gabler” by Henrik Ibsen, Alumnae Hall, 8:30 P. M.

Sunday, March 10

Gallery talk by Adelaide M. Davidson, “Dictators and Democracy in Antiquity,” Museum of the Rhode Island School of Design, 3:30 P. M.

*Concert by the Rhode Island WPA Symphony Orchestra. The program will include the Smetana tone-poem from the “My Country” cycle, Eduoard Cafliger, conductor, Gilbert Stuart Junior High School, 8:00 P. M.

Monday, March 11

Baseball Studio Group: Dramatic reading of “Fashion” by Anna Cora Mowatt, Tea 80 Benefit Street, 8:10 P. M.

Wednesday, March 13

The Players’ radio dramatization, WJAR, 7:30 P. M.

Thursday, March 14

Lecture by Professor Hitchcock, “Architecture and Gardening,” Museum of the Rhode Island School of Design, 3:30 P. M. There will be an exhibit by the Italian Classics in the Museum Gallery in conjunction with Professor Hitchcock’s lecture.

*Concert by the Brown Glee Club, Faunce House Theatre, 8:30 P. M.

Sunday, March 17

Gallery talk by Dr. Adolf Katzenellenbogen, “The Seasons,” Museum of the Rhode Island School of Design, 3:30 P. M.

*Concert by the Rhode Island WPA Symphony Orchestra. Eduoard Caffiger, conductor, Gilbert Stuart Junior High School, 8:00 P. M.

Monday, March 18

*Recital by Doris Humphrey, Charles Waldman and their Dance Group, Alumnae Hall, 8:30 P. M.

Basement Studio Group: Dramatic reading of “Herod” by Stephen Phillips. Tea 80 Benefit Street, 8:10 P. M.

Wednesday, March 20

The Players’ radio dramatization, WJAR, 7:30 P. M.

Friday, March 22

The Providence Y Oratorio Society presents Spohr’s “Gav-

Bravura.” Elmwood Christian Congregational Church, 7:30 P. M.

Sunday, March 24

Concert by the Rhode Island WPA Symphony Orchestra, Soloists: Mme. Avis Sliver Chardonnell, Mme. Chardonnell will play Mozart’s Piano Concerto No. 21 in C major, Edouard Cafliger, conductor, Gilbert Stuart Junior High School, 8:00 P. M.

Monday, March 25

Baseball Studio Group: Dramatic reading of a modern comedy. Tea 80 Benefit Street, 8:10 P. M.

Tuesday, March 26

*Sock and Buskin presents “Bury the Dead” by Irwin Shaw, Faunce House Theatre, 8:30 P. M.

Wednesday, March 27

*Sock and Buskin presents “Bury the Dead” by Irwin Shaw, Faunce House Theatre, 8:30 P. M.

*The Players’ radio dramatization, WJAR, 7:30 P. M.

Friday, March 29

Pembroke College and Brown University Choir will sing Mendelssohn’s “Hymn of Praise” at Alumnae Hall, 4:30 P. M.

*Sock and Buskin presents “Bury the Dead” by Irwin Shaw, Faunce House Theatre, 8:30 P. M.

Friday, March 31

*Sock and Buskin presents “Bury the Dead” by Irwin Shaw, Faunce House Theatre, 8:30 P. M.

Sunday, March 31

Gallery talk by Professor Robert L. Casey, “Recent Finds in the Excavations at Yan,” Museum of the Rhode Island School of Design, 3:30 P. M.

Cambridge, Mass., Germanic Museum

New Haven, Conn., Gallery of Fine Arts, Yale University


Springfield, Mass., Springfield Museum of Fine Arts
Mar. 12-Mar. 31—Silk Screen Exhibition.