

Mark Clarke at Gallery West:

Paintings, collages shown

Gallery West Eugene is holding a public reception tomorrow night for Mark Clarke, who will be previewing his show of recent work. The show will run May 27 through June 19.

Clarke is a Eugene artist and a familiar figure in the area, having served as Chief Preparator at the University Museum of Art for 12 years. He left the museum only last year to devote full attention to his own art. This will be his first local show in several years.

Clarke does mostly paintings and collages, but he is more interested in the process of creating them than in the finished product. He says that for him, creating an art work is like playing a game. He makes the rules by his choice of subject, paints, or equipment. Within these kinds of arbitrary limitations, he simply explores what interests him and then moves on.

One recent pursuit which will be seen in this show is a new kind of collage. It is more refined and more representational than the torn collages he has done in the past. The subjects — round stones, dried leaves, and limbs — and the technique of finishing with a white, filmy wash, are inspired by the residue of dry river beds which he says he has become especially conscious of in this low-water year.

Also in this show will be some figure drawings which are the result of a class Clarke taught recently at the University. This will be the first time in a long time he has shown drawings. Figures which will appear in some paintings, too, are a rarity for him. His subjects are almost always connected with the land.

Mark Clarke is a native of Oregon. He was born in Oregon City, raised in Junction City, educated at Oregon State University, and graduated a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Oregon. He lives on 1½ acres of wooded land with his wife, Margaret (Peg) Coe, who is also an Oregon painter of note, and their children.

Clarke shows frequently throughout the Northwest. He was recently included in a traveling "Bicentennial Exhibition of Oregon Artists." His work is found in several collections both business and private. He is represented in the permanent collections of Eastern Oregon State College and the University of Oregon Museum of Art.

The reception for Mark Clarke, previewing his show, will be held at Gallery West, 1597 Oak Street, Friday evening from 7 to 9 p.m.

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Japanese prints, sculpture displayed

A major exhibit of prints by Sekino Jun'ichiro, one of Japan's foremost contemporary printmakers, will be shown at the University's Museum of Art during the month of June. Sekino's work will be exhibited in conjunction with the Asian Studies on the Pacific Coast (ASPAC) Conference '77, which will also be held on campus.

The Sekino exhibit contains approximately 35 portraits, many of which are of celebrated Japanese persons with whom the artist was personally acquainted. Some of the subjects include Nobel Prize winning novelist Kawabata Yasunari, haiku poet Takahama Kyoshi, Kabuki actor Nakamura Kichimon, Bunraku puppeteer Yoshida Bungoro, artists Onchi Koshiro and Munakata Shiko, and the Okinawa dancer Sato Takako.

Some of the prints are of Sekino's early works which are now out of print. Copies in the exhibit are from the artist's personal collection. Others are new prints created specifically for the show.

In 1975, Sekino's first American showing of his Tokaido series was shown at the Museum of Art. The artist won international print awards with his work and received a special award from the Japanese government for the series.

Sekino taught wood-block printing at the University of Washing-

ton and Oregon State University in 1963 as a recipient of a Ford Foundation grant. His prints are owned by many museums throughout the world and some have been presented to foreign dignitaries as gifts from Japanese Imperial household.

During June the Museum also will show an exhibit of wood carvings by Russell Childers.

The showing will open a two-year tour of the exhibit museums and galleries throughout the Northwest.

Childers, a self-taught carver, spent hundreds of hours on the works for this show. The artist first laminates various woods together, then works them with hand-made tools until the sculptures are complete to the last detail.

Visual Arts Resources, at the Museum, organized and will circulate traveling Childers exhibit with the support of the Oregon Arts Commission, National Endowment for the Arts, Friends of the Museum, and other agencies.

During the Sekino and Childers exhibits, the Museum's Focus Gallery will show paintings by Michael McGuire. McGuire, art instructor at Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario, has exhibited throughout Oregon and in Washington and Iowa.

All three shows will run from June 5 thru July 1. The Museum is open from 12 noon to 5 p.m., Tuesday thru Sunday.

To compliment the Sekino showing the Museum will offer a special catalog of his exhibit. The catalog, written by Yoko and Bob McClain, will include color reproductions of Sekino's work.

Photographs exhibited in Art Museum

Photographs by Rosamond Wolff Purcell, whose work with Polaroid prints has appeared in Ms. Magazine, Petersen's Photographic and in Modern Photography, may be seen at the Photography in Oregon Gallery, Museum of Art, beginning Tuesday. The show will continue until July 3.

The exhibit, which is composed of enlargements from Type 105 Polaroid Land Film negatives, has also been shown at The Art Museum, Iowa City, Iowa; Neikrug Galleries, New York, New York; Addison Gallery of American Art, Andover, Massachusetts and The Madison Art Center, Madison, Wisconsin.

Purcell has been working nearly exclusively with Polaroid materials since her initial involvement with photography in 1969. She is largely self-taught, excepting informal study with Dennis Purcell, and view camera technique with Kipton Kumler.

Her work has been exhibited widely, including the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the Fogg Art Museum.

The Photography at Oregon Gallery and its exhibition program is supported by the Oregon Arts Commission, the Eugene Room Tax Fund and private donations. The gallery is open from 12 to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday.

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