

Soviets fear own artists

By Charlene Bell
Of the Emerald



Ernst Neizvestny

Photo by Erich Boekelheide

The Soviet Union — a country with advanced defense capabilities, a sophisticated intelligence agency and the largest group of propagandists in the world, has come to fear the impact of the small, unregulated Soviet artist, said Soviet emigre sculptor, Ernst Neizvestny.

"At times I considered myself a Luxembourg within a bigger nation. Any minute I could be taken over. I had to defend my right for existence as if I belonged to some political opposition," Neizvestny said.

Neizvestny spoke on, 'Human Rights and the Arts in the Soviet Union,' Wednesday as part of a four-day symposium sponsored by the University Russian and East European Studies Center and other University groups.

Neizvestny was one such "unregulated artist."

He said he emigrated from the Soviet Union in 1976 because the Communist leadership is stifling the Soviet artist by heeding the haunting words of Stalin, 'In our country there are no people who cannot be replaced.'

The evening included a slide-show of Neizvestny's works. The slide show, produced by former students in Moscow, had been confiscated by KGB agents, but later it was smuggled into the West.

Afterwards, panelists, including University professors, Paul Buckner, Albert Leong, Sherwin Simmons, Frum Yurevich, and Reed College professor Lena Lencek, discussed Neizvestny's work.

While in the Soviet Union, Neizvestny considered himself "nonpolitical" and refused to follow the lead of the "petty bourgeois" Russian artists of the 1920s. Thus the party leadership considers his massive, powerful works unrestrained and dangerous.

Neizvestny and fellow artists who managed to "maintain their own intelligence," had a saying for the artistic works of commission hungry artists. "It's not important what you did, but who unveiled it," he said.

After the "thaw" under former Soviet premier Nikita Khrushchev when the party leadership permitted artists a guarded level of freedom and considered Neizvestny irreplaceable, he said.

His busts of Soviet composer Dmitri Shostakovich, former Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev, as well as the large 'bas relief' for the Aswan Dam in Egypt, earned the artist international acclaim.

At one Soviet exhibition of the artist's works, Khrushchev remarked that Neizvestny's sculptures were fit only to decorate outhouses. Neizvestny's reply to the late premier was candid.

"Comrade Khrushchev," he began, "you are premier of the Soviet Union. But here, at this exhibit, I am premier."

Ironically, following the Soviet premier's death, the Khrushchev family commissioned Neizvestny to design the monument for the leader's grave. The result was a controversial monument that Soviet authorities allowed to be erected after a three-year fight, he said.

The symposium continues through Saturday.

Designer eases life for Third World countries

By Dan Maize
Of the Emerald

Victor Papanek, noted designer and self-described "gadget-maker," explained his Third World designs and criticized wastefulness in American design Wednesday evening in the EMU Ballroom.

The Survival Center brought Papanek, the J.L. Constant Dis-

tinguished Professor at the University of Kansas at Lawrence, to the University as part of the Earth Week activities.

He has written five books, including *Design for the Real World* which has been published in 23 languages and his latest, *Design for Human Scale*.

Papanek has worked with architect Frank Lloyd Wright, received an Alternative Nobel

Prize nomination and lived and worked in 15 developing countries, including Bali and New Guinea.

Most of the items Papanek and his staff designed for developing nations "were designed in that Third World country over a three to five-year stay, not just a visit," Papanek said.

The items usually can be constructed by resident labor using raw materials found in that country, Papanek added.

Papanek has designed a chemical refrigerator, which can be constructed in any nation that he has visited, a "talking teacher" — a cassette player that eases the governments' tasks in Nigeria and Tanzania of informing the people and a diagnostic medical kit for developing countries, which combines an accurate scale, a

blood-pressure unit, a urinalysis device and a tape measure in one package.

Papanek noted that by having the kit available the "residents of these countries know as much about themselves as we do."

He showed examples of native technology, including a Brazilian oil lamp made from used American light bulbs. The natives remove the socket and filaments, fill the bulb with oil and stick a bottle cap and wick where the socket was, then hang the lamp upside down.

"Brazilians just can't understand why we need electricity to power light bulbs when we could use oil," he said.

He's had a tough time selling his domestic ideas — such as a vertically-adjustable bathroom sink and a chair designed for elderly people — to U.S. busi-

nessmen, he said. Companies have turned him down, only to find they have developed a similar product at a later date, selling for a price much higher than what he would've charged them, he said.

Because of this, he said he makes his plans available to the public free.

"The solutions to many of the world's problems are in student portfolios, being carried around from office to office while looking for a job," Papanek said, drawing laughter from the audience of predominately architecture students.

American design often is wasteful, Papanek said. For example, a "picnic car" designed in the 1950s by General Motors assumed the average American family would have five or six cars, all for different purposes. The car was a low-slung station wagon with a refrigerator, stove and kitchen sink in the back.

AT DUFFY'S

NU SHOOSZ

One of Portland's finest R & R bands

Pitcher Sale
4-7

Safer
Streets!



The West University Neighbors
1456 Ferry St. • Eugene, Ore. 97401 • 687-5366

RESUME

PERSONALIZED
COVER
LETTERS!

Ken Warren/Greg Wasson

345-5858
ANYTIME (M-Sat)



Survivors to talk on Hiroshima

Two survivors of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, Miyoko Matsubara and Kasui Ishii, are in Eugene this weekend to promote world peace and the abolition of nuclear weapons.

The talk will be at Grace Lutheran Church, Saturday at 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call Jan Donald at 746-8041 or 686-5426.

staff

The Oregon Daily Emerald is published Monday through Friday except during finals week and vacations by the Oregon Daily Emerald Publishing Co.

News 686-5511
Advertising/Business 686-3712
Classifieds 686-4343
Production 686-4381

Editor Sally Hodgkinson
Managing Editor Gabriel Boehmer
News Editor Harry Esteve
Assistant News Editor John Healy

Photo Editor Bob Baker
Graphics Editor Max DeRungs
Editorial Page Editor Cort Fernald
Sports Editor Steve Spatz

Associate Sports Editor Jeff Dickerson
Entertainment Editor Matt Meyer
Night Editor Debbie Howlett

Associate Editors:

ASUO
Dane Claussen
Community
Marian Green
Departments and Schools
Debbie Howlett

Features
Sandy Johnstone
Higher Education
Ann Portal
Politics/Environment
Ron Hunt

General Staff:

Advertising Director Darlene Gore
Classified Advertising Sally Oljar
Production Manager Ann Peterson
Controller Jean Ownbey