

Art Show

PEACEMAKER



Shamsud-Din creates "Black Experience" in Pauling

by Lyn Marie Thompson
Photo Editor

Once again, the Pauling Art Gallery has a new display. This time it's the works of Isaac Shamsud-Din, one of the foremost African-American artists working in the Pacific Northwest.

Shamsud-Din's work expresses his personal and political views on the "Black Experience." Assistant curator for the Portland Art Museum, Mary Priester says his paintings, murals, and drawings are "characterized by powerful drawing, vibrant color, and proud-spirited themes. Shamsud-Din's art reflects both his talents as an artist and his commitment to his community."

Between 1977 and 1985, Shamsud-Din did a mural nearly every year, with his subject matter ranging from black history to a family memorial. They can be found in schools, medical centers, prisons, museums, and government buildings.

Shamsud-Din recently did a mural on commission for the Portland Justice Center titled "Bilalian Odessey", (or Afro-American Journey). Shamsud-Din describes "Bilalian Odessey" as "the struggle and accomplishments of Afro-Americans determined to share in the challenges of the discovery, opening up, and settlement of the Western Frontier."

His paintings and drawings can be seen in the Pauling Art Gallery until Feb. 25. For more information on the display or Shamsud-Din, call the Art Dept. at x386.



Isaac Shamsud-Din reflects on his work now being shown in Pauling Art Gallery.

