

OBSERVATIONS

FROM THE SIDELINES
BY Kathryn Hall Bogle



IN JANUARY, 1984, the Portland Art Association is offering a series of "visual images" by 32 contemporary American artists and illustrators to be on view beginning January 13th through February 12th. The words of Samuel Gompers, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and others, were the inspiration for the pictures called "Images of Labor."

The museum, according to its newsletter, will also be showing a traveling exhibition from the Smithsonian Institute called "Building a New World: Black Labor Photographs." This photographic exhibit is said to trace the history of Black labor and its contributions to America's economic development. The work of Gordon Parks is included among other artist photographers.

Later in the month, Labor Festival Day, will be presented on January 22nd, with a full program of events. Included will be a presentation by Michael Grice, oral historian. Grice will give a report on information regarding his research project with the history of the Railroad Senior Citizens Association. His "short slide lecture" is titled, "The Railroad Generations: A View of Black Labor History in Oregon."



After the show was over, collaborating artists Al Goldsby and Kirk Lybecker celebrate a successful event and toast the New Year. In the background, a painting by Lybecker and metal sculpture by Goldsby.

(Photo: Richard J. Brown)

ONE OF the closing art events of 1983 was the Al Goldsby studio exhibit of metal sculptures and prints by Al Goldsby in mid-December. Goldsby also showed the watercolor and acrylic works of Kirk Lybecker. The two artists collaborated in an earlier exhibit at the Coos Bay Art Museum downstate. This latter project was made possible by a grant from the Oregon Arts Commission and by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Goldsby's next show is planned for January 4th through 17th, 1984, at Mt. Hood Community College. Metal sculpturist Tom Hardy will collaborate with Goldsby for this exhibit.



Metal sculpture by Al Goldsby. (Photo: Richard J. Brown)

IN PLACE at Portland's Justice Center building is a brilliantly colored mural completed recently by Isaac Shamsud-Din.

Libraries set story times

Pre-school Storytimes for ages 3-5: (North Portland, 512 N. Killingsworth, 284-5622), Friday, Jan. 6, 10:30 a.m.

Children's Films: (Albina: 3605 N.E. 15th, 287-7147), Saturday, Jan. 7, 2:30 p.m.: "A Boy, a Dog and a Frog," "The Morning Spider," "Caps for Sale," "Tom Thumb in King Arthur's Court."

Woodstove safety urged for holidays

It is safer and cleaner to reuse or throw away Christmas wrapping paper than it is to burn it, according to the State Fire Marshal's Office and the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The agencies also discourage Oregonians from putting Christmas trees or branches into woodstoves or fireplaces.

"Wrapping paper in a fireplace or woodstove can get out of control. People tend to overload the firebox with paper and it gets hot too fast," says Olin Greene, Oregon State Fire Marshal. "Also, partially burned pieces of paper can drift up the chimney, sending embers onto the roof." According to Greene, flash fires can result from burning wrappings, trees or branches in woodstoves or fireplaces.

The DEQ is concerned also about the pollutants from burning wrapping paper and trees. Depending upon the inks and coatings on the paper, there may be toxic fumes released. Also, burning wrapping paper creates a lot of ash which can make its way up the chimney and into the outdoor air.

To safely reuse, recycle or dispose of wrapping paper, Greene suggests rolling the paper on tubes or folding it up immediately after opening presents. Loose piles of paper and boxes can be a fire hazard.

Some Oregon recyclers will accept wrapping paper for recycling if it is not foil-lined. It is more energy efficient to recycle paper than it is to burn it. If a recycler will not accept scrap paper, Greene recommends safely throwing paper away by folding it up and placing it in a covered metal trash can.

Greene recommends residents check whether any organizations are collecting Christmas trees. In the Portland area, the Metro Recycling Switchboard has information on tree collection and recycling projects.

Persons disposing of trees themselves should cut the trees into small pieces and put them into a covered metal trash can.

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