

Carl Hall Talks About Gilkey Work

By CARL HALL

The public has another week to take advantage of the graphic show of Gordon Gilkey, printmaker of Corvallis, at the Williamette University Art Gallery. Both the man and his medium are relatively new to Salem, although Mr. Gilkey has had a very important influence on print making in Oregon for a number of years. In addition to creative printmaking he is an avid and discriminating collector of prints.

For those who are unawer of the radical changes that have taken place in the art of print making, the show will serve to introduce the new creative means, the technical explorations that have revitalized the graphic field in the past few years, especially in soft ground etching. The demand for realism, reproducing things as seen, has, up to the last 20 years, kept the inherent potential of copper and lead in a category that overlooked entirely the "rights" of the copper itself. Herbert Read labeled it the Cinderella of the arts, for it was for a long period pushed into the background as a creative means of consequence. Through a lack of knowledge, imagination and understanding the intaglio potential lay dormant under the act of reproduction. Now a graphic renaissance is in full swing in America, and Oregon plays no minor role in this rebirth of creative copper, stone and the lowly wood block. Oregon has a distinguished group of printmakers and Mr. Gilkey's contribution has been considerable.

The Technique Etching can be classified into five categories, all covered by the term intaglio.

Mr. Gilkey has found in the intaglio process the perfect medium to express his outlook on life. In his work he explores a copper relish that quite often takes on a whimsical, bouyant exuberance. One has but to look at the block print (there are two in this show) "Love in a Park" or in the same vein, but with a more enigmatic twist to his humor the interesting "Which came First." Throughout Gilkey's work this enigmatic quality seems to move along the fringes of his creations, nibbling through his choice of titles. Who you take the titles "Relation of Unrelated Formations," "Harlem Ghosts," "Headworks," "Night Clubbers," you find that you are humorously involved with a man who is very seriously involved in printmaking. Whether Mr. Gilkey is aware of it or not, and I don't imagine he particularly cares what people think about his work or methods, his humorous outlook on life serves to keep in check and give a balance to his experimentation in abstraction. At all times his work retains a mooring point, a human undercurrent usually humorous, around which he builds his design, textures, and tones.

Of interest in this show is the dramatic use of Aquatint and Soft-ground etching. Of the aquatints, I found "Harlem Ghosts" the most delightful. A careful composition with a heavy footed swing to its design that moves to and fro under white eyes that peer intently from a field of deep, rich greys and blacks. The white areas were achieved by cutting holes in the copper itself; when printed the holes make a raised impression on the surface of the paper, creating a third dimensional effect.

While the greater part of the works are primarily tonal they are given infinite variety as well as structural strength by the binding together of planes, tones, textures, through the use of the engraved line. This line reinforces especially the textures achieved in the soft-ground by the use of linen, lace and burlap. There are a few pure engravings on display: "Self," "Corvallis Seed". The comparison of these pure line works with the work where the line assumes a far different role is worthy of study.

Most of us who seriously work in the creative field are apt to take ourselves too seriously. The intensity of our concern with this mystery called art all too often gives our existence a precarious emotional state we seem to be on the defensive with ourselves, afraid to underestimate or make fun of the "I" we are creating. Our self-portraits are usually stern, isolated in a protective coating of "artistic" dignity; all too many have a remote, almost smug, isolation about them. Again we may attack our faces with an impoisoned burst of energy like a Van Gogh or a Rembrandt. Few of our portraits have the humble ease of an easy laugh as does Mr. Gilkey's "Corvallis Sophisticate" or "Self with bow tie." With a deep un-expressed laugh of amusement he puts himself in the position of the medieval craftsman, the anonymous worker "Self in sack cloth or penitent self portrait" or just "Self". Any way you look at this group of portraits the step from portrait with bow tie to sack cloth has a broad philosophical basis and humility underlies the whole expanse.

Technical Writing Subject of Talk

Problems of technical writing will be recounted by Miss Rebecca Tarshis at tonight's meeting of Theta Sigma Phi alumnae at the home of Mrs. George Dewey Jr. at 8 p.m. Miss Tarshis, who is employed by the Portland Clinic, specializes in assisting doctors write their reports and formal papers. He most recent major assignment was to aid in writing a book on psychology. The Portland writer also sells non-technical features and articles to various national magazines.

Reservations may be made by phoning the hostess.

Women's Section SOCIETY • CLUBS • MUSIC

Around Town . . .

BY JERYME ENGLISH
DATE IS CHANGED . . . Josephine Caughell and John W. Loughary will be married on Friday, May 9 instead of June 18 as originally announced. . . . The couple, who plan to make their home in San Francisco, must leave for the bay city immediately following their graduation from the University of Oregon in early June. . . . thus necessitating an earlier wedding date. . . . The ceremony will take place in Salem at St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church at 10 a.m. before members of the immediate family and a few intimate friends. . . . a wedding breakfast will follow at the home of the bride-elect's aunt, Miss Josephine Baumgartner. . . . Miss Caughell is the only daughter of the John R. Caughells and her fiancé is the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Loughary of Eugene. . . . The bride-elect told friends of her May wedding date at a luncheon and bridal shower for which Mrs. Bruce Williams was hostess in her honor on Saturday afternoon at the Eugene Hotel. . . . At each place were miniature May baskets and tied to the handles were scrolls bearing the names of the duo and the date. . . . The Caughell telephone has been busy the past week making calls to see if all June dates could be changed to May. . . . which means a little less than three weeks for Josephine to complete her trousseau shopping and arrange for last minute wedding details. . . .

Invitations . . . were received from Portland by a number of Salem friends the past week to tea for which Mrs. John James Elliott and Mrs. Frank Alois Bosch will be hostesses on Saturday, April 26 at the latter's Portland home on S.W. Canterbury Lane. . . . The affair is being arranged in compliment to Miss Carl Deitzel, popular summer bride-elect and daughter of the Thomas Deitzels of Portland, formerly of Salem. . . . Calling hours are from 3 to 5 o'clock. . . .

Entertaining . . . with an informal at home on Sunday afternoon, April 27 will be Mr. and Mrs. L. E. deWeese, who will be hosts at their Fairmount Hill residence in compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Albrecht Jagenstecher of Middlebury, Vermont, visitors in the capital. . . . A group of Portland and Salem friends of the hosts have been bidden to greet the couple, who are guests of their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Gerhard H. Pagenstecher. . . . The visitors will be here until the end of May. . . .

A busy week ahead . . . for Governor and Mrs. Douglas McKay, who returned last night from a quiet weekend at their beach home at Neskeoin. . . . Today the McKays will be in Portland to attend the opening of the Home Builders show. . . . Tuesday afternoon Mrs. McKay will hold her weekly at home for all interested townspeople and visitors in the capital. . . . Tuesday night she will drive to West Linn to pour at the table setting show

sponsored by the Oregon City Soroptimist Club. . . . for Mrs. James G. Heitsel, who arrived in the capital Sunday morning from a three month trip. . . . first she went to Mexico, where she visited with her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. James Heitsel, who reside at Taxaco. . . . Mrs. Heitsel also toured various parts of Mexico and visited in Mexico City before returning to the states. . . . She then went to Denver for an extended visit with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Hamby (Margaret Heitsel), formerly of Portland. . . .

Arriving from the East Coast today will be Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Truitt of Hebron, Maryland, who are making their first visit to the West. . . . They will be guests of their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. John Varley, and will also greet their new grandson, Scott Varley. . . . The visitors plan to be here a month. . . .

Reading . . . in Monterey, Calif. now is Mrs. William F. Johnson (Patricia Elfstrom) . . . her army husband is stationed nearby at Fort Ord, where he is taking his basic training. . . .

To Portland . . . this week to attend the Northwest Bakers Association convention at the Multnomah Hotel will go Mr. and Mrs. L. V. Benson. . . . sessions open today and continue through Wednesday. . . .

Visitors Attend Star Meeting

Trinity chapter, Order of the Eastern Star observed guest night on Friday at a meeting in the West Salem City Hall. Mrs. Carl Anthony and Harry Miller presided.

Invited were chapters from Woodburn, Silverton and Sheridan, and Mrs. Virginia Low, worthy Matron of Silverton chapter. Mrs. Thelma Wallace, worthy matron of Sheridan, Mr. and Mrs. Art Burt, matron and patron of Woodburn and Joe Muellenberg of Portland were among the guests.

Music was furnished by Miss Lorraine Owen and Mrs. Larry Flagg. Mrs. Florence Kortmeyer arranged decorations and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Field, Mrs. Hazel Anderson, Mrs. Josephine Pattison, Mrs. Kortmeyer and Wilfred Wilson were on the refreshment committee.

WILLAMINA — Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Mendenhall of Willamina have announced the engagement of their daughter, Nina Jean, to John A. Bett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Bett of Chehalis. A June wedding has been planned. Mr. and Mrs. Mendenhall have also announced the engagement of their daughter, Eleanor, to Cleo A. Wren, U.S. Navy, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Wren of Willamina. No date has been announced.

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Edwin Berry Speaks to AAUW

When Americans document cases of racial discrimination, Russian propagandists have an easy time of describing us as "fraudulent and insincere" to the preponderant non-white populations both we and Russia are trying to court. This was one argument against racial discrimination brought out by Edwin C. Berry, executive secretary of the Portland Urban League, before the AAUW Senator Hotel luncheon meeting Saturday.

Mr. Berry pointed out how race relations are the measure — the barometer — of democracy as it is judged from outside, and that most white Americans have no conception of democracy in terms of racial equality. Every publicized case where a member of a minority is discriminated against in employment, housing and social contact is fuel to the voice of the Kremlin, and is actually subversive. Besides, such discrimination is absurd, inefficient and costly.

When a minority group is denied employment or housing, it cannot buy goods as a consumer, or contribute to taxes and charities, and is forced into the slum conditions which produce the social evils—crime, disease and delinquency. Social welfare, police, and hospital costs are then increased, and the very people denied jobs are supported on welfare, paid for by those who refuse to hire them.

Mr. Berry feels that residential segregation is the most serious problem in race relations, as it leads to segregated schools, churches, and businesses, and therefore a lack of mutual understanding.

Mr. Berry's talk was tape-recorded by KOCO, to be rebroadcast on Saturday evening, May 10, as one of the series of service club talks.

State of Officers Presented
Mrs. Arthur Sprague, secretary, presided at the business meeting, as other officers were attending the state convention at Gearhart. Mrs. William Van Meter introduced the speaker, Mrs. Edwin Potter reported the slate of the nominating committee, to be voted on at the May meeting, as follows: president, Mrs. Thomas Churchill; vice president, Mrs. Arthur Sprague; secretary, Miss Eloise Ebert; treasurer, Mrs. John Hann, student loan committee, Mrs. E. E. Batterman.

Decorations at the Saturday meeting were arranged by Mrs. E. W. Rector, Mrs. E. F. Carleton, Mrs. Walter Foster and Mrs. David Looney.

Club Groups are Entertained

EAST SALEM — The annual birthday party for members of the Garden Road Neighborhood Club was held at the home of Mrs. Glenn Larkins Friday afternoon. The hostess was assisted by Mrs. Paul Lynch. The May meeting will be with Mrs. Frank Rickett.

A plant exchange and election of officers featured the April meeting of the past week of the Mercury-Go-Round Club at the home of Mrs. Edward Curtis. Officers elected were: president, Mrs. John Poindexter; vice president, Mrs. Wilson Biles; and secretary-treasurer, Miss Florence Kleeman. May meeting will be with Mrs. Harold Holler.

Mrs. Alfred Paul was hostess for a social evening at her Birchwood Dr. home Monday night. Guests were Mrs. Don Davis, Mrs. O. P. Bond, Miss Paty Bales, Mrs. Ross Bales, Mrs. Oscar Wigle, Mrs. O. P. Bennett, Mrs. Lloyd Mansfield, Mrs. Fredrick Small, Mrs. Russell Hedge and Mrs. William Hartley.

Week Events for Extension Units

Marion County extension unit meetings for the week of April 21-26 are listed below. Anyone who is interested is invited to attend and additional information may be obtained by calling Marion County home extension office at 475 N. Church Street, Salem.

April 22—Pratum Macleay unit, 10:30, at Macleay Grange Hall, glove making. Thomas unit, 10:30, with Mrs. Gladys Osterman, kitchen storage.

April 23—Quincy unit, 10:30, at R.N.A. Hall, kitchen storage.

April 24—Silverton unit, glove making. Roberts unit, 10:00, with Mrs. E. R. Blankenship, kitchen storage.

St. Paul unit, 1:30, with Mrs. James Smith, housekeeping shortcuts.

April 26—Homemakers Festival, 9:30, at Salem Senior High School.

The Salem Chapter African Violet Society met on Friday night with Mrs. C. M. Warner on South Liberty street. Mrs. H. E. Wilson of Dallas told about growing African violets from seeds. The next meeting will be held on May 9.

Mrs. Roland Hillman was the guest of honor at a shower April 10 at the home of Mrs. Daniel W. Casey. Mrs. C. D. Kennedy assisted.

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