

Haymarket Art Gallery opens

If you're not alert you can walk right by and not even notice it. You have to look down quickly, past the black iron railing and green plastic plants, into a basement corner of the Hotel Lincoln to see that the Haymarket Art Gallery is really there.

Standing on the sidewalk at 829 P Street you're not overwhelmed by the little shop. It doesn't scream its presence at you. Instead, it intrigues you and beckons you down the red carpeted steps from the sidewalk, and through its door.

The Haymarket Art Gallery was started two and a half years ago by Patricia Martin, while she attended art classes at the University of Nebraska. She realized there was no place for undergraduate students or "Sunday" painters, who work as semi-professionals or hobbyists, to display their work. The Haymarket Art Gallery grew out of this need.

Soon the complexities of operating the gallery grew, and it became clear that in order to reach the

greatest part of the Lincoln community a non-profit goal had to be established for the gallery.

An application for non-profit status has been submitted to the Internal Revenue Service and if it is granted the gallery will be considered a public service and allowed to receive federal grants and private donations.

Today the Gallery provides an alternative to Sheldon Art Gallery, which only displays work done by graduate students and professionals.

"Some of the undergraduate students have as much talent and as much potential as graduates," said Beth Sorenson, a UNL student who works mornings at the Gallery. "We're not here to make a killing financially. Our goal is to provide a chance for as many artists as possible throughout the state to display their work."

The gallery charges artists a 20 per cent commission on all sales. This is just enough to take care of overhead, Sorenson said.

She estimated that 75 per cent of all the work in the gallery belongs to undergraduate students around the state. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Nebraska Wesleyan University and Hastings College are represented by student art.

Oil painting, pottery, water color, batiks, macrame and sculpture are some of the media displayed at the gallery.

The translucent watercolor paintings of Estes Park, Colo., by artist Herb Thomson are currently being featured. Thomson is a former school teacher

who supports his wife and four children strictly on the sales of his paintings.

Thompson walks ten miles a day into the Colorado countryside with his equipment in a pack on his back, and paints what he sees.

"His paintings aren't concerned with revolutions, riots, dirt or filth, but in something that will last," said Sorenson. "It has taken him 25 years to learn this skill."

But Thomson's paintings have not sold well during his Lincoln show that began two weeks ago and will end Nov. 12.

Sorenson thinks it may be because most people associate art with oil painting, and watercolor plays a poor second. The state of the economy also prevents many people from buying, she said.

If appreciation of fine watercolor work is to grow and overshadow the cheaper mass produced prints, Sorenson believes it may be through the attitudes of today's college student.

"The college students have placed a value on something that's real—they've had enough of the plastic," she said.

The Gallery's next show begins Nov. 14 and will feature oil paintings by Julia Saski and watercolors by Evelyn Haines. Mrs. Saski's husband is presently a UNL professor.

A reception for the artists will be held Nov. 14 from 3-5 p.m. at the Haymarket Gallery. Students are encouraged to attend, Sorenson said.

Weber leads Tuesday "rap-in"

Weekly "rap-in" sessions may eventually replace the familiar ASUN and Nebraska Union Hyde Park discussions, according to ASUN Sen. Bill Behmer, Hyde Park chairman.

Behmer, who has advocated the change from the free-for-all Hyde Park discussions to the more directed rap-ins, has announced a rap-in for Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. in the Nebraska Union.

This week's leader will be Prof. James Weber, of the department of chemical engineering. Weber will talk about technological assessment.

Behmer said the rap-in would discuss such questions as "can man accurately predict the long-term effects of the new technology, and if not can he use restraint in applying it until such long-term effects are known?"

"We are on the verge of being able to alter the genetic characteristics of man," Behmer said. "Is this desirable, and can it have adverse effects on society?"

Behmer said another question that could be discussed concerns the ecological crisis. "It has now been shown that the chemical replacing phosphates in detergents is more harmful than phosphates themselves," Behmer said. "In this case, has the cure to a problem been more harmful than the original problem?"

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