

Arts & Entertainment



Courtesy of the Nebraska Art Association
Diana of the Tower

Two works donated to Sheldon Gallery

A landscape by George Inness, "Farmhouse" (1894), and a bronze figure, "Diana of the Tower" (1899), by Augustus Saint Gaudens were recently donated to the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery through the Nebraska Art Association as part of that association's celebration of its upcoming centennial, said president Art Thompson.

The works were donated by a Lincoln resident in honor of Lorraine LeMar Rohman.

Inness, a 19th century landscape painter, began his career in the detailed style of the Hudson River School. After several extended trips to Europe, however, he was led to what one critic called a "civilized landscape."

"Farmhouse," (from the last year of the artist's life) is an example of Inness' "signature style," form that synthesizes the "material and the spiritual" of nature.

Gaudens, the son of a poor French shoemaker, developed a personal style which overthrew the polished idealized forms of Neo-classicism, and incorporated a revitalized naturalism absorbed from the masterworks of the Renaissance sculptor Donatello.

The work given to the Sheldon marks one of the sculptor's most notable steps in this direction.

The original "Diana of the Tower" was made for the top of the Madison Square Garden, in New York where it stood (in a version over 12 feet high) until 1925. That work now stands on the staircase of the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

The two newly-acquired works are currently on display at Sheldon on the board room of the NAA. Sheldon hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 12 to 5 p.m., Sunday from 2 to 9 p.m., and Thursday through Saturday from 7 to 9 p.m.

Armful of albums worth a full weekend of listening

By Charles Lieurance
Senior Reporter

Albums by some of my favorite bands hit the record stores last week. With my arms loaded with Johnny Thunders, The Violent Femmes and The Church, I cloistered myself away in my dorm room, forgot to shave, bathe or perform any other hygiene functions and emerged Monday spewing opinion and praise. I picked up The Cult's LP, "Love," too, but my rage at its total lack of ideas and energy is, as yet, inexpressible.

Record Review

Johnny Thunders, "Que Sera, Sera," Jungle Records

Out of the heroin-soaked landscape of New York's "punk" scene, staggers another of former New York Doll Johnny Thunders' testaments that life goes on. The title ("Whatever will be, will be"); the opening cut, "Short Lives (. . . make good movies)" and Thunders' incessant clinging to clumsily played, distortion-ridden Chuck Berry riff, all serve to paint a big happy face over "the needle and the damage done."

Thunders has seen Sid Vicious ride the pale horse of addiction into the sunset with television's Richard Lloyd, a couple of Ramones and Lou Reed running along behind, trying hard to catch up. All for the sake of punk sincerity.

With a few former Dolls backing him up and Patti Palladin sharing vocals, Thunders isn't eulogizing like Lloyd, or ignoring the horrific mainline like the Ramones. He just keeps pumping rock 'n' roll up the big vein until the opium and self-destruction is flushed out.

Pere Ubu, "Terminal Tower," Twin Tone

"Terminal Tower" is an archival collection of Pere Ubu songs from 1978 to 1982 and it contains some of the band's most accessible tunes right alongside screamingly bizarre techno-oddities like "30 Seconds



Courtesy of Warner Bros.

Over Tokyo" and "Lonesome Cowboy Dave."

Named after the surrealist play by Alfred Jarry, Pere Ubu is Da Da rock at its most profound; experimental, conceptual rock with a point and a hook. The music is genuinely entertaining, moving from tightly structured pop and ska into irretrievable madness within the space of one of Thomas' patented squeaks.

Now that New Wave has produced such shock-troopers as Psychic TV, Cabaret Voltaire and Scraping Foetus off the Wheel, Pere Ubu may sound like flagrantly Adamic old popsters in comparison. But, hey, everything starts somewhere. Whether Ubu is the chicken or the egg is a mute point.

The Church, "Heyday," Warner

"Heyday," The Church's sixth high mass, despite some lulls in the service, does not disappoint.

The Church's albums rarely catch you on the first try. All the beautiful melodies and guitar filigree just seem directionless. On the second listen, things become clearer. Choruses and verses become evident in the sparkling mix. The magic number three is essential to the conversion. Hooks latch on and won't let go. Every sound — the tinkling percussion, the wash of horns and the electric harp guitar sound — create a warm, hypnotic texture.

The flaws in "Heyday" are unfortunate and they break the sacred mood too often. But most of the highlights on the LP come in pairs, so there's always a good ten minutes of euphoria before something dull intercedes.

Violent Femmes, "The Blind Leading the Naked," Slash/Warner

See RECORDS on 8

Nihilism threatens mankind, potatoes

Nihilism. 1. a: a viewpoint that traditional values and beliefs are unfounded and that existence is senseless and useless. 2. a doctrine or belief that conditions in the social organization are so bad as to make destruction desirable for its own sake independent of any constructive program or possibility.

— Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary



Stew Magnuson

Some people have called me a pessimist. Some people have called me a cynic. But I like to think that I've grown beyond these traits, that I've matured in my negativism. I think I've found the ultimate dark, despairing attitude towards life, Nihilism.

Essential to nihilistic thought is the firm belief that the world will soon come to an end, and soon, like, before next Tuesday (if we're lucky).

Nihilists are positive that the end is near simply because there are so many ways that the world can self-destruct. Here's a list of the top ten ways the world will come to an end, taken from a

readers poll in Nihilists Weekly, which ceased publication last week due to the editor's conviction that the "big one" was just around the corner.

1. **Nuclear war.** Nuclear holocaust has topped the reader's polls for the past 40 years. Just because the super powers are talking about reducing nuclear arms doesn't mean this isn't a threat. A nihilist will never forget that any crazed terrorist can carry a nuclear bomb inside a suitcase and wipe us all out in a matter of seconds.

2. **Greenhouse Effect.** This scientific theory says that the massive amounts of pollution being released into our atmosphere will trap solar heat, melt the ice caps, and destroy the environment. And don't think that just because the earth is warmer you can go to the beach everyday. The ocean's level will raise 20 feet. No more beaches!

3. **The Next Ice Age.** You've been hearing about it for years. The whole world will be covered with a sheet of ice two miles thick. Scientists now all agree that the Ice Age is coming, it's just a matter of when. And anyone who says the Greenhouse Effect is going to melt away the Ice Age is just a lousy optimist, and not to be listened to.

4. **A Mad Scientist.** You've seen them on science fiction movies so don't be so sure they don't exist. Remember the hero in these films narrowly prevents the wholesale destruction of the planet earth usually only by seconds. What if the hero misses his train, or

can't get a taxi, and one of these deranged geniuses actually succeeds?

5. **Potato Blight.** Without potatoes, let's face it, human beings could no longer exist.

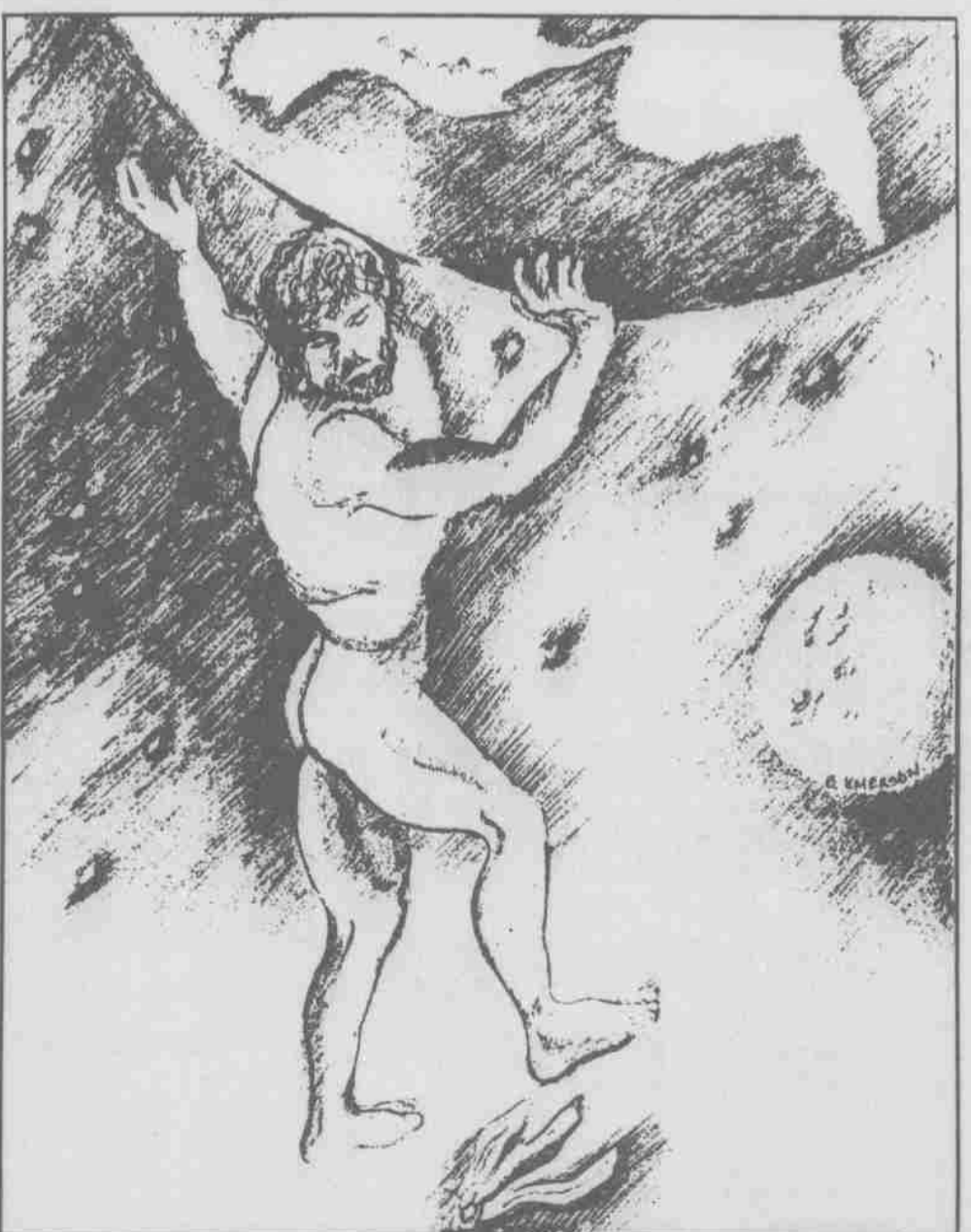
6. **Armageddon.** This Biblical explanation of the end of the world has been popular for years with the religious crowd. But true Nihilists believe man is capable of destroying himself without the help of God.

7. **Sexually Transmitted diseases.** Just when people were finally getting over the guilt over having sex, we get a slew of diseases. Soon there will probably be a disease so deadly that no one will engage in any sexual acts and the whole human race will simply die out.

8. **Overpopulation.** Overpopulation is the direct cause of nuclear war, famine, the greenhouse effect, sexually transmitted diseases, crowded buses, hassles with your roommate and the common cold.

9. **Alien Invasions by Creatures From Another Universe.** An outside shot, but still a very real possibility for some nihilists into low budget films of the '50s.

10. **Mass Hysteria Caused By Any of the Above.** As an example, potato blight could send people into the streets rioting when they realize they can no longer eat french fries, potato chips or tater tots. If they believed that the Soviets were responsible for the blight, it could be the issue that would set off "the big one."



Beth Emerson/Daily Nebraskan