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THE GALLERY COMMITTEE OF HARPUR COLLEGE PRESENTS PAINTINGS, DRAWINGS, SCULPTURE BY

## ELDRED

HARPUR COLLEGE GALLERY

OPENING - APRIL 30, 3:00 PM

CLOSING - MAY 13

Some six years ago The Fine Arts Society of the Roberson Memorial had what they called a "Paint Off." Upon a huge canvas set up in their meeting room, the members of the Society were expected to draw or paint improvisationally (individually or in joint effort). Working unobtrusively if not obliviously in one corner was Charles Eldred, then a high school senior. His subject was a knight with helmet. Keith Martin introduced him as a talent worth watching, a prediction eminently verified by this present exhibition.

Since then Eldred has taken a degree in art at Harpur College. At present he teaches in the Susquehanna Valley School system and in several years plans to go to graduate school. But whatever his occupation may be, student or teacher, he continues to actively produce works in sculpture, drawing, gouache, wood cut, or oil, clear evidence that the love of doing and the need for doing are of primary importance to him.

Openly and adeptly absorbing the teachings of his peers, he has nevertheless shown a strong personal bent in subject matter and mood. The wistful creatures of Mary Demeter, the telling line of Marshall Glasier, and the intriguing ideology of Irving Zupnick have all left their marks somewhere in Eldred's output. This is as it should be, for a young artist should be sensitive to the best his teachers have to offer. However, these marks have been neither indelible nor overwhelming: for if he has not transcended them all in the process of absorption, he has certainly put them to his own account and given them his own accent. As time goes by he produces more and more works which primarily reflect his own sly wit, his uniquely sensitive line, and his almost Calderesque spirit of technical inventiveness.

Eldred calls his recent works his "Catacomb art," a title given in jest and partly because he produced them in his grandfather's cellar. He would have us understand that his recent treatments of the Crucifixion and Saint George should innoway be understood as religious art. One does not know whether to take this admonition also as jest or to interpret it as a cover-up device of a fundamentally shy personality. Of late he has threatened to form a "Black Riders" group. This is an inverted reference to the Blue Riders of Munich (1911-1914) and shows both an awareness of history and a sense of rebelliousness against the burden of history — against the overwhelming presence of the old masters of the twentieth century.

There are several works in this exhibit which clearly indicate that Eldred has become a rebel, albeit, as we would expect, a mild rebel. He does not lunge off in a new direction for the sake of pure revolt, but carefully steps off the shoulders of his past achievements into new areas which, by their unusual nature, almost deny their foundation. This is a good sign for he could easily fall as an artist into the arms of his own natural facility. The painting "Little Girls Die of Cancer" with its forceful crudities and vigor rejects that handsomeness of execution which has characterized so many of his earlier works: it shows that he has new things to say which need newness of expression, and that this new direction is worth a slapping of the face of his previous successes.

It is significant that the Gallery Committee has asked Charles Eldred to return to exhibit at the Annual Student Art Fair, for it proves that he has an audience in his own generation, and an audience — let it be said — that has no ulterior motives.

Kenneth C. Lindsay



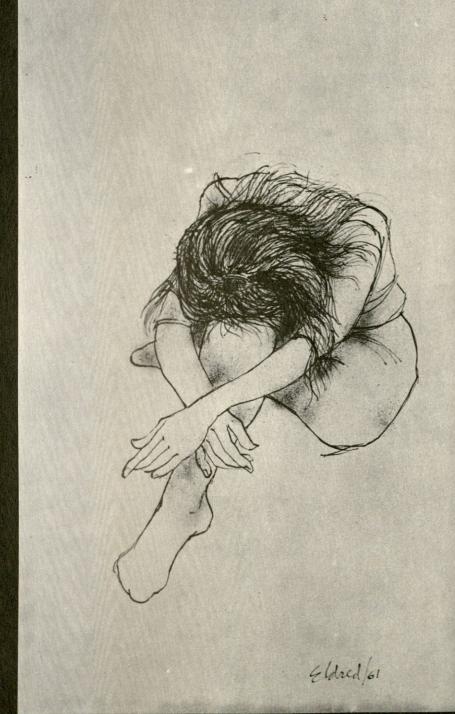
CARD PLAYERS, 1960



LITTLE GIRLS DIE OF CANCER, 1961

## CATALOGUE

PAINTINGS	
1.	Crucifixion I, gouache
2.	Three Women, gouache
3.	Prometheus, gouache
4.	Study for a Crucifixion, gouache
5.	Yes We Like Abstract Expressionism, watercolor
6.	Water Flowers, silk colors
7.	Little Girls Die of Cancer, collage
SCULPT	URE
8.	Three Figures, wood
9.	Death on a Pale Horse I
10.	Death on a Pale Horse II
11.	Three Headed Winged Dragon, copper
12.	Crucifixion and Candlelabra, wire
PASTELS	
13.	Small Primavera
14.	Small Primavera II
15.	Small Blue Landscape
16.	Landscape with Red
17.	Statenislandscape
18.	Abstract with Rust
DRAWINGS	
19.	Don Quixote
	Collection of Charlotte Montalbano
20.	Portrait of a Young Girl
	Collection of Noel Wise
21.	George vs. Dragon I
22.	George vs. Dragon II
23.	George vs. Dragon III
24.	George vs. Two Dragons
25.	Card Players
0.6	Collection of Mr. and Mrs. Dominick Montalbano
26. 27.	Girl with Hand on Knee
28.	Girl with Barette
29.	Forty Dark Balloons
30.	Girl with String Instrument
31.	Woman with Vegetables
32.	Dancer
33.	Young Dancer
34.	Seated Woman
35.	Bathers II
36.	Bathers II
37.	Old Woman
38.	Crucifizion
00.	Crucifixion
39.	Odalisque
40.	Collection of Linda K. Dunning Woodcut: Three Figures, unprinted1961
-0.	moducut. Three rightes, disprinted



GIRL WITH BARETTE, 1961

