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Hilton Kramer, The New York



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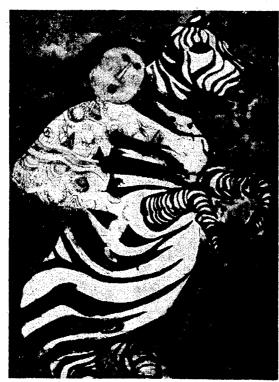
## Field Work Lecture Series

"A Look at Man's Past By David Pendergast An illustrated description of Maya

Free with Museum admission

civilization based on ROM's excavations at Altun Ha, British Honduras (Belize). Sunday, Oct. 17, 2:30 p.m. ROM Theatre

KENNETH LOCHHEAD



## Signs, symbols, stripes



Le Zebre, print by Graciela Rodo Boulanger, at Gallery Pascal; right, portion of travelling AGO exhibition, Signs and Symbols.

#### AT THE GALLERIES

# Fact-filled exhibition wide in scope

By KAY KRITZWISER

CRUSADER scratches a cross on a Jerusalem wall and an astronaut plants a flag on the moon and that orggives you an idea of the time scope of Signs and Symbols, the exhibition organized by the Art Gallery of Ontario's extension department to travel major centres of

the province up to June 30, 1972.

The exhibition is fundamentally educational, but so lively, so full of chances to fiddle with things or peer into slots or listen to sounds, so bursting with fascinating information about our world, you never once feel you're having facts crammed down your throat.

This is because the signs are ours-the means of communication man has produced since the day he was a grunting artist crouching in a cave. The symbols are ours too, from the immeasurable ages when man drew a circle to mean the sun, up to today, when Warhol's blurred face of Marilyn Monroe means a sexy goddess.

Signs and Symbols' first stop is the Agnes Etherington Art Centre of Queen's University in Kingston, where it will remain to Oct. 24. The red brick gallery itself is rooted in a symbol, since it evolves gracefully from a beautiful Victorian house, once the family home of Agnes Richardson Etherington. The home has been left exactly as it was when Mrs. Etherington, wife of Dr. Frederick Etherington, once dean of medicine at Queen's, bequeathed it as an art and music centre in

The new addition, where Signs and Symbols may be seen, was opened in 1962. The old, a symbol of sometimes forgotten gracious living, links with the new centre, which has to be mighty flexible to be a symbol of what goes on in the name of art

in the art world today.

In this art centre, the AGO exhibition is crowded, but somehow that suits the conglomerate world most of us operate in to-

Signs and Symbols is presented in five categories, each related to man: religion. science, communication, identification and

The entrance introduction is good, for you walk through Merton F. Chambers' narrow hanging batik panels, where a gorgeous eye dominates the gold background. You feel, properly, as though beyond the eye is a temple, a treasure house of man's knowledge.

community.

But because of the crowded format, it's difficult to keep the categories defined. I went from ancient crosses to the beat-up before I discovered that I was out of religion and into science—but no matter. It's not a serious fault if you keep your wits and eyes about you, for the documentation

is good.

Much of the exhibit is based on photographs, but there's a lot of authentic and fascinating loan material. (The old Old Dutch Cleanser sign, the white dog listening to Victor records, eighteenth century trade signs.)

pieces, among them Tony Urquhart, Ted Bieler, Zbigniew Blazeje, Francois Dalle-gret, Michael Hayden, Merton F. Cham-bers and John MacGregor. But you can also find work by other Canadians like Robert Downing (Symbols Game), David Souliere, Michael Mitchell, Margot Ariss, Dennis Burton and Michael Snow (posters), Justin de Santos, Greg Curnoe and Jack Chambers (in the slides of symbols in contemporary art.)

Find your own thing-that's the idea be-

There's an intriguing display of potters' marks by Canadian potters. I liked the Civic Garden Centre's display of the language of flowers. (The peony means Bashful Shame.) And John MacGregor's big sculpture, Stairs turning into Table turning into Door (a good piece without the forced symbolism often in his work). And the sun paintings by children of Mayfield Secondary school. And Michael Hayden's happy floating photos of himself.

AGO's extension department is directed by William Forsey, who credited Signs and Symbols' concept to Anita Aarons, a Toronto art consultant, who worked with Allan Fleming, Toronto graphics designer, on the exhibition. Thomas Lamb and Associates did the design and Glenda Milrod was coordinator and researcher.

Ralph Allen, who surely is some kind of a symbol of a contemporary miracle worker, is director of the Agnes Etherington Art Centre, with a staff of three: his assistant, a curator and preparator and a secretary. He sat around a pot of tea with staff mempers and the rest of us (Forsey, Claire Haggan, AGO's extension services co-ordinator) in the white lobby of the centre, and talked. It was not idle tea-time chatter.

Ontario galleries, Allen said, are in danger of becoming depressed areas, manned by inadequate, exhausted staffs. "Gallery emphasis today is on people and the importance of life style, not on collections. The province is simply not coming across with the funds to provide for gallery systems. The demand is there. We've created the demands. But provincial people (the government, Ontario Arts Council) haven't caught up with us."

Ontario galleries eligible for travelling exhibitions from the Art Gallery of Ontario and the National Gallery of Canada are, in effect, expected to run their operations on the same lines, but without the funds or staff to do it. Allen's centre takes exhibitions like Signs and Symbols. It has also originated two major exhibitions: the David Milne exhibition to mark Canada's rospective launched in 1970 and due at the

Winnipeg Art Gallery this month.
"We show films, lectures, 15 to 20 exhibitions a year, run a rental program, a student program. We get 500 to 600 people out to evening classes. We regularly break atrecords with travelling exhibitendance tions like this one. But how long can our staffs keep up the strain? Directors are being forced to look elsewhere for an end to the endless strain of the gallery proThey've become a depressed area

Provincial galleries dependent upon grants and individual contributions have been over-extended for the past five years, Allen said. "It was part of the general optimism of the cultural expansion resulting from our Centennial year. We get sympathy, but we get no financial promises."

Allen links the gallery's contemporary role with the larger one of cultural preservation. "The richness of life ultimately determines whether we survive or not," he said. Allen has great faith in what Canadian artists can do toward survival. "They've only been clipped back financially, not creatively."

#### OTHER GALLERIES

Doris Pascal by sheer happenstance met Graciela Rodo Boulanger in Paris last summer and thus the show of prints by the Bolivian-born artist at Gallery Pascal. Mrs. Boulanger, a former concert pianist, has been a printmaker in Paris since 1961. She chose the prints for the Toronto exhibition from her own collection of artists' proofs.

Obviously, she enjoys hugely the capture of texture, for it is such an important element in her work. Similarly, the spontaneity of children delights her, as does the textural challenge in the zebras, cows and goats which appear in so many prints. Mrs. Boulanger studied with Friedlaender in Paris and his technique is traceable in her work, but it doesn't overshadow her contribution of color and verve.

An artist who shows and has won awards in the international print biennals, she works in the atelier once occupied by sculptor Aristide Maillol. Here she is surrounded by a grand piano and pre-Columbian artifacts, while she does her vivid prints. Her work will be at Gallery Pascal until Oct.

At Carmen Lamanna Gallery, Jacques Hurtubise shows four big paintings including Nazarine, a staggering 360 inches long. The paintings are in a very black mood for Hurtubise compared with the crackling electricity of recent work, or the tender colors of paintings before that. There is even hostility behind his brutal application of black, as though he had tried to blot out those earlier ideas. The colors which do manage to get out from behind the black have become sharper. There's something left over here to resolve. But what?

At Roberts Gallery, Bruno Bobak has had a tremendous orgy of flower painting, but there's nothing soft, nothing sissy here. All kinds of painterly things are going on in his and the petals are only an excuse for the flat abstraction of his fat brush strokes

The small paintings of sweet peas and nicotina are less assaulted than the larger compositions. (So are we. They're \$200 as compared with \$2,000 for the big bouquet.) His New Brunswick scenes are, by contrast, at the other end of the color scale. They're dark, monotone, very moody, very unre lieved, but truer perhaps than the lilacs and apple blossoms

POLLOCK GALLERY

GALLERY 76

day to Nov. 7.

Genevieve Claisse, Paris, to

Agnes Ivan, paintings, draw ings. At 76 McCaul St.

Robert Bourdeau, to Oct. 31. At 11 Charles St. W.

WALTER ENGEL GALLERY
The Spell of Latin America, to-

Erindale: Paul R a in e y, Oak-ville, today to Nov. 14. Scarborough College: Paul Henry, Keith Johnson, ends Monday, Feliciano Bejar, Hon-orio Morales, to Nov. 7. Victorio College, Alumni Hall:

UNIVERSITY GALLERIES

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# **ROBERTS GALLERY**

## **BRUNO BOBAK**

LAST DAY

LEON BELLEFLEUR

OPENS WEDNESDAY

641 YONGE STREET 924-8731

## ART CALENDAR

ART GALLERY OF ONTARIO Edouard Vuillard, retrospective, to Oct. 24. The Art of Tom Thomson, retrospective, Oct. 30 to Dec. 12.
ALBERT WHITE GALLERY

Stefan Bergmann, today to AGGREGATION Doreen Foster, The Way Home, ends today. Michael Davis, Michael Robinson, Tony Tudin,

An Whitlock, Óct. 18 to Nov ADAMS GALLERY Jane Martin, paintings, to Oct.

BALDWIN STREET GALLERY Manitoulin Communes, photos by Jeremy Cooper, to Oct. 25. CARMEN LAMANNA GAL-

Jacques Hurtubise, to Oct. 28.
CANADIAN FINE ARTISTS GALLERY F. Carmichael, F. Johnston, J. W. Beatty, Gary Slipper and Joach im Gauthier, At 3336

Yonge St. LA CIMAISE Lithos, silkscreens, Braque to

Wunderlich.

ART IN THE PARK Ramsden Park, tomorrow, 11 a.m. to dusk, final out door

show. Dunkelman gallery Kenneth Lochhead, ends today. Sol Lewitt, opens Oct. 23. GALERIE DRESDNERE Haluo Miyauchi, ends today
DAVID MIRVISH GALLERY Morris Louis, Veils, ends today.

DESIGN PRODUCTS

Leila Hietala, medals; Armas Hutri, sculpture, photographs. To Oct. 30. At 351 Danforth ELECTRIC GALLERY Juan Downey, to Nov. 4. EATON'S GALLERY

Mary Schneider, G. Otto and R. C. Pannell, to Oct. 23. At Col-FREDERICK THOM GALLERIES Nineteenth Century pointings.

GRACE CHURCH ON-THE-Nineteenth art sale, Oct. 20-

21, 7 to 10 p.m. At Lonsdale and Russell Hill roads.

Ben Woolfitt, paintings, to

and Russell Hill roads.
HART HOUSE GALLERY

HOLY BLOSSOM TEMPLE Montreal, Toronto artists, to

True Patriot Love, Joyce Wie-INNUIT GALLERY KAR GALLERY

Andrew Donato, paintings, ends today. At Beckett Gallery, to Oct 21 LILLIAN MORRISON
GALLERY Julius Damasdy, Southern Im

pressions, to Oct. 18.
GALLERY MOOS Carl Bucher, sculpture, to Oct. MORRIS GALLERY Frederick Varley, paintings,

McMICHAEL COLLECTION Group of Seven and Contemporaries. Open Tuesday, to Sunday, 1 to 5:30 p.m. Closed Monday, At Kleinburg.

MERTON GALLERY James Gordaneer, paintings, to

Oct. 30.
NANCY POOLE'S STUDIO

Aba Bayefsky, prints, Legends.

O'KEEFE CENTRE Rothmans World Tapestries, open to public, Wednesday, Friday, Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m. To PICTURE LOAN GALLERY

PENELL GALLERY

Gallery artists.

GALLERY PASCAL Graciela Rodo Boulanger, Paris, to Oct. 20. Eva Landori, opens ROYAL ONTARIO MUSEUM

Bert Weir, Soundless Sound, to-day to Oct. 30.

Canadian handwoven textiles, to Oct. 31. Susan Ross, People of the North, portraits, to Oct. RIPPLES Michael Fernandes, water-colors, Oct. 20 to Nov. 4. At

3453 Yonge St.
ROBERTS GALLERY Bruno Bobak, ends today.
SHAW-RIMMINGTON GALLERY

Don. Pentz, ends to morrow.
Barrie Shaw-Rimmington,
bronzes, People on the Move;
Alice Waywell, watercolors,
Oct. 18-31.

Victoria College, Alumni Hall: James Paget, paintings, drawings, to Oct. 29. Faculty of Architecture, 230 College St: R o bert Bateman, paintings, Oct. 20 to Nov. 1. VALHALLA INN Elaine Sugar, Elaine Wai paintings, today to Nov. 16. MITCHELL GALLERY

Richard Cross, to Oct. 23.