

# ACC Teacher And Alumnus Wins High Honor In Annual Exhibition Of North Carolina Artists

## Russell Arnold's Entry Ranks In Top Six

By JO ANN MOORE

A painting by Mr. Russell Arnold was one of six art works awarded recognition in the recent state art exhibit in Raleigh.

From over two hundred entries, eighty-five were chosen for exhibition. Six were recommended for purchase. Mr. Arnold's painting, "Portrait of Judas," was one of these.

"The title," says Mr. Arnold, "has only indirect reference to the content of the painting. It is a type of symbolic abstractionism with an overtone of surrealism." The painting was done during the summer of '52. Through a process of change and study, it took the whole summer to complete it.

Mr. Arnold is greatly interested in the work of the State Art Gallery. He wants to help build up the quality of painting in the state and encourage public interest in North Carolina Art.

### Contrast

Four art students went with Mr. Arnold and Mr. Fulghum to Raleigh, December 10, for the exhibition. They were Margaret Newbern, Eunice Perry, Jo Ann Moore, and Clayton Robertson. One of the striking features the students noticed about the exhibit was the contrast between contemporary and realistic art. The contemporary type of art seemed much more alive than the realistic, or traditionally acceptable type of art.

This annual exhibit has received increasing importance in contemporary art development in the state. Said Howard Thomas a member of the Jury, "It was not long after the Jury began looking at the work submitted that we realized the general character of the Exhibition was to be on a high level of excellence."

In addition to the regular entries, there were two invited entries. Francis Speight and Hobson Pittman, both native North Carolinians, though now of Philadelphia, entered paintings.

This was the Sixteenth North Carolina Artist's Annual Exhibition. The State Art Society sponsored its first competitive exhibit for North Carolina Artists in December, 1946.

### Purposes

The three initial purposes of the competition are:

1. To give our artists special incentive to work.
2. To increase in art and our own artists.
3. To build a collection of contemporary North Carolina Art for the State Art Gallery.

Three entries were purchased for

the collection this year.

These were:

1. **Great Horned Owl**, a sculpture by Going Back Chiltosky, an Indian from Cherokee.
2. **Night Trawlers**, a painting by John Chapman Lewis of Washington, D. C.
3. **Night Flight**, a painting by Kenneth Ness of Chapel Hill.

The awards collection, with these three additions, now includes twenty paintings and two sculptures. The six recommendations for purchase were made by a jury of three. This year's jurors were Helen Boswell, art critic and writer from Birmingham; Howard Thomas, painter, teacher, and Acting Head of the Department of Art at the University of Georgia, Athens; Richard Howard, Director of the Birmingham Museum of Art.

Other recommendations for purchase consideration were **Fish Nets**, a painting by Claude Howell of Wilmington and **City Night**, a painting by Joe Chris Robertson of Mars Hill.

The Purchase Committee members were Mabel Pugh, painter and Art Department Head at Peace College, Raleigh; Robert U. Broderson, painter and Instructor in Art Education and Studio at Duke University, Durham; James W. Fitzgibbon, architect, painter, and Professor of Architecture at N. C. State College, Raleigh; Lucy Cherry Crisp, Director of the State Art Gallery, was a member "Ex Officio."

This was not the first time Mr. Arnold has exhibited work in the State Gallery. In 1950 he had a painting on exhibition there.

Previous to coming to ACC he exhibited in a number of group shows in New York. He had a one man show in painting and collage at the Willow Tree Gallery in Paterson, New Jersey. Another one man show of his work was at Pearson Hall Art Gallery at Chapel Hill.

He has sold seven paintings. One was sold to the owner of the Willow Tree Gallery. He received two purchase options from the Art Student's League Gallery.

### Versatile Student

An alumnus of ACC, Mr. Arnold has interest in other creative fields as well as art. While in school here, he worked with Stage and Script. Under the guidance of Dr. Hartsock, he did quite a bit of experimental writing.

His greatest hobby is experimental writing. He has written two books. "Neither were published,

which," he says laughingly, "probably proves I'm no good." He has also written poetry, and essays on art. Three of the essays were published in the Art Student's League Quarterly Annual.

Sculpture, furniture design, commercial art layout, and architectural design are among his other accomplishments.

August 18, 1943 he graduated from ACC. Three days later he reported to the Chicago Division of Northwestern University for midshipman school. He received his commission at Plattsburg, New York.

### Captain of LST

Captain of LST during the war, he served overseas in the Pacific. In June 1946, he was again a civilian.

He spent four years studying at the Art Student's League in New York. While there, he studied six months at a private school under Hans Hoffman. One of the early abstractionists, the elderly German born Hoffman is considered by some the world's best known art teacher.

Mr. Arnold spent a year at the University of North Carolina. There he received his Master's Degree in Fine Arts. He was one of the first students to take part in the Master of Arts and Creative Arts program, a new program of post graduate work in art. Out of six participating, only four got degrees.

### Family of Artists

Not to be the only artist in the family, Mr. Arnold married a fashion artist. He met his while they were both studying at the League. Their 18 month old daughter, Debbie, though not yet an artist, is an art critic. She goes from one of her father's paintings to another studying them thoughtfully. Already she has picked a favorite which she delights in standing and looking at.

Mr. Arnold is one of the artists listed to work with the state chapter of the Architectural Institute of America. This list was compiled by Dean Kamphoefner of the School of Design at State College. He listed "competent quality" artists whom he knew of that architects could contact for murals, frescos, sculpture and any other art work that is actually part of the building.

When asked if large paintings such as murals become tiresome to work on, Mr. Arnold says he prefers big areas. In New York he did a combined mural and mobile in a store on the East Side. The store was a combination delicatessen, bar, and restaurant. This mural, measuring 12' by 40', was primarily painted in black, white, grey, red and blue. Modern entertainment in the United States was the theme.



## Hopes To Win \$250 Plus A Lifetime Supply of Motor Oil

Nancy Mularky, University of Maryland Junior, who was chosen one of the "ten most beautiful co-eds" by a national magazine, puts her mind to the subject of "Oil Conservation For National Defense." As an entrant in a national essay contest on that subject she hopes to win \$250 in cash plus a lifetime supply of re-refined motor oil for her car, part of which is shown above. Undergraduate students are eligible to enter the contest which will award a number of cash prizes plus thousands of quarts of premium quality motor oil. Students desiring to enter the Contest may write: Association of Petroleum Re-Refiners, 1917 Eye Street N.W., Washington 8, D. C.

### Pet Hope

His pet hope is to paint a big mural on campus based on the Disciples of Christ. It would cover the period from the beginning of the denomination to the present day.

In the fall of 1951, Mr. Arnold came to ACC as Assistant Professor in Art. He has been Editorial Advisor of the *Pine Knot* for two years. In this status he has done a lot to improve the quality of the book. He has served on the Sophomore Guidance Program for two years and last year was a member of the Executive Board of the Student Co-operative Association.

An active member of the Junior Birdwatchers of America, Mr. Arnold considers this one of the most important organizations on the campus. Other members are Allan Sharp, Joe Woodworth, Velva Pearce, and Ray Tissot. Officers are Velva Pearce— "She's president or secretary. Anyway she

calls the roll." Meetings are held every afternoon in the gym during basketball practice. The Birdwatchers are avid fans of the Bulldogs. Their main purpose is to promote school spirit, enthusiasm, and support for the team.

Students have seen a lot of Mr. Arnold's art work other than his paintings. Some of these things include the Statue of Liberty used in May Day last year, the cover for the college bulletin, and the nativity scene on display during Christmas.

Asked about future plans, Mr. Arnold says, "Activities here have practically kept me from painting in the past year, but I have a lot of work planned and sketches for several paintings."

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