

"Vietnam: Reflexes And Reflections" Paints A New Picture For Vietnam

Television brought images of Vietnam to American homes during the 1960s and 1970s. Body counts. Massacres. Heroism. Death. All reported, night after night, on the news.

Those who fought and survived have sought their own ways of dealing with and sharing the images they remember. One solution, the creation of works of art, comes to television in a program airing on The University of North Carolina Center for Public Television at 10 p.m., Thursday, May 30.

"Vietnam: Reflexes and Reflections" explores the American experience in Vietnam through the brushes, cameras and pens of men who survived. The 30-minute program is an original production of the Center.

The program defines the common bond these artists forged through their experiences in Vietnam, painting a picture of what they did to survive there, as well as how they made their adjustment to civilian life back home.

"They get the point of view of the veteran who actually pulled the trigger in the war, the guy who dropped the bombs, they guy who threw the hand grenade during this war," explains artist and veteran Cleveland Wright of Kernersville, N.C. "This is our view of what we did in Vietnam."

"Vietnam: Reflexes and Reflections" was taped during the 1984 exhibition in Burlington, N.C., of works by the Vietnam Veterans Arts Group, including paintings, prints, photography, sculpture, cartoons, drawings and poetry. The art and words of the artists themselves tell the various stories of the Vietnam experience.

"It's irrelevant of why were there. There was some sadness, but there are nice memories as well as the bad memories," points out Frank Dahmer, another artist featured in the program.

The Vietnam Veterans Arts Group was founded

when a handful of Chicago-based veterans, who were also artists, realized their common link. The group staged a small exhibition at a Chicago gallery. When other veterans saw the exhibit, they began to pull their own art work out of their closets and basements and joined the group.

Most of the art is not for sale, since the works were

created for personal reasons, perhaps as a tribute to a lost friend or as a way of coping with memories of war. And it is art that goes beyond battle lines; the group has opened its membership to North Vietnamese combat artists.

"Vietnam: Reflexes and Reflections" was produced and directed by M. J. Sheehan of The UNC Center for Public Television.



"Waiting For Medic"
.....By Broderick



THE
POST

Something To
Smile About!

Deejays Will "Unban" Wonder

Orlando, Fla. - General managers, program directors and on-air personalities at black radio stations across the U.S. this week were asked by black music trade newsletter publisher Jack Gibson to give superstar Stevie Wonder a one-of-a-kind music birthday present this year.

Gibson, known in the black radio and music industries as "Jack the Rapper," said that overwhelming response to his idea that all stations play a one-hour salute to Stevie in answer to the South African ban on Stevie's music after the superstar singer accepted an Academy Award for "Best Song of

the Year" in the name of Nelson Mandela, the black leader now jailed in South Africa, shows the esteem in which Stevie Wonder is held.

"What a fabulous thing it will be on May 13 at high noon (12 p.m. EST, 11 a.m. CST, 10 a.m. MST, and 9 a.m. PST), when all the disc jockeys open their microphones and say, in unison, "Happy birthday,

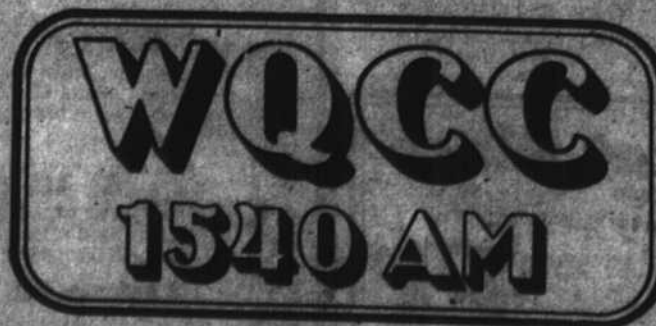
dear brother Stevie Wonder, and for the next hour play nothing but Stevie Wonder records," Jack told the Orlando television news crew on hand to film his statements on poverty in America.



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