

Arts and Ideas

Visiting painter deals in Americana genre

In the past, all paintings were narrative paintings. Between 400 A.D. and 1400 A.D. it was the Bible that provided the stories the painters illustrated.

Michelangelo painted the grandest illustrations of this kind. Travellers to Rome can find them there today, in the Sistine Chapel.

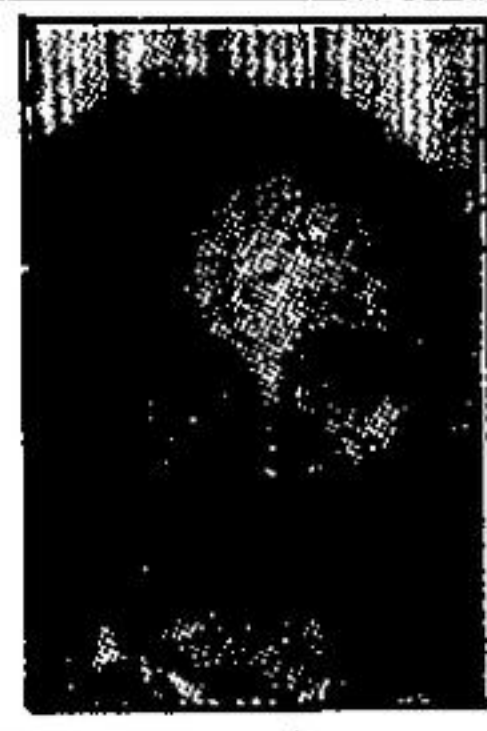
After 1400 A.D. other themes became the vogue of the more secular age. Soon Greek and Roman gods and goddesses and their exploits covered the walls and ceilings of the palaces erected by powerful princes. Later the rich merchants in Holland wanted small, intimate paintings that depicted the domestic and

public life of their towns. With that, genre painting as we know it was born.

Adriaen Brouwer (1605-1638), Jan Steen (1626-1679), and Pieter de Hooch (1629-1684), are artists that come to mind when we think of this period.

Later still, painters like Antoine Watteau (1684-1721) and Nicolas Lancret (1690-1743) painted pictures of festive gatherings in ravishing parks and gardens, far removed from the toil and hunger of the peasant, outside the park gate. During the Victorian period genre painting declined.

Sententious moralizing is not a good foundation for art making,



Ideas and The Arts

by John Sommer

which is the reason that we prefer today the paintings of Edouard Manet (1832-1883) to the paintings of William Holman Hunt (1827-1910), to give an example.

In America, however, several genre painters produced works of a very high order all through the 19th century.

Three painters in particular, should be mentioned here: George Bingham (1811-1879), Winslow Homer (1836-1910) and Thomas Eakins (1844-1916).

Modern life and inventions like photography and the movies, killed genre painting eventually in Europe, except for the propaganda art demanded by rulers like Stalin and Hitler, but one can argue that the tradition started by these three American artists has continued in America, as a kind of underground stream, to the present day.

Several outstanding artists on this continent, notably Edward Hopper (1882-1967), Andrew Wyeth (1917), and the Canadian Alex Colville (1921), have been drinking from this bracing stream, others have only taken a sip from it. But all who have come in touch with this tradition found their work invigorated and strengthened by it.

Jim Daly is an American painter from California, who makes the attempt to benefit from this tradition. He paints Americana. According to Mill Pond Press, the publisher of his reproductions, Jim Daly's pain-

tings are evocative of rural life, of simpler times. And the painter himself says: "for me, art must come straight from the heart."

I have to say here that the heart alone will not produce great art. But it is true that the heart produces art that will captivate the bruised soil and try to shield it from the visitations of life.

Jim Daly believes that our times lack warmth and sentiment, and he has decided to provide them both in his paintings. He paints children mostly, but also their mothers, as well as farm boys and working men. His immigrants have no inkling yet of what is awaiting their descendants in future years. We are in Mart Twain country, 100 years in the past. The wars and depressions, the plant closures and restless migrations, the racial tensions and the decline of farming, are

still to come.

There are no cars and expressways, no shopping centres and modern bungalows in Jim Daly's world either. He is a 20th century painter painting 19th century paintings. Is he doing a good job? Within his limits he is doing an excellent job. He has learned his craft and nobody can fault his technique nor his research. His popularity is well earned.

You will have a chance to meet him here in Georgetown. Jim Daly is having an exhibition of original paintings and autographed reproductions at Georgetown's "Art Effects Gallery" on Guelph Street, starting Friday. The artist will be at the gallery for a reception, on Friday, May 10, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. You should not miss meeting him if you admire his work.



Ancient art

Those who visited the Credit Valley Artisans Spring Sale at the Cedarvale Cottage Saturday had the unique opportunity to watch members of the Heritage Handweavers (left to right) Monica Scott (Mississauga) and Margaret Searle (Georgetown) demonstrate 100-inch loom hand weaving. (Herald photo by Ben Dummett)



THE CORPORATION OF THE Town of Halton Hills

1 Halton Hills Drive — P.O. Box 128
HALTON HILLS (Georgetown), Ontario L7G 5G2
873-2600

RECONSTRUCTION OF SHELLEY STREET CONTRACT P-91-C-1

Sealed tenders, clearly marked as to contents, will be received by Mr. H. Patterson, Purchasing Agent at the Civic Centre, 1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills (Georgetown), until 3:00 p.m. Local Time:

Tuesday, May 21, 1991

for the reconstruction of Shelley Street, Georgetown.

The major items of construction are:

Earth Excavation and Grading	6,650 cubic metres
Granular 'B'	4,150 tonnes
Granular 'A'	2,400 tonnes
Hot Mix Asphalt	1,225 tonnes
Concrete Curb	1,100 linear metres
1500 mm dia. P.V.C. Watermain and related appurtenances	553 linear metres
Topsail and Sod	3,500 square metres

Plans, Specifications and Form of Tender may be obtained from the office of the Town's Purchasing Department upon payment of a twenty-five dollar (\$25.00) non-refundable deposit.

A certified cheque in the amount specified in the tender documents must accompany each tender.

Inquiries relating to the project should be directed to Mr. R.A. Goddard, Engineering Technologist, Engineering Department at 873-2600, extension 810. Tenders will be opened at 3:05 p.m., Tuesday, May 21, 1991 at the Civic Centre, 1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills (Georgetown). Those submitting tenders are invited to attend.

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Town of Halton Hills
P.O. Box 128
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AD No. 1488



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NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS IN THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS THE ONTARIO WEED CONTROL ACT AS IT APPLIES TO PERSONS IN POSSESSION OF LAND WITHIN THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

Unless noxious weeds are destroyed by May 27th, 1991, and as often as necessary throughout the season to prevent the ripening of their seeds and dispersal of their pollens, the Town of Halton Hills may enter private property and destroy these weeds. The costs will be charged against the property owner and collected in the manner of municipal taxes.

The Weed Control Act creates an offence for persons who contravene the Act or the regulations. The Town may proceed with legal action against any owner or person who fails to comply with the Act.

Goatsbeard, thistles, poison ivy, ragweed, wild carrot and milkweed are among the weeds considered noxious, and must be destroyed wherever found. Complaints regarding dandelion and golden rod will not be accepted as these are not considered noxious under the terms of The Weed Control Act.

Anonymous complaints will not be accepted.

Ron Stein,
Weed Inspector,
Town of Halton Hills
(416) 873-2600, Ext. 334

Ad No. 1398



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1 Halton Hills Drive — P.O. Box 128
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AN INVITATION FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The Town of Halton Hills is undertaking a study to address a number of growth management issues in the Georgetown and Acton urban communities. The study will produce a detailed policy framework, which will guide residential and commercial development in the urban communities, into the 21st Century.

As part of the study, the Town is establishing a Steering Committee, and opportunity is now being provided to those "Interest Groups" who may wish to participate in the study, by being represented on the Steering Committee. Individual persons having an interest in the study will be provided with an opportunity for input at a later date.

WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU NOW, IF YOUR ORGANIZATION

- * wishes to commit a representative to provide the Town with your organization's view on related matters at meetings and
 - * can provide a dialogue to the Committee on a regular and ongoing basis.
- The Terms of Reference for the study is available to those interested groups. Please contact:

**TOWN OF HALTON HILLS PLANNING DEPARTMENT
873-2600**

BY MAY 10TH, 1991

THE TOWN OF HALTON HILLS

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER UNDERSTANDING

Ad. No. 1393