Delgado Adds 14 Oils to Its Collection

Paintings of La., Gulf Coast Area

By ALBERTA COLLIER

The Delgado Museum of Art has just added 14 oil paintings of Louisiana and Gulf Coast scenes to its growing collection of 19th Century Louisiana and Southern art.

The canvases, which were formerly in the holdings of Dr. Ralph Fabacher of New Orleans and Mexico, were purchased with monies in the museum's Ella West Freeman Fund.

The star of the group is a signed Richard Clague landscape showing a farmhouse on raised ground off a typical country road. The work, which measures 16 by 24 inches, is not only a beautiful painting but is evidently the culmination of an 1872 drawing in a Clague sketchbook which has long been a Delgado treasure. The site, according to the notes in the sketchbook, is Spring Hill, Ala.

Another painting of particular interest is a view titled "North Shore of Lake Pontchartrain" where a small sailboat scuds past a pier leading to a raised West Indies-type cottage and a lighthouse.

The work is unsigned and the identification of the locale is in question. Delgado authorities would be glad to receive any information that would help them in pinpointing the Louisiana or Mississippi shoreline that inspired the unknown artist.

Among the other paintings are a 16 by 24-inch "Lakeshore" by Richard Clague; a much smaller "Batture Shanty" by the same artist; a "Louisiana Swamp," complete with cypress trees and dripping moss, by William Buck; "Summer Resort," "Fishing from a Bridge," "Fisherman in a Pirogue" and "Louisiana Pasture" by Buck; and an intriguing pair of decorative Victorian canvases, believed to have been done at the time of the New Orleans World Cotton Exposition, which are also by William Buck.

There is also a "Fisherman's Camp on the Rigolets" by Alphonse J. Gamotis; a "Three Sailboats" by August Norieri; and a "South Shore, Lake Pontchartrain" by Marshall J. Smith.

Most are signed and many are also dated; all show some evidences of the passing of time and all will receive attention from a conservator before going on display.

Dr. Fabacher, the former owner, is a member of a prominent New Orleans family who studied dentistry but made his reputation in the interior decorating field.

And, though he worked for many years in Houston and has long been a resident of Mexico, Delgado director James B. Byrnes says that the purchase will help locate the exact site. (The sky area has been cropped in his reproduction.)
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of these works is in line with the museum's stated plan to build up a representative "Arts of the Americas" collection within its collection of world art.

Delgado Show

The Delgado Museum, though knee-deep in construction problems, is planning to open a "Twelve Artists from Latin America" exhibition with a gala 8 to 10 p.m. reception next Friday and continue it through April 18.

Delgado director James Byrnes says that this show will be brought in as the museum's contribution to a spring Pan-American Week celebration inaugurated by Tulane University. The "Twelve Artists" show will be made up of paintings, drawings and sculpture by leading contemporary artists of Bolivia, Guatemala, Cuba, Colombia, Argentina, Mexico and Chile. It will be augmented by the Delgado's own holdings which include a small, very choice collection of Pre-Columbian work and a number of Spanish Colonial paintings, sculptures and decorative arts dating from the early part of the 16th Century to the middle of the 19th Century. All are part of the Delgado's growing Arts of the Americas Collection.

Dual Exhibit

The New Orleans Art Association will feature drawings by Ignatius John D'Aquila and Franz Heldner in an exhibition which will go on display this Sunday with a 7 to 9 p.m. reception at the Lowe Gallery, 1128 S. Carrollton. The two artists are both natives of New Orleans and both are presently members of the Loyola University faculty. D'Aquila, who was born in 1928, received a bachelor of science degree from Loyola University in 1953 and, a few years ago, received his master of fine arts degree from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. Heldner, who is the son of the late Knute Heldner, was born in 1941 and studied first at LSU in Baton Rouge. He later enrolled at the University of Cincinnati and earned his master of fine arts degree from that institution in 1970. Their show will continue through April 2.

Wetta Show

Adventures in Art, 835 Chartres, will present paintings, drawings, etchings, and watercolors by Baton Rouge artist Jean Wetta in a show which will be opened quietly this Tuesday and continue through March 31. The young artist, who received her bachelor of fine arts degree from Webster College in Missouri and a master's degree in painting from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, has had several years of teaching experience and is presently assistant manager of the Arts and Crafts Department of the LSU Union.

Seyfried Work

The magic of pure light is captured, reflected, refracted, mirrored and dissolved into prismatic elements in a John Seyfried "Wall Reflections" exhibition, now on view at the Circle Gallery, 1672 St. Charles. The artist's range of materials, which comprises polished steel, mirrors, plastic and, sometimes, glass, sounds relatively prosaic. And the resulting works, which can best be described as wall sculptures, should normally remain on view for several weeks.

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ing "B and W" and Thilo Stein elusive, less imaginative "crossroads" received honorable
ments.

Some exceptional entries in the show were: Eva Murray's colorfield painting entitled "Om-
Uova IV," and Kitty O'Malley's Impressionistic "Sue in the Thought." Mary Shaffer presented an
artistic concept in the "Terrain," with her conception of the same name.

Betty D. Alessandrini's portrayal of a mysterious "Mar-
raekul Soul" dramatically depicts a foreign scene with

diagnostic charm. A well designed enamel and ink "Combinations" by Ralph Cox was an added
plus to the show.

This exhibit, which is being

sponsored by the New Orleans Art Association, will remain on

view through Wednesday.

Chagnon Show

A Christine Chagnon exhibit, which is on loan from Prints
International, is currently on

view at the Orleans Gallery, 321 St. Charles.

After studying four years at the Ecole Nationale Superieure des Arts Decoratifs, where she
earned her degree, the French artist spent another year in the graphics section of the Ecole des
Beaux-Arts.

The recipient of a scholarship which

enabled her to study for a year at the Atlanta Art Institute in Atlanta, Ga., Mlle. Chagnon has had solo exhibits at the Far Gallery in New York; the Melson Gallery in Louisiana, Switzerland; the New Canaan Gallery in Connecticut; and the Benefit Exhibit in Paris.

The exhibit will remain on

view for three weeks.

Exhibit in B.B.

The 25th Annual Louisiana State Arts Exhibition for Non- professional and Student Artists will open this Sunday with a 4 to 5 p.m. reception at the Old State Capitol in Baton

Rouge.

The show will consist of 99 original works of art in sculpture, painting, ceramics and prints which were created by 77 Louisiana artists. Fourteen of the participants are from the greater New Orleans area.

Ten winners will be selected by juror Budd H. Bishop at the Orleans Gallery in New Orleans. Three Abstractionists took the top awards.

The exhibition, which is being

sponsored by the Friends of the Library, will remain on view through the end of the month.

Prater Show

Paintings by Clair Perkins Prater will go on view this weekend at the Brooklyn Park Public Library in Brooklyn Park, Minn.

A graduate of the University of Wisconsin, Mrs. Prater also attended Belhaven College in Jackson, Miss.

The artist had a one-man show at the library two and one-half years ago, at which time she

had more than 40 group shows.