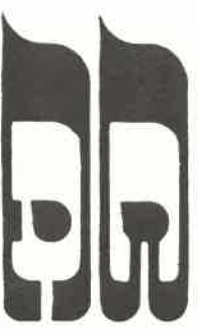


THE CRAFTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA



#801-207 West Hastings Street, VANCOUVER, B.C. V6B 1H7 (604) 681-9613
Office Hours: 10:00 - 4:00 - Gallery Hours: 10:00 - 4:00

CRAFT CONTACTS - NOVEMBER 1976

EDITORIAL:

- This month we received an informative and provocative letter from Lawrence Sommer at Stained Glass Studio, Sointula, B.C. VON 3E0. We urge everyone to read the contents and if interested send a supportive letter to Lawrence with suggestions as to "how to" approach the provincial government.

"Hello to craftspeople in British Columbia. The Mount Waddington Regional District, which was a part of the original B.C. Cultural Fund's pilot programs, has been, like the Kootenay area, ignored as much as possible by the Provincial Secretary. In the article, "The State of the Arts in B.C.", by Grace McCarthy, one can see clearly by reading between the lines the exact size and shape of the blinders the government is wearing in regard to the artists and craftspeople of this province. Their stand seems firstly to indicate that funds under government control certainly are not going to be spent on anything so frivolous as art or craft. Any community wishing to indulge in such non-productive pastimes as this must do so on their own. Craft especially seems to conjure up a picture of glorified hobbies. Somehow it seems that neither the individual craftsmen of this province nor the CABC have made the point clear to the provincial government that being a craftsman is a profession, and that a person who makes stained glass windows, or fine pottery, or weaves, etc., is just as hard-working, industrious, and productive as dentists and mechanics, who are also craftsmen in their fields. Because one produces a product which is beautiful as well as functional does not mean it is any less valid or useful.

Any individual working for himself and not employing a large number of people, whether he is a hand logger, an individual fisherman, or a craftsman, is looked upon and treated as a second class citizen by any government which is geared to treating with people collectively as communities, companies, or corporations. The individual working on his own following the song of his own muse is looked upon by any government which sees organization as its most useful tool as a note of confusion. And he is, because to live by the products of one's own hands and mind one must continually evaluate not only one's product but the community for which the product is designed.

This province is ideally suited for the growth of a large number of small craft industries scattered all over the province. Such

industries would enrich thir communities by providing alternate types of employment, especially in the all too many single company towns, and would also add to the cultural web of their communities. In Europe this is already the case. In some instances this has come about by a very long chain of evolution, but in other countries, especially the Scandanavian countries, such small enterprises have been specifically fostered by their governments.

While attending the Craft Artisnige at the Olympics this summer, where I and a number of other B.C. craftsmen demonstrated our work, I had the chance to speak with Premier Bennett about the development of such small crafts shops. He appeared to be not uninterested, but as he fairly put it, he knows very little about such matters and relies on his staff to advise him about such things.

Somehow we craftsmen must make our potential known to the government. We are at present providing this province with a great deal of its future cultural heritage, and we have the potential to play a very large part in the future economic growth of the province. In order to foster this growth we need a strong and well funded CABC which can be approached by the individual craftsman to help him with his own peculiar needs, and which can respond both economically and psychologically in such a manner as to make the development of craftsmen and their shops less of a grueling ordeal, not by giving hand outs, but by giving a hand up.

I do not believe that it is to Tom Fielding, the Director of the B.C. Cultural Programme, or his staff that we should direct our briefs and letters, as to my best knowledge these hand-working and industrious people are already understaffed and overworked, nor are they in the position to be makers or changers of policy such as we need to contact. At the present time I believe what would be most valuable would be a well planned grass roots campaign directed at the most sensitive people in the present government that we can find.

At the Olympic Artisnige I was amazed at how much the other provincial governments do to foster the growth of their craft industries. There was truely a tremendous amount of effort and preparation done by the other provinces to aid both the craftsmen who were demonstrating at the Artisnige and to foster out-of-province awareness of the growing craft scenes within their provinces. Almost all of the provinces except B.C. had published full-colour brochures with details of various craftsmen and craft areas of interest to tourists. The other provinces had also sent along with their craftsmen professional animatures whose job it was to seek out ways to further the awareness of the public of their provinces' craftsmen.

All the craftsmen who demonstrated their crafts at the Artisnige were paid an honorarium for their efforts, as no sales were allowed. The honorarium paid to B.C. craftsmen was only one quarter of that paid by all the provinces and was one third less than the honorarium paid by Prince Edward Island. This is in the face of the fact that the B.C. craftsmen had much more travelling and organizing to do than the craftsmen of other provinces, which certainly brings home Grace McCarthy's theory of individuals taking the responsibility for themselves.

I'm not bringing up any of these points out of sour grapes, but as an indication of the climate which we must all expect to experience unless we can sensitize the government and communities which we must deal with to realize the value of the contribution we can make. If we do not help ourselves, neither God nor the government will."

- Gail Rogers asks that any craftspeople who paid an "entry fee" payment for "Made by Hand" at Pacific Art Services and wishes a CABC receipt please contact the office.

- Gail also announced the CABC has received \$2,500 from the Vancouver Foundation for assistance with the travel costs for workshops held in British Columbia by B.C. craftspeople.

- Congratulations to CROMPTONS YARN SHOP AND LOOM LOFT. They have moved to larger and more spacious premises and have added a weaving studio all at 5559 West Boulevard, Vancouver, B.C.

- Art-craftspeople will be pleased to know that Mariette Rousseau-Vermette of Quebec, tapestry weaver, was invested by the Governor-General as Officer of the Order, Canada. Internationally well-known Mme. Vermette was chosen by the Canadian government to create a hanging given to Princess Anne at her wedding, from the Canadian people.

CANADIAN CRAFTS COUNCIL:

- Herewith the second half of Elizabeth Keeling's report on World Craft Council in Mexico, as published in the White Rock Sun.

"Next conference will be in Japan in 1978 and plans are underway now for this. It will undoubtedly be popular with craftsmen of every media, and since WCC tries to be other than a travel agency, there will be problems about numbers per country. The day may be close when only 'professionals' will attend these gatherings in the future, and how these may be selected is interesting to contemplate.

Crafts are BIG BUSINESS in many countries and extremely important to the economy in the so-called developing areas. Markets are being sought and found for handcrafted items and one can stay home and shop for interesting imports from anywhere in the world, in competition with the products of our own crafts people. Quality has to be the essential criterion and this involves workmanship, design and integrity.

So, crafts are competitive, and the sheer joy of creation could be lost when necessity becomes the driving force. Craftsmen - or any artist for that matter - having the same basic needs as other people and wishing to survive under the present system, have to make it by teaching, scholarships, grants, prizes and sales or by some other means.

Finally, without even discussing the middle man and people response, does the question not arise, sooner or later, are we looking for a guaranteed annual income as the answer? The concept was too radical for "Arts Access" to accept a couple of years ago, possibly, and too hot a political issue for us to handle as craftsmen, perhaps. But whoever said the arts are non-political? Vulnerable - very. And by being lucky enough to have attended WCC conferences in Lima,

Dublin, Istanbul, Toronto and Oaxtepec, I am again impressed with the human-ness of people, with all our frustrations and aspirations. So, let's just leave it at that."

"MADE BY HAND":

- Exhibition open from November 1st to 14th at the Vancouver Centennial Museum, 1100 Chestnut Street, Vancouver, B.C., 10:00 to 9:00.

- Herewith are some remarks from the jury of the CABC sponsored exhibition, written by Lillian Elliott, fabrics; Paul Soldner, ceramics and Harold O'Connor, jewellery. These remarks were not attributed to anyone craftsmen's entry but to everyone in general who had an entry and were the consensus expressed by all three.

1. "Little things make the difference."
2. "Knowing when to stop."
3. "Avoid cloying sentimentality."
4. "Lack of conviction or authority".
5. "Must be better than something you can buy in town".
6. "All dressed up with no place to go".
7. "There is a danger of using a skill to make something look like something else".
8. "Serious problem with the lack of professional involvement". The jurors suggested CABC give an "invitational exhibition".
9. "Competition must be taken seriously by craftsmen and the work must be of competition standard".

As you will notice the remarks are all constructive criticism, reasoning based on the juror's experience in judging exhibits in North America and Europe. This is a high criteria for B.C. craftspeople to work toward for the future.

REPORTS, REVIEWS AND REQUESTS:

- The Malaspina Ceramic College Seminar originally to be held in October has been cancelled temporarily.

- NOTICE TO PROFESSIONAL ARTISTS from the ARTIST'S GALLERY, 555 Hamilton Street, Vancouver, B.C. ph. (604) 687-1345. In anticipation of Federal Funding to purchase art works, the Artist's Gallery will hold a jurying of local contemporary artists, in late November of this year. To be eligible to apply, professional artists must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants and not be full time students or have full time employment. Works must be submitted between Monday, Nov. 22 and Friday, Nov. 26, 1976. The Artist's Gallery is not able to insure works while on our premises. The jurying will take place in the first week of December. Works must be picked up by Friday, Dec. 10, 1976. A maximum of 3 pieces of work per artist is set, that are recent and for sale. Works selected would be the first of a series of works purchased from that artist by the City of Vancouver for their public collection. These works become the property of the City and are exhibited as part of the "Art Loan Programme" to public buildings. In the event that we do not receive funding for this programme the Artist's Gallery will have to cancel the jurying.

- THE VICTORIA HANDWEAVERS AND SPINNERS GUILD announces that it is hosting the 8th BIENNIAL CONFERENCE OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST HAND-

WEAVERS at the University of Victoria from June 9 - 12, 1977. The theme will be Heirloom from Handlooms. Registration and other information available on request from: Victoria Handweavers & Spinners Guild, Conference '77, #214-620 View Street, Victoria, B.C.

- The Potters Guild of B.C. has available a publication "Within the Potters House". This book is a well illustrated and descriptive catalogue of the show by the same name which was presented at the Vancouver Centennial Museum by the Canadian Society for Asian Art. These are \$6.00 each. Phone Ann Rabas at (604) 261-5027 Vancouver.

WORKSHOPS AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES:

October 31st - First Part...

Romni Wools, 3779 West 10th Ave. Vanc. B.C. V6R 2G5, is sponsoring a "Yarn Design for Handspinners" workshop. Judy Noble, well-known spinner, will set out projects for the day and give four assignments to be done at home. Then on Nov. 28 another day's workshop to review work and finished projects. For place phone 224-7416 or write to above address.

November 1 - 14

"MADE BY HAND", Centennial Museum, Vanc. B.C. 10:00 am to 9:00 pm.

November 5 and 6

Marjorie Pohlmann-a lecture and workshop on designing for the church. A well-known designer from Minneapolis. Although she is best known for her weaving, she has worked in many different media in the Liturgical Arts field. She works closely with her architect-husband in creating pieces for celebration and worship, for religious communities throughout the U.S. On Friday evening, Nov. 5 at 7:30, Mrs. Pohlmann will give an illustrated lecture on the development and use of art within the church. The Sat. workshop, Nov. 6 from 10:00 to 4:00 will deal with design considerations for the fabrication of objects to be used in worship. Both the lecture and the workshop will be held at the Vancouver School of Theology on the UBC campus. The cost is \$2.00 for the lecture and \$10.00 for the workshop. This event is sponsored by the Vancouver Guild of Fabric Arts. Further info call Julie Bauming 224-5240.

November 6 & 7 First part ..

November 8

Design workshop, theory and principles of design. contact Craft Cottage, 4446 Dunbar. Start 6 week courses in colour and dyeing, belt weaving, spinning, and Salish weaving. Write Handcraft House, 110 West Esplanade, North Vanc. V7M 1A2 or ph. (604) 988-6812.

November 8-15, 22, 29

7:30 to 10 pm "Kites from Cloth", given by Steve Loyd. Register Vanc. Guild of Fabric Arts, c/o Aberthau, 4397 W. 2nd Ave. Vanc. B.C.

November 13

Weighted warps, Rose Naumann, Craft Cottage, Vanc. B.C.

November 20

Madeleine Chisholm, "Work in Felting" at Craft Cottage, Vanc. B.C.

November 28 Second Part

"Yarn Design for Handspinners" - Romni Wool, 3779 W. 10th Ave. Vanc. B.C. V6R 2G5 Teacher, Judy Noble see first item Page 5.

EXHIBITIONS AND SALES:

To November 5

White Sculpture of the Inuit, Simon Fraser Gallery, Burnaby, B.C.

To November 6

Tam Irving, House of Ceramics, 565 Hamilton Street, Vanc. B.C.

November 6 to 28

Henry Saxe, Robin Mackenzie, Irene Whittom David Rabinowitch, Nobuo Kubota, Royden Rabinowitch and Colette Whiten, Exhibition of Canadian Sculptors - Vancouver Art Gallery, 1145 Georgia St., Vanc. B.C.

November 8

Nancy Star and Naofumi Kubota, porcelain, raku and large sculptures, House of Ceramics, Vanc. B.C.

November 12 & 13

Arts by the Sea Exhibition, Catholic Community Centre, 15262 Pacific Ave., White Rock, B.C.

To November 14

David Gilhooly, an exhibition of 25 ceramic sculpture, Vancouver Art Gallery.

November 18 to December 1 ...

Batik by Yoshi Hashimoto of Prince George at Place des Arts, 166 King Edward St., Coquitlam, B.C. 9 am to 10 pm daily, 9 to 2 on Saturday.

November 26

Potters Guild of B.C. Annual "Hycroft" potters sale and exhibit. Hycroft is at Granville & 16th Ave. in Vanc. B.C.

December 5

Don Hutchinson Pottery Studio, official opening and sale with Walter Dexter, Dave Torresdahl, Dave Gobin. 10:00 to 10:00 2249 King George Hwy. Surrey, B.C.

CHRISTMAS FAIRS:

November 13 - December 18 ...

Every Sat. at new premises of Handcraft House, 55½ Lonsdale, N. Vanc. B.C. For entry forms write 110 West Esplanade, N. Vanc. V7M 1A2 or ph. (604) 988-6912. Cont. Debbie Beito.

November 29 - December 5

Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition ground Toronto, Ont. Canadian Craft Show Christmas Sale. For entry forms write 45880 Clement Ave., Toronto, Ont. M5N 1M1

December 1 - 4 Kootenay Christmas Faire, in Nelson Civic Centre, write Christmas Faire, Box 63, Nelson, B.C. or phone (604) 352-7220.
December 1 - 24 Stalo Gallery, 27 Young Street, Chilliwack, B.C. Write for forms.
December 3 - 19 Vancouver East Cultural Centre - Circle Craft Fair.
December 5, 12 & 19 Richmond Craft Fair, Richmond Inn, New Westminster Hwy. and Minoru Rd. 10 am to 4 pm. (set up at 9 am). For reg. forms ph. (604) 261-6482, Pat McManus, Vanc. B.C.
December 9-11, 16-18 Victoria Circle Craft Christmas Market, for entry for this and Vanc. East Cultural fair write 434 Kingston St., Victoria, B.C. V9V 9V9 ph. (604) 383-5216
December 9-15 Session A and Session B, Heritage Crafts Guild, Christmas Fair, write Rick Kuypers, 1995 W. 19th Ave. Vanc. B.C. ph. (604) 738-9792.
December 17-23

CLASSIFIED:

- 2 AUTO KNITTERS for sale. Ann Price, P.O. Box 4261, Main Post office, Vancouver, B.C. phone 874-0018.
- FIBRE FACTORY, 1765 Marine Dr., West Vanc. B.C. - POTTERY SALE, Friday, November 19th, 2 pm - 8 pm and Saturday, November 20th, 10 am - 5 pm. Pottery by Ian Steele of Nanoose Bay, Vanc. Island.
- HOUSE OF ORANGE LTD., 553 Hillside Ave., Victoria, B.C. invites craftspeople to send for their extensive catalogue of beads, findings, and macrame supplies. A charge of \$3.00 is required for the colour catalogue. Add \$.50 for first class mailing. This company wholesales only, and has a minimum order of \$50.00, so it addresses itself strictly to businesses, small and large. Send resale number with catalogue request.