

T54
Arch

Dedications, Hiram Van Gordon Art Gallery

Gallery Dedication

*A Special Feature of Jamboree '84
Honoring*

**Hiram Van Gordon (1918-1979)
B.A., M.S.**

**Educator, Lecturer, Painter, Associate
Professor and Chairman of the Department
Art 1953—1978**



**Opening
Sunday, February 26, 1984
2:00-4:00 p.m.**

**Women's Building
Studio No. 28
Tennessee State University
Nashville, Tennessee**

A Biographical Sketch Hiram Van Gordon

Someone has said, "A craftsman fashions wood, clay paint, and other materials with his hands, at the command of his intellect. By contrast, the artist fashions these same materials with his hands, dictated by his interest originating and emerging deep from within his heart." This heart felt entity, uniquely common to the artist characterized Hiram Van Gordon. Aside from shaping pigments and other art materials, the authenticity of his personality and spirit shaped and molded human character unaccomplished with wood, stone, and clay.

Hiram Van Gordon was born in Maury County, Tennessee, in 1918. His creative potential was realized and demonstrated when he served in the United States Army during World War II, where he was an assistant in drawing maps of ammunition dumps locations in Europe. In 1938, his skills and talent won him a scholarship to study Art Education at Tennessee State University. One of his prime influences was Ms. Frances Thompson, a Radcliff graduate and professor of Art at Tennessee State University. In 1951, his creative energies won him a Graduate Assistantship at Tennessee State University. He became the campus sign painter and in 1952 he was promoted to part-time instructor. Upon Ms. Thompson's retirement in 1958, he was appointed professor and acting head of the Department of Art where he served until his retirement in 1979 due to ill health.

Honors and awards were given to Mr. Gordon for his creative abilities throughout the city and state. These came from such organizations and institutions as McKissack and McKissack Architects and First National Bank of Nashville, Tennessee. Mrs. Carney Banning, Mr. John Otey and Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Alexander, Lebanon, Va. are some of the persons who own permanent works of "Gordon's."

Among Hiram's many contributions to research, publications and lectures are: "Preparation of Art Teachers for Teaching Art" (Curriculum Patterns) 1953, and "Paint Techniques with the use of varnish as the vehicle in combination with acrylics." Some of his lectures included: Afro-American Art during Afro American Week in 1973. The Middle Tennessee Art Education Association in 1973 and W.V.O.L. Line on radio in 1972.

Mr. Gordon's professional membership included: The National Art Association, Southeastern College Art Conference, Tennessee Arts Commission and the Sub-Committee (TAEA) on Art Curriculums and Administrators.

Hiram Van Gordon once wrote "Art to me is the glorification of the human spirit. It is an area in which man must probe much deeper into the creative concepts which helps him to adapt readily to his fellowman and to his changing environment." Hiram Van Gordon has shared and left with us this glorification of his human spirit" in his Art and in effect to an even greater measure, he has shared and left with us a part of himself.

by: Dr. Paul L. Grigsby, a former student of the late Hiram Van Gordon

Catalogue

<i>Titles</i>	<i>Medium</i>
Daughters Three	
1. Vandra	Acrylic
2. Regina	Acrylic
3. Pamela	Oil
4. Frederick Douglas	Oil
5. George Washington Carver	Oil
6. Booker Tolliver Washington	Oil/acrylic
7. Grand Ma "Em" 100 Years Old	Acrylic
8. Self Portrait	Acrylic
9. African Slave Girl	Acrylic
10. Bird of Paradise	Acrylic
11. Cow Path	Oil
12. Red Forest	Acrylic
13. Sail Boat No. 1	Oil
14. Guitarist	Acrylic
15. Barn Yard	Acrylic
16. The Clown	Oil/acrylic
17. Snow Scene	Oil
18. Untitled	Oil
Owned by Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Woolfolk	
19. Our House	Oil

Dedication Ceremony

February 26, 1984

2:00 P.m.

OPENING SELECTION

WELCOME Dr. Herman Beasley

DEDICATION Dr. Robert Hudson

UNVEILING OF THE PLAQUE Ted Jones

REMARKS

FAMILY MEMBERS Mrs. Hiram Van Gordon
Mrs. Dennis M. Woolfolk
Ms. Regina Gordon

COLLEAGUE Gregory Ridley

ALUMNUS Dr. Paul L. Grigsby
Guest Curator

ADMINISTRATORS Dr. Wendolyn Bell
Acting Dean, School of Arts and Sciences
Dr. Frederick Humphries
President, Tennessee State University

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Immediately following this ceremony an Art exhibition and reception will be held in the Hiram Van Gordon Memorial Gallery of this building.

Acknowledgement

The Department of Art faculty and Dr. Beasley are grateful to all who participated in this event and wish to thank you sincerely.

Art Faculty

Gus Baker
Nina Edoho
Ted Jones
Jerry Pletcher
Olist Roberts, Curator
Viola Wood
Paul Zepelinsky
Dr. Herman Beasley, Head
Department of Art

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

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