

Lots of Art Displayed In Show at City Hall

By JEAN CHARLOT

The Association of Honolulu Artists is currently presenting its Jury Show at City Hall. Once a year this citadel of bureaucracy graciously lends space for the event.

One may miss the rarefied quality of other group shows, given at the Academy of Arts. These are juried always strictly and at times harshly.

Here at City Hall, the jury seems to weigh hearts rather

than skills. The gratifying result is a truthful cross-section of what it is that folks like to paint in our Hawaii net.

Brush, palette knife, bucket, pastepot are ingeniously put to work on paper, on canvas and velvet.

There is no quarrel with the prizes given, but each of us may list preferences.

Winnifred Hudson's "Hawaiian Trees" rates high. Simplified foliage of dense reds and greens are set against emerald hills and a

malachite green sky.

I liked Joe Pimentel's "Surfers," its surfboards and sportscar silhouetted black against dazzling sand and sun. It is today's Hawaii.

Good contemporary "academic" art being increasingly scarce, Franz Griessler's "Teenagers" comes as a pleasurable shock. To describe this charcoal drawing one could say that it is nature itself. But it is nature alive with the inner longings and unsolved problems that plague its young models.

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(Association of Honolulu Artists at City Hall. To March 16.)

The Association of Honolulu Artists has its group show at City Hall. Once a year this citadel of bureaucracy graciously lends ~~its~~ space for the event. Business firms give prizes. The Association opens its ranks for non-members. The event comes close to being a community festival.

One may miss the rarefied quality of group shows given at the Academy of Art, that are juried always strictly, and at times harshly. At City Hall, the jury seems to weigh hearts rather than skills. The gratifying result is a truthful cross-section of what it is that folks paint in our Hawaii nei. ¹⁰⁰

Brush, palette knife, bucket, paste-pot, are ingenuously put to work on paper, canvas and ~~black~~ velvet. We meet all kinds of art: art as therapy, art as a hobby, art as an attempted shortcut to fame, art as a private delight. In this show, abstractions and seascapes lie side by side, as shall the lion and the lamb, come the millenium!

There is little quarrel with the prizes given but each of us may list preferences. I rate Winnifred Hudson's 'Hawaiian Trees' ^{water} among the best. Simplified foliages of dense reds and ²⁰⁰ greens are set against emerald hills and a malachite green sky.

Good contemporary 'academic' art is increasingly rare. Hans Griesler's 'Teenagers' comes as a pleasurable shock. This charcoal drawing shows ^{through} knowledge and experience. To use the old-fashioned compliment one could say it is nature itself. But nature alive with the inner longings and unsolved problems that plague its young models.

It is easy in our days to forget that an artist may eloquently express other selves than himself. ⁸²

Jean Charlot.