

Oils by Ryk Burgess Exhibited at Library

By JEAN CHARLOT

Oils by Ryk Burgess are on show at Central Library of Hawaii until July 8.

"Abstract Impressionism" is the artist's own way of defining his style which is consistent throughout, regardless of subject matter.

Making use of the definition, you might say that "impressionism" refers to the preponderance of landscapes over figures, but you should not expect to see that brand of impressionism that preserves, at the tip of a free-flowing

brush, nature's fleeting moments, rosy sunsets or misty morns.

"Abstract," likewise, as he uses the term has little to do with the present wave of abstractions, sprung from inside outward to document inner moods.

Rather than to abstract, Ryk Burgess extracts out of the bewildering confusion around him no more than is needed to build each one of his thoughtful and highly digested compositions.

Seen through the woof and warp of the artist's mental architectures, one perceives other architectures.

Favorite models are old wooden structures, half crumbling under the onslaught of generations of termites immune to picturesqueness.

The uplift of an Oriental roof, the meanders of ill-cobbled streets, promiscuities suggestive of Chinatowns—all imply man and man's plight even though he himself is never seen.

Paradoxically not as human as the landscapes are the few humans portrayed.

Colossal heads, statue-like, impassively await to be incorporated in some mural for some great hall yet to be built.

(Ryk Burgess. City Central Library. To July 8.)

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