tongue lips words smith

send a view from a town nearby casting
a gentle ear
a gentle bear
a gentle beard
through sunderland sunset fine

one more bright star picked from the mail art sky every mail artist is a random memo(ry) of a constellation in the endless chain-letter that just took the dark one an infantile utopia sealed in a big cardboard box a sculpture model eyed up in the swingin' Rome an image lingering in the dictionary of synonyms spelled out in calm round childlike handwriting

we never met
but most of all I regret
not even giving you a phone call
(like with Michael, like with Ray, like with many before)
paper friend, brother in mail, benign teacher
it does not need to be in flesh and blood
to be real
hold on, we're coming

## vittore baroni

baroniv@ats.it on xmas eve 2001

## **BILL BUNCE**

Longtime director of the Kohler Art Library, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Bill Bunce died suddenly at the age of 65 in late February. He had been scheduled to talk on "Artists' Books" for the Friends lecture series on 28 February. Many remember him as warm, generous, urbane, witty and a connoisseur of the vast beauty of the world. With his keen intellect and good sense, he was an important contributor to the founding of the Art Libraries Society of North America, as I remember him. He also was tremendously supportive of artists of the book throughout his career and in his retirement after 33 years as head of the Kohler Art Library.

## **ART PEOPLE**

Charles H. Wright, a Detroit obstetrician and gynecologist who gave birth to Detroit's first African American history museum in the mid-1960s, died at the age of 83. Starting with art exhibitions placed on a trailer that traveled to schools and state fairs, the Museum of African American History is now the world's largest African American history museum, renamed the Charles H. Wright Museum...

Neal Benezra is the new director of the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, succeeding David A. Ross, who left the museum abruptly last year. Benezra has been the deputy director and curator of modern and contemporary art at the Art Institute of Chicago. His position is effective 1 August.

Reginald Pollack, a painter and printmaker known on both coasts of the US, died in December at the age of 77. He painted portraits, still lifes and landscapes as well as more metaphysical images that included angels, animals or circus performers.

Kara Walker is representing the United States at the 25<sup>th</sup> Sao Paulo Bienal, curated by Robert Hobbs, with "Slavery! Slavery! Slavery!, an 85-foot-tall cyclorama of almost lifesize figures made of black paper silhouettes, a self-portrait of the artist as Mary Poppins, and one of her text pieces, "Letter from a Young Black Girl".

Catherine Voorsanger, an associate curator of American decorative arts at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, died at the age of 51 from complications of melanoma.

Gustav Rau, art collector and philanthropist who amassed one of the world's major private art collections, died in Stuttgart at the age of 79. All of his art (including works by Renoir, Monet and Cezanne) was warehoused or on tour, never on his own walls. His collection will be sold gradually in Germany to provide funds for vaccines, medical care and clean drinking water for children in the developing world.

Theresa Bernstein, who as a member of the Ash Can School of realistic painting was both hailed and flailed for "painting like a man" in the 1910s and then continued to generate vibrant canvases for 8 more decades, died in February at the age of 111. She was also known for her works that took Jewish celebrations and religious observances as their subject matter.

Richard Brown Baker, collector of contemporary art whose keen eye benefited the Yale University Art Gallery and the Museum of Art at RISD in Providence, died in Shelburne, Vermont at the age of 89. He bought "the work

of the living, the young and the unestablished" and they were Pollock, Franz Kline, Hans Hoffmann, Lichtenstein, Morris, Tuttle, Warhol, Stella, Bechtel, Goings and John Baeder

Peter Voulkos, the artist who launched an American revolution in ceramic sculpture by elevating them to new levels of abstraction and personal expression, died in Bowling Green, Ohio, where he had just finished teaching a ceramics workshop at Bowling Green State University. He was 78.He had a voracious appetite for work and a charismatic personality.

Inge Morath, photographer, whose artistry elevated portraits of the famous as well as images of foreign cultures and sights as commonplace as a person at a piano, died at the age of 78. She was a Magnum photographer, one of the first women admitted to the agency. She also was the wife of playwright Arthur Miller, who survives her.

Michael Hammond, just one week into his new job as chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, died at the age of 69.

Jean-Paul Riopelle, one of Canada's most celebrated modern artists and an important figure in postwar French art, died on 12 March at the age of 78. He was the first Canadian to have a painting sell for more than \$1 million. He used to show at Pierre Matisse Gallery in New York. He lived with Joan Mitchell, American Ab-Ex painter from 1955 to 1979, mostly in France. At his funeral on 18 March attended by more than 900 people, the non-religious ceremony substituted jazz and rap pieces for traditional hymns.

Gerald Van der Kemp, the French art expert who masterminded the restoration of Louis XIV's palace at Versailles and saved the "Mona Lisa" from destruction by the Nazis, died on 28 December in Paris at the age of 89.

Norman Hirschl, an expert in American paintings and a founder of Hirschl & Adler Galleries in New York City, died at the age of 86. He was a specialist in the Hudson River and Ashcan schools of American painting.

Tom Finkelpearl is the new executive director of the Queens Museum of Art. He was formerly deputy director of P.S. 1 Contemporary Art Center in Long Island City for three years.

Kenneth Armitage, a sculptor who gained fame as part of a new generation of British artists in the 1950s and was best known for his quirky, semi-abstract, often lighthearted bronze figures, died on 22 January at the age of 85.

Carl Lindley, who spurred the creation of a forest of signs that became one of northern Canada's most popular tourist attractions, died in February at the age of 83. The "signpost forest" which he began with a hand-painted sign that read "Danville, Ill., 2,835 miles" in 1942, became a village block long littered with scribblings on disposable pie plates to a yellow metal sign from Germany's autobahn. The wall of signs is a top tourist draw in Canada's Yukon Territory.

Ralph Rumney, an English-born artist who romanced just about every eccentric left-wing intellectual movement he encountered over a half-century—and helped start a few—died on 6 March in Provence, France at the age of 67. He was a founding member of the Situationist International, a movement that mixed Surrealism, Marxism and sometimes spectacular hedonism—perhaps the precursor of the Sex Pistols, Damien Hirst and the Paris riots of 1968. Although expelled by the group's leader, Guy Debord, he maintained his faith in Situationism throughout his life. He married Pegeen Guggenheim, daughter of Peggy. Pegeen committed suicide in 1967. After other liaisons, etc., he moved to France where he never lost his zeal for the avant-garde.

Laurance P. Roberts, a scholar of Asian art who served as director of the Brooklyn Museum and later of the American Academy in Rome, died in March at the age of 95. He was also the first executive director of the New York State Council on the Arts, which was formed in 1960.

Ida Bernstein, who chronicled her tragic childhood history in war-torn Ukraine by painting somber stylistic oils, died at the age of 94 in Los Angeles. She began painting when she was about 60 to document her life. She did etchings about her childhood, her labor in the garment industry, the Holocaust in the 1940s, the execution of the Rosenbergs and anti-war protests of the 1960s.

Miriam Schapiro received the CAA's Distinguished Artist Award for Lifetime Achievement as pioneering artist, teacher and mentor. Roger Shimomura received the Award for Distinguished Body of Work, Exhibition, Presentation, or Performance for An American Diary, an exhibition of paintings based on the diaries kept by his Japanese American grandmother while interned during World War II in Idaho. He holds the University Distinguished Professorship at the University of Kansas.

Conceptual artist Hans Haacke was the recipient of the Distinguished Teaching of Art Award, as a Professor at the Cooper Union School of Art in New York. Dale Kinney, Dean of the Graduate School of Arts & Science4s and Professor of the History of Art at Bryn Mawr College, received the Distinguished Teaching of Art History Award.

Robert Hughes has been appointed Director of the next Venice Biennale. He is the Art Critic of Time Magazine and the author of the best history of Australia, his birthplace.

Kenneth Armitage, British sculptor, and former head of sculpture at the Bath Academy of Art, a tutor at the Royal College of Art, died at the age of 85 in January.

Chuck Jones, famous for his direction of cartoons in which he developed the characters of Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Porky Pig and was responsible for making Elmer Fudd the foil to Bugs Bunny, died at the age of 89. He was the recipient of four Oscars.

Collectors: Bill Harmsen, a decades-long collector of Western art which was donated to the Denver Art Museum last May included Remington, Russell, Catlin, Wyeth and Henri. Harmsen died at the age of 879. Burton Tremaine, who managed his family's large art collection and philanthropic foundation, died at 79. His father and stepmother's collection was sold at auctions in 1988 and 1991. Tremaine was president of the Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art in Hartford, among other positions. John Hauberg, art collector and benefactor who founded the Pilchuck Glass School and served as president of the Seattle Art Museum, died in April at the age of 85.

James Karales, whose dramatic photography of civil rights marchers making the pilgrimage from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama in 1965 became an iconic image of a movement and an era, died at the age of 71of cancer. Being modest and unaggressive to a fault, his name and work remain little known...

Raven Chanticleer, a fashion designer, dancer, sculptor, storyteller, bon vivant, and the founder, craftsman and proprietor of the Harlem African-American Wax and History Museum, died on 31 March at the age of 72. Dressed in African robes, for a dozen years, Mr. Chanticleer led astonished visitors through one of New York's smallest but most unusual museums, an incense-scented basement space filled with 25 of so "heroes and sheroes" like Martin Luther King and Josephine Baker. He was inspired by a visit to Madame Tussaud's in London, amazed that no black figures were there. His relatives are going to try to keep the Museum going.

Christa Gaehde, a pioneer in the United States of effective techniques for conserving prints and drawings, died on 3 April at the age of 79. She always considered herself a conservator rather than a restorer or repairer. It is due to her in part that all serious museums and libraries now employ

trained conservationists, including specialists in books and works on paper. She published "A Guide to the Collecting and Care of Original Prints" (Crown) written with Carl Zigrosser, having acquired an encyclopedic knowledge of old papers and inks, and devised many new ways of removing marks and stains without damaging the stability of the basic materials. She also used old paper to patch and repair torn and damaged artworks. She was called a "miracle worker who inspired a whole movement."

Harvey Quaytman, an abstract painter which combined austere geometry and a quietly hedonistic sensuality of surface and color, died in Manhattan in April at the age of 64. A Modernist to the end, Quaytman concentrated on the formal properties of painting.

Glenn Murcutt of Australia, a self-employed, independent spirit who has never worked outside of Australia, won the Pritzker Prize, architecture's highest honor, and he will receive the award in May in Rome.

John Murdoch, director of the gallery at the University of London's Courtauld Institute of Art, has been appointed director of the at collection at the Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens, effective 1 September. Murdoch spent 20 years at London's Victoria & Albert Museum, the last four as assistant director of collections. He succeeds Edward J. Nygren, who retires on 1 May.

Wayne Baerwaldt, 41, has been named the director of Toronto's Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery. Last year he was the commissioner of the Canadian pavilion at the Venice Biennale, and in the past organized and toured a show of Beck and Fluxus artist grandfather Al Hansen, as well as the photography of French surrealist Pierre Molinier. For 13 years he was curator of Plug In Institute of Contemporary Art in Winnipeg.

Louis Mitelberg, a cartoonist who for decades lampooned political leaders such as former French President Charles de Gaulle, died recently in Paris at the age of 82.

Cartoonist, sculptor and former Resistance fighter was France's Herblock or Conrad, who worked for L'Express from 1958 to 1990 and used the pseyudonym Tim, creating cartoons with a mixture of fierce wit and singing sarcasm.