

# Chicagoland Artists Have New Exhibit

By Eleanor Jewett

The 57th Annual exhibition by Artists of Chicago and Vicinity will be on view in the east wing galleries of the Art Institute from Thursday to Dec. 28. Only 180 artists are being represented this year so the galleries are very thinly hung. Prints and drawings are included in the show and these may be found in Gallery II of the Department of Prints and Drawings, the large gallery immediately adjoining the front lobby.

Dale Nichols, well-known contemporary American artist, has developed a new kind of art exhibition of two important shows in Arizona this fall. He calls it the "Two-Way" gallery of art and hangs his exhibit with traditional modern on one wall and modern on the other. It makes for a more interesting review of the trends going on in art today and it opens the door of opportunity to artists of more than just the one school.

Whether Dale Nichols can get his idea over to the country at large remains to be seen. Many of the smaller galleries seem in favor of widening the limits of contemporary art shows. The public is eager to look at everything. It remains to be seen whether the larger museum and college exhibits will consider the idea kindly.

Hans Erni, the Swiss painter, has a stunning one-man show in the Main Street Gallery, 642 N. Michigan av., to Nov. 24. His

drawing is magnificent, his imagination prolific, and his use of color fascinating. The mixture of trends in his work is as much of a fascination as are his color and draughtsmanship. Note the solid, realistic leaf in "Man and Horse," set firmly above the fantasy-born colt. His handling of horses, by the way, and of bulls too, is part of the magic of his painting. They are romantic figures, much more consistently romantic than are the men and women who partner them or set them off.

Erni's paintings, because of their fine drawing, make the Sistine Chapel flash across one's mind, and the tremendous works of Da Vinci and Michaelangelo. His paintings have depth and vigor, reason and handsomeness. They are handsome rather than beautiful, and they are the work of a man who has known discipline. None but a serious and great technician could achieve those successes which Hans Erni has to his credit.

Recent drawings by Margo Hoff are to be found this month in the Wells Design and Ceramic center, 1635 N. Wells st. They were done last summer in Colorado and New York.

The Chicago Society of Artists is enjoying its annual fall exhibit in the new galleries, 613 N. State st. The show is colorful and attractive with work by a number of new artists and by many well-known painters—Frances Foy, Rowena Fry, Alice Mason, Marion Witt, Frances Badger, Gustaf Dalstrom, Mike Mason, and Flora Schofield.

The 1954 calendar is particularly worth-while. This annual calendar is an achievement of the Chicago Society of Artists for which perhaps they never receive enough credit. Its appearance means a great deal of ingenuity and work on the part of the artists represented in its

pages, and a great deal of faith on the part of the society as a whole. It is worth looking at and worth buying.

Francis Chapin has a colorful and gay one-man show of recent paintings in the Stevens-Gross Galleries, 620 N. Michigan av., thru Nov. 16. The work is piquant and Frenchy; the colors are bright, leaning strongly to pink. Chapin is a more serious painter than this particular show suggests but, possibly with the holiday season in mind, he has contrived a charming and decorative effect with scene after scene sketched in Dufy's shorthand technique. It should be a popular exhibit.

The Women Artists Salon of Chicago has an excellent exhibit in the Mandel Brothers Art Exhibition galleries thru Nov. 28. This is an annual event and always one of the highlights of the autumn season.

The Arts club, 109 E. Ohio st., has an interesting November showing of work by Alberto Giacometti and Loren MacIver.

New serigraphs by Ruth Grottenrath and Schomer Lichtner are on view in the Elizabeth Nelson Gallery, 109 E. Oak st., thru Nov. 16.

Paintings by students in the Chicago public high schools go on view at the Findlay Galleries, 320 S. Michigan av., next Thursday to continue thru Nov. 30.

"Self-Portraits by Children" is the November exhibition in the Chicago public library in the Randolph st. corridor. Twenty-five different countries are represented. The American Federation of Arts is sponsoring the show.