

HETAG: The Houston Earlier Texas Art Group

HETAG Newsletter No 27, November 2018



Henri Gadbois 1930-2018

Most of you know by now that Henri Gadbois died in October. Henri's career in Houston stretched back into the 1940s. He was one of the first Houston artists I met as I became enamored of Houston's art history. And the art fates couldn't have brought me under the spell of anyone better suited to really hook me. He was a piper for art - beautiful, engaging, fun art.

Henri always had an irresistible smile on his lips and an impish twinkle in his eyes. And he was always making and sharing paintings and drawings and ceramics and wonderful little decorative treasures - and dinner parties, both edible and faux.

Though I am not an artist, he engaged with me in a joint exploration of the wonders of both bark and condensation that made me feel that even I could share just a little in his artistic gifts. (If you follow either of us on Facebook, you'll understand what I'm talking about.) And he and Leila presented me with a slice of Gadbois special recipe faux birthday cake which is one my most treasured works of Houston art.

His many friends (and indeed there are many) are shedding very real tears of sadness that he's gone from us, but also of joy that he gave us, and leaves with us, so much love and beauty.



Henri Gadbois *Comet* 1957

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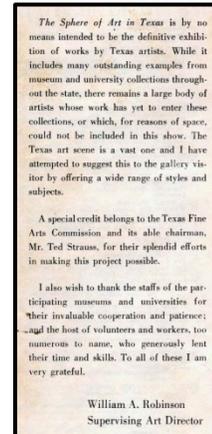
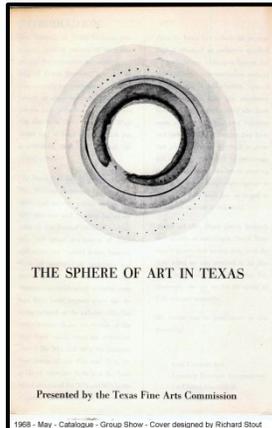
The Sphere of Art in Texas HemisFair 1968

The long-time Texans among us will remember that HemisFair, running from March to October 1968 in San Antonio, was the big Texas news 50 years ago this year. Some of you may even have been lucky enough to get there. Talk about world class! HemisFair was our very own World's Fair, showing the whole world what Texas had to offer (as though the whole world didn't already know). Part of what we had to offer then, as now, was our art, and so there was an art exhibition at the Fair called *The Sphere of Art in Texas*. Houstonians were a big part of that show, so in this issue of the Newsletter we're taking a look at Houston artists at HemisFair. Wow, they must have stolen the show.



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The Sphere of Art in Texas, HemisFair 1968: Houston artists at the Fair.



The Sphere of Art in Texas exhibition brochure, 1968, cover design by Richard Stout.

We can all be thankful to HETAGer Richard Stout for what we know about the actual works of art in the exhibition. Richard designed the cover of the checklist (above) and supplied the copy. Not even the HemisFair archives at UT San Antonio has one, so bravo Richard for the design – and for keeping a copy. Richard was also commissioned to paint the mural (below) for the entrance to the Institute of Texas Cultures on the fair grounds.



Richard Stout [Institute of Texas Cultures mural] 1968, three 8x8 foot panels. Donated to University of Houston Clear Lake, pictured here in the Bayou Building.

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Henri Gadbois *Katy Road* 1961

Houston artists in the exhibition, and the titles of their works (those in **red** are illustrated here):

Paintings

David Adickes *Three Men by the Sea* 1953

William Anzalone *Nude* 1960/61

Forrest Bess *Untitled* 1947

John Biggers *The Cradle* 1960

Kathleen Blackshear *Armadillo* 1947

Jack Boynton *Untitled #9* 1959

Gene Charlton *Eggplant* 1942-43 MFAH

Lowell Collins *Mexican Night* nd MFAH

Pat Colville *IV,III* 1968

Henri Gadbois *Katy Road* 1961

Dorothy Hood *Heavenward* 1966

Paul Maxwell *Crystal Beach* 1953

Buck Schiwetz *King House Near Seguin*
c1957 MFAH

Chester Snowden *Sunday Quietude* c1946
MFAH

Richard Stout *The One* 1967

Richard Stout [HemisFair mural] 1968

Dick Wray *What's a nice picture like you
doing in a place like this?* 1968

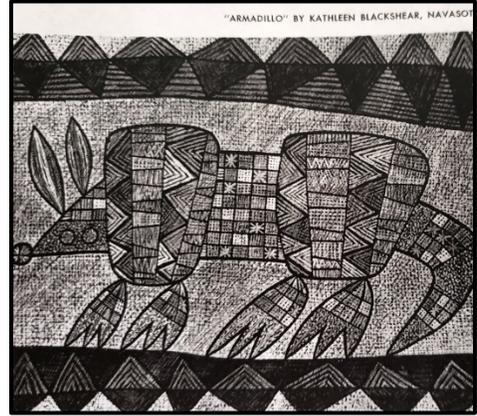
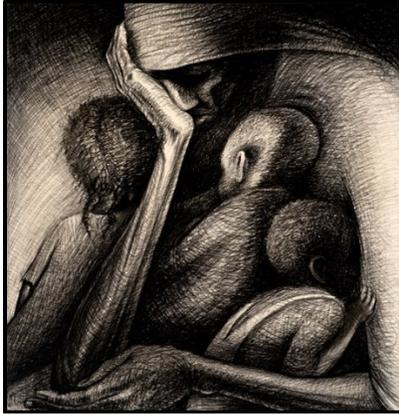
Sculpture

Pat Colville *The Arrow* 1968

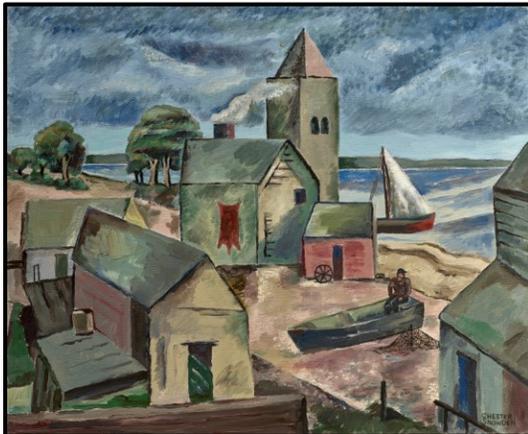
Jim Love *Paul Bunyan Bouquet* 1962
MFAH

Charles Pebworth *Conflict* 1962 MFAH

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John Biggers *Cradle* 1950 (l), Jim Love *Paul Bunyan Bouquet* 1962 (c) and Kathleen Blackshear *Armadillo* 1947 (r)



Chester Snowden *Sunday Quietude* c1946 (l) and Gene Charlton *Eggplant* 1942/43 (r)



Buck Schiwetz *House Near Seguin* 1957(l) and David Adickes *Three Men By the Sea* 1953(r)

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This Fall we're being treated to a real FESTIVAL OF EARLIER HOUSTON ART, with exhibitions and events all over town. It's an unprecedented opportunity to see and learn about Houston-made art from the 1850s through the 20th Century. Here's info on some of what's happening.

Current exhibitions:

[SOUTH AND NORTH OF THE BORDER: HOUSTON PAINTS HOUSTON](#)

The Heritage Society
1100 Bagby Street
Houston, Texas 77002

EXTENDED Until January 12, 2019

[SOUTH AND NORTH OF THE BORDER: HOUSTON PAINTS MEXICO](#)

The Julia Ideson Building, Houston Public Library
550 McKinney Street
Houston, Texas 77002
Until November 10, 2018

The two exhibitions are presented by The Heritage Society, Houston Public Library, CASETA: Center for the Advancement and Study of Early Texas Art, and HETAG: Houston Earlier Texas Art Group. A joint catalog has been published and is free when you visit either exhibition.



Bill Condon *Houston Ship Channel* 1958

[Sense of Home: The Art of Richard Stout](#)

[O'Kane Gallery, University of Houston Downtown](#)

Until December 6, 2018

A major retrospective of the work of Houston artist and HETAGer, Richard Stout.

[Journey to the Brightest Star](#)

George Smith

2018 Lifetime Achievement Award in the Visual Arts Exhibition

Art League Houston

Until November 3, 2018

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[Houston Artists of the 19th Century in the William J. Hill Texas Artisans & Artists Archive](#)

Powell Library, Bayou Bend, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
Until January 6, 2019

[Kindred Spirits: Louise Nevelson & Dorothy Hood](#)

November 3, 2018 – February 3, 2019

Museum of Fine Arts, Houston

Pairing the work of two mid-20th Century American artists, one New Yorker, one Houstonian, both women and both giants in the art worlds of their own time and ours.

[Deborah Colton Gallery](#)

Dorothy Hood - Don Redman: Paintings & Sculptures

Basilios Poulos: A Moment in Time

Dick Wray: Select Works

November 10, 2018 to January 5, 2019

The following are presented in conjunction with the publication of [Collision: The Contemporary Art Scene in Houston, 1972-1985](#), by Pete Gershon (Texas A&M University Press, Sept. 2018)

[Contemporary Artists in Houston from the Collections of William J. Hill and the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston](#)

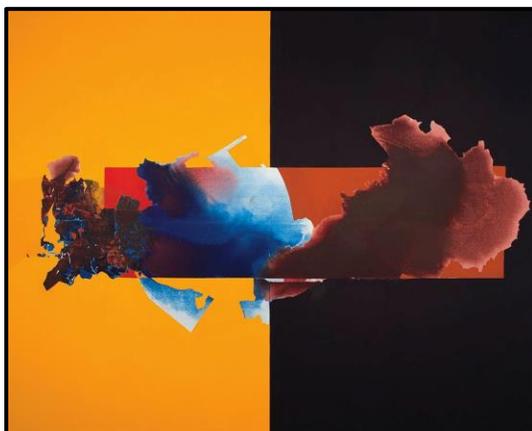
Leslie and Brad Bucher Gallery, the Glassell School of Art, MFAH

Until November 11, 2018

[Creating Collision: The Contemporary Art Scene in Houston, 1972 - 1985](#)

Hirsch Library, Museum of Fine Arts Houston

Until December 15, 2018



Dorothy Hood *Untitled* 1987 (Art Museum of South Texas, Corpus Christi)

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Mark your calendar now for the next HETAG Meeting:
HOLIDAY PARTY

At the home of a couple of astute HETAG collectors
Sunday afternoon, December 16, 2018
Details will follow

The mission of HETAG is to illuminate Houston's art history by providing viewing opportunities for art, by supporting and doing research on the artists and art communities working in Houston through the years, and by spreading the word.

Back issues of the HETAG Newsletter are available via the
University of Houston Libraries
Digital Library

<https://digital.lib.uh.edu/collection/hetag>

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Frank Freed *Puerto Vallarta c1957*

Exhibitions come and go, but Earlier Houston Art just seems to keep on coming. This painting turned up recently. It would certainly have been a candidate for *South and North of the Border: Houston Paints Mexico*, which closes in November. It arrived too late for that show, but now we know where it is when it's time for *Houston Paints Mexico Again*.