It took cartoonist Mike Peters, WU alumnus and recent Pulitzer Prize winner, only seconds to draw one of his old friends, here with luxurious locks. Peters demonstrated his skills recently to WU fine arts students and faculty.

Alumnus Takes Aim at Pomposity And Wins Cartooning Pulitzer

Last fall, four Pulitzer Prize-winning political cartoonists—Paul Conrad, Herblock, John Marchetti, and Pat Oliphant—were asked to pick the best of the next cartooning generation.

Heading their list was a young man whom Herblock characterized as a “stand-out”—Mike Peters. “His ideas,” they agreed, “are right on target, his humor, deliciously pointed, and his draftsmanship, first-rate.”

Last week, their choice was right on target. Mike Peters won a Pulitzer Prize for overall work as an editorial cartoonist.

In the editorial offices of the Dayton Daily News where Peters plies his trade, there was pandemonium. And on this campus in the stately corridors of Bixby Hall there was also jubilation, for Mike Peters is a WU School of Fine Arts alumnus, class of 1965.

He is also living proof that Leo Durocher was wrong when he declared unequivocally that “nice guys always finish last.” For Mike Peters is a nice guy—until he takes crayon in hand to draw his devastating political cartoons. Twelve years ago, when he arrived in Ohio by bus, he was an unknown. Today, nationally syndicated by United Press Syndicate and a regular on NBC’s “Today” show, Peters is “big time,” but fame and fortune have left him singularly unaffected.

WU graphic communications majors and their mentors discovered that a few weeks ago when Peters, at the invitation of WU Prof. Richard Brunell, returned to WU to describe what life is like as an artist whose work appears frequently in Time, the New Republic and Newsweek.

At 37, Peters, in blue jeans and a muddy-colored T-shirt, neither looks nor acts like a celebrity. Puckish and determined

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Works by Modern Dance Pioneer Highlight Dance Theatre Concerts

The name of Japanese-born Michio Ito, one of the great modern dance pioneers, may be almost forgotten today, but this weekend his dances will live again.

Highlighting the three WU Dance Theatre performances at 8 p.m. April 24-26, at Edison Theatre, will be works which made Ito famous, performed by New York dance artist Satoru Shimazaki. Currently a WU artist-in-residence, Shimazaki is well known for his reconstructions of Ito’s dances, which he performs in authentic style and with personal magnetism. These works, composed mostly in America in the 1920s and 1930s, but neither of the West nor of the East, influenced dancer Martha Graham, as well as poets Yeats and Pound. Included will be “Symphonic Etudes,” “Tango” and “Golliwog’s Cakewalk,” performed by Shimazaki and other dancers.

The concert will also present an exciting spectrum of dance reflecting the talents and diverse dance styles of several distinguished choreographers. Represented besides Shimazaki will

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Professional Amateur Plimpton Tries His Hand as Series Speaker

George Plimpton, who writes about what it feels to be an amateur among the professionals, will speak at 11 a.m. Friday, April 24, at Graham Chapel.

An engaging writer of wit and authenticity, Plimpton is editor-in-chief of the Paris Review, a highly successful literary quarterly. He is also a frequent contributor to Sports Illustrated and Harper’s Magazine.

Partly for fun and partly to impart to readers the experience of being an amateur competing among professionals, he has invaded the strongholds of professional sports and music.


He next moved into the arts as a percussionist with the New York Philharmonic. In 1968, NBC’s Bell Telephone Hour presented The Secret Musical Life of George Plimpton, which chronicled his apprenticeship with tympanist Saul Goodman.
Solves Big Scientific Problems

G. Keith Little, electron microprobe research specialist, controls the testing of a mineral sample at Wilson Hall. The vacuum chamber in the background is connected to both light optics and electron microscopes.

Microprobe’s Eye for Minutiae Solves Big Scientific Problems

A highly advanced electron microprobe, capable of determining the elemental makeup of particles as small as 1/30,000 of an inch, is now in full operation in Wilson Hall, analyzing everything from slices of volcanic rock to freeze-dried inner ear fluid to computer microchips. One of several microprobes in the St. Louis area, it is the most sophisticated, according to staff members who have worked with it.

The Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences recently completed the final testing of the new $350,000, state of the art instrument, which is both a scanning electron microscope and an X ray analysis system.

The microprobe already has been used by campus geologists, chemists, physicists, engineers and biomedical researchers, as well as local industries. “Everybody is really excited. There’s just nothing else like it,” said G. Keith Little, an electron microprobe research specialist in the department. For the past months, Little has been rewriting virtually the entire automation program, customizing the computer software for specific research functions.

The machine is used basically to detect the abundance of different elements in a sample which has been placed in a water-cooled vacuum chamber. Inside the chamber, a tiny column of electrons, focused by magnetic lenses, strikes the sample, causing it to emit X rays. The intensity of the X rays is proportional to the amount of the element being measured.

One direct application of this process is quality control. When C. P. Clare & Co., a St. Louis electronics firm, was having problems with their microswitches, they ran samples through the new WU electron microprobe. They discovered that traces of potassium-chlorine crystals were contaminating the switches during a manufacturing step. The company successfully changed its manufacturing method and now plans to use the microprobe as a monitoring tool.

WU ophthalmologists have a similar use for the equipment. Before transplanting an intraocular plastic lens into a patient’s eye, they can check the lens surface for microscopic impurities that may have been introduced during its manufacture.

Particles of air pollutants, interplanetary dust and bits of meteorites are other possible objects of study. According to Little, almost any solid material, including freeze-dried and condensed liquids, can be analyzed by the electron microprobe.

Those interested in possible applications of the microprobe to their research projects should contact Little or Rodney Batiza, WU assistant professor of earth and planetary sciences.

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not to take himself too seriously, Peters has a ready wit and an irreverent attitude which make him seem very much at ease.

Actually, this air of studied nonchalance is a façade, for being “center stage” doesn’t come easily for Peters. Appearing in public, whether it be to banter with Tom Brokaw or to lecture in Bixby Hall, causes Peters much anxiety, but he manages to mask his feelings with an actor’s finesse. Perhaps that trait is inherited from his mother, Charlotte Peters, a local St. Louis TV star for several decades.

His style is low-key and deliberately self-deprecating. Peters delights in poking fun at himself as well as those in the news. His purpose is to “make people mad,” he confided, and he measures his effectiveness by the number of churlish letters and phone calls he gets in response to the satiric cartoons he draws with the deliberate intent of deflating the pompous.

Some months ago, he told a Newsweek reporter, “We all picture ourselves as the little kid looking at the naked emperor. That’s our greatest gift to society. Because when Carter or Reagan or Anderson says something pompous, when they’re telling a lie, a journalist reporting the quote cannot say: ‘Hey, that guy’s a liar.’ But the cartoonist can say: ‘Wait a minute. That guy’s not wearing a stitch on his body.’ ”

That, according to Peters, is what makes his job such fun. It is also what gives him a sense of purpose. For political cartoonists are basically reformers. Blythe Babyak, a freelance writer, observed recently of cartoonists: “They share a sharp eye for issues and ironies, a taste for human foibles, a quick draw, a biting wit, and a not-so-easy cynicism that reveals them as the closet idealists they really are.”

And nobody is more aware of their deadly aim than politicians. Boss Tweed perhaps put it best. He habitually shrugged off hostile newspaper editorials on the ground that his constituents couldn’t really read anyway, but “them damn pictures . . . knocked the stuffing out of the worst of us.”

At WU, and just the other day after winning a Pulitzer Prize, Peters explained that he revels in “humbling experiences, anecdotes that cause audiences to laugh at him as well as with him.”

Somehow, he makes it all seem easy. But it really isn’t. Perhaps that’s why there are only some 170 political cartoonists in this country. Collectively and individually, they are engaged in drawing what a Newsweek scribe defined as a “contour map of the soul.” And that, Peters agrees, is what makes getting up at 6:30 a.m. every day to skewer the high and the mighty such an edifying and satisfying vocation.

WU Ranks Sixth Nationally in Training Grants

A report published by the National Institutes of Health indicates that WU ranks sixth nationally among universities receiving institutional training grant awards.

The $4,506,727 in grants was awarded mainly to WU’s School of Medicine on a competitive basis for training purposes during the fiscal year October 1, 1979, to September 30, 1980.

The five universities which surpassed WU include: Johns Hopkins University, Yale University, Harvard University, the University of Chicago, and the University of Washington.

Pre-Retirement Program Offered

Because of considerable response to an earlier program, another pre-retirement series will be offered free this spring to WU faculty, administrative and staff personnel who are within ten years of retirement. Spouses are also welcome to attend.

The goal of the program, conducted by the Family and Children’s Service of Greater St. Louis, is to help pre-retirees plan for the drastic lifestyle changes which occur at retirement.

The sessions will begin Monday, May 11, and meet weekly, except for May 25, through June 22. They will run from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Family and Children’s Service's Clayton office, 107 S. Meramec Ave. For a registration form, call Meg Gilmore in the Personnel Office, Ext. 5949.
Faculty Notes

Roger DesRosiers, dean of the WU School of Fine Arts, is having a one-man exhibition of his works of art at the Mark Twain National Bank, 8822 Ladue Rd. The show opened last Sunday and will run through June 30. Viewing hours coincide with normal banking hours.

Liselotte Dieckmann, professor emeritus of German, has been awarded a summer grant from the American Council of Learned Societies to translate the memoirs of Marguerite De Valois.

Theodore V. Galambos, Harold D. Jolley Professor of Civil Engineering, has received the American Institute of Steel Construction's 1981 T.R. Higgins Lectureship Award. The award, including an engraved citation and $2,000, recognizes Galambos as coauthor of the paper, "Load and Resistance Factor Design for Steel." Published in 1978, the paper was judged to be the most significant engineering article on fabricated structural steel written within the last five years. As the award recipient, Galambos will present six lectures throughout the nation, beginning in May. The other author of the paper is M. K. Razindra, a California engineer.

Richard H. Helmholz, professor of law and history, was elected president of the American section of the International Commission for the History of Representative and Parliamentary Institutions last month. Helmholz will serve a five-year term as president.

Michael W. Lieberman, professor of pathology and director of graduate training in the Department of Pathology at the WU School of Medicine, has received the Warner Lambert/Parke-Davis Award from the American Association of Pathologists for exceptional research by a member under 40 years of age.

Lieberman was the first to demonstrate that human cells could repair damage caused by direct-acting chemical carcinogens and chemotherapeutic agents such as nitrogen mustard.

Daniel R. Mandelker, Howard A. Stamper Professor of Law, was a speaker recently at the National Land Use Conference held at Golden Gate University in San Francisco, and at the annual meeting of the League of Women Voters in Dallas. Both speeches were on land use and planning law issues.

Kenneth Shepsle, professor of political science, lectured on "Structure-Induced Equilibrium" at a conference last month on Mathematical Economics and Public Policy at Essex University in England.

Robert M. Walker, McDonnell Professor of Physics and director of the McDonnell Center for the Sciences Sciences, and Ghislaine Croaz, associate professor of earth and planetary sciences, have been presenting a series of lectures in major cities in India this semester. Croaz is speaking on meteorites, exploration of the solar system, and records of the sun in extraterrestrial materials. Walker's topics include interplanetary dust, appropriate technology and automatic track-counting devices. This summer they will speak at research institutes and scientific conferences in France, Italy and Switzerland.

Student Paper Wins National Prize

For the third time in six years, a WU student has won the American Helicopter Society's national Robert L. Lichten Award. This year's winner is Shyi-Yang Chen, a graduate student in the WU Department of Mechanical Engineering, who received $350 for "the best paper presented at a meeting by a new author." Chen will present his paper, "Vibration and Stability of Two-Bladed Rotors on Elastica Supports," again during a trip to New Orleans on May 18-20.

Six WU engineering students bested their competitors in three race categories last Saturday in the annual concrete canoe race, sponsored by the St. Louis Concrete Council. The paired students raced against teams from the University of Missouri at Rolla and the Cement Masons Apprentices of St. Louis at a Forest Park lake. Above, senior Amy Lyons and sophomore Devavarit Rastogi get a good start on their victory in the middle canoe, the WU entry, "Zod." The WU faculty team, comprising Theodore V. Galambos, Harold D. Jolley Professor of Civil Engineering, and Kevin Z. Truman, part-time lecturer in civil engineering, fared less well in their heat, taking only second place. The students' trophies are on display in the civil engineering department office.

Dance—continued from p. 1

be WU artists-in-residence Gerald Otto and Claudia Gitelman, both of New York. Also featured will be the work of WU resident choreographers Annelise Mertz, director of the dance division; Mary-Jean Cowell, associate professor of dance; and Anna Marie Schary, artist-in-residence.

Performers include guest artists, WU faculty members, graduates and selected dance majors of the dance division.

Five works will be premiered at the concert. "Umbrae," is a major collaboration between Gitelman, a faculty member of the Nikolais/Louis Dance Theatre Lab, and Otto, a featured dancer of the Nikolais Dance Theatre. It will be performed by Otto, students and others.

In her new four-part suite, "States of Being," Mertz returns to the Edison stage after an absence of three years to dance a solo entitled "Lonesome Dream." The suite includes another solo, "Being Short," choreographed and performed by Sherry Londe, a WU University College faculty member.

Other premieres are Cowell's "Pathways Through the Valley of Time," Shimazaki's "Lacrimosa" and Schary's "Chrysalis."

Repertory pieces are Mertz's "Rag Dollies," a favorite of WU ragtime festivals, and Cowell's "Corridors."

Several works have original scores composed by Steven Radecke, musical director of the Performing Arts Area. Costumes are by Clyde Ruffin, assistant professor of drama and of black studies. Lighting is by New York designer James van Abema, who will employ his invention, an automatic color changer, which can create 20 rapid changes of the color environment.

Ten-Week Fitness Program Begins April 27

The WU Department of Sports and Recreation will sponsor a 10-week physical fitness program beginning April 27. Emphasis will be placed on cardiovascular endurance, muscle tone and flexibility, using carefully graded exercises and progressive jogging. A pre- and post-fitness evaluation is optional.

Two programs will be offered this spring: an early morning session on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 7 to 8 a.m.; and an early evening session on Mondays and Thursdays from 6 to 7 p.m. The fee for the program is $40, plus $20 for the optional fitness test. For application forms, call Rand Rosenthal at Ext. 5220.
Friday, April 24

11 a.m. Assembly Series Lecture with George Plimpton, writer and editor-in-chief of the Paris Review. Graham Chapel.

1 p.m. Neuroscience Symposium, "Localization of Higher Brain Functions in Man," with Doreen Kimura, U. of Western Ontario; Elliott D. Ross, U. of Texas Health Science Center, Dallas; and Eran Zaidel, UCLA. Moore Aud., 4580 Scott Ave.

2 p.m. Department of Systems Science and Mathematics Seminar, "SSM Senior Projects," senior students from that department. Alumni House.

2 p.m. Technology and Human Affairs Seminar, "Cost/Benefit Analysis and Environmental Policy," Christopher Hill, sr. research assoc., Center for Policy Alternatives, MIT. 103 Lopata.


6 p.m. Thurtene Carnival, with rides, games, foods and skills. Parking lot at Big Bend and Forsyth Blvs. Runs to midnight on Friday; noon to midnight on Saturday, April 25. In the event of rain, the Carnival will resume on Sunday.

8:30 p.m. Hillel Foundation Lecture, "The Individual Imperative of Social Action in the Jewish Tradition," Rabbi Herman Pollack, MIT Hillel. Hillel House.

Saturday, April 25


9 a.m. Neural Sciences Program, "Hypothalamic Control of Reproduction," Stan Wiegand, WU prof. of anatomy and neurobiology. 926 McDonnell, 4570 McKinley.

Monday, April 27

11 a.m. Departments of Civil Engineering and Systems Science and Mathematics Seminar, "A Dimensional Reduction Method with Application to Problems in Structural Mechanics," Michael Vogelius, visiting assoc. prof. of math., research scientist, NYU. 100 Cupples II.

12 noon Department of Biology Lecture, "Genetic Control of Body Segment Differentiation in Drosophila," Ian Duncan, Calif. Inst. of Tech. 322 Rebstock.


4 p.m. Department of Biology Lecture, "Cell-Cell Contact and Gene Expression During Differentiation of Dicyostelium discoideum," Harvey F. Lodish, dept. of biology, MIT. 322 Rebstock.

4 p.m. Department of Psychology Colloquium, "Recent Advances in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Dementia of the Alzheimer's Type," Harvey Levin, dept. of surgery, Univ. of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston. Cosponsored by Department of Neurology. 102 Eads.

Tuesday, April 28


4 p.m. Department of Biology Lecture, "Synthesis and Assembly of Cell Surface Glycoproteins," Harvey F. Lodish, dept. of biology, MIT. 322 Rebstock.

6 and 8 p.m. School of Fine Arts Fashion Show, "The Fashion Collection, 1891," featuring designs by dress design majors. Admission to the 6 p.m. show, $4. The 8 p.m. showing, admission $7, includes a reception sponsored by the Women's Society of WU. In cooperation with Saka Fifth Avenue. Bixby Hall Gallery. For reservations to either show, call Ext. 6500.

Wednesday, April 29

4 p.m. Cellular and Molecular Division Lecture, "Transcription of Histone Genes During the lampbrush Chromosome Stage in Oocytes of the Newt, Notophthalmus," Joseph G. Gall, dept. of biology, Yale U. 322 Rebstock.

Thursday, April 30


Films

Friday, April 24

7:30 and 9:45 p.m. WU Filmboard Series, "Rocky." Brown. $1.75. (Also Sat., April 25, same times, Brown.)

Tuesday, April 28

7:30 p.m. American Film Musical Series, "Sweet Charity." Brown. $2.

Wednesday, April 29

7:30 and 9:15 p.m. WU Filmboard Series, "The Umbrellas of Cherbourg." Brown. $1.75. (Also Thurs., April 30, same times, Brown.

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