Art brut

Forty years of Jean Dubuffet's art opens Jan. 19 in Gallery of Art

The first retrospective in a decade of the art of French modern master Jean Dubuffet opens Jan. 19 and runs through March 3 at WU's Gallery of Art.

Jean Dubuffet: Forty Years of His Art is the only major Dubuffet retrospective in America since 1973, when the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York City exhibited his works. The St. Louis presentation comprises 52 works: 39 from the Chicago collections, 13 from St. Louis.

Chicago Sun-Times art critic Christopher Lyon recently wrote: "At 85, France's Jean Dubuffet probably is the last surviving modern master to have made a fundamental, even revolutionary, contribution to the development of 20th-century art."

Dubuffet's style has been called "art brut." His works have been influenced by the art of children, prison inmates, insane people and primitive cultures, according to Joseph D. Keiner II, acting director of the WU Gallery of Art.

"The two strongest qualities of his work are the emotional power of the images and the use of non-traditional art materials," Keiner says. "In certain early works he would mix sand, glass, glue, pebbles, thread and soil in a heavy paste, called "haute pate," apply it to the surface, then scrape, incise and trowel the images."

The exhibit will travel to St. Louis from the University of Chicago's David and Alfred Smart Gallery, where it was displayed Oct. 4 to Dec. 2. The Smart Gallery organized "Jean Dubuffet: Forty Years of His Art." The show was published by the Suhrkamp and Kein Schoener Land, 1983. All rights are the property of Washington University.

Team work

Mathematics competition reflects 'real world' science

Providing students with experience which accurately reflects life beyond their college years is one of academia's most enduring challenges. And according to one WU professor, the new Mathematical Competition in Modeling (MCM) is a close to "real world" science as the typical undergraduate is likely to get.

Unlike its cousin, the William Lowell Putnam Mathematical Competition, the MCM does not measure individual achievement. Instead, test problems are solved by teams. "This is the way science is actually conducted today," says Ervin Y. Rodin, professor of applied mathematics and systems science. "That's why you see so many Nobel prizes going to groups rather than individuals. Today's meaningful research and scientific achievements arise from group efforts.

In the MCM, which will be held nationally (including at WU) for the first time in February, students are given three days to work on one problem, but oh what a problem that is. While Putnam participants calculate volume displacements of stick figures on a page, MCM students route emergency vehicles, orient solar collector panels and locate hot spots on jet engine turbines. "We take the 'applied aspect of the competition very seriously," says Rodin, one of the founders of the national competition. "To recognize this new kind of talent in mathematics, we're offering problems not unlike those encountered in contemporary industry and science."

And like real world scientists, MCM participants have tools at their disposal. They can use computers, data bases, books, articles...anything but individuals outside the team," says Rodin. "And again, this reflects the mainstream. Industrial scientists can't phone the competition and ask how they solved a given problem."

At the end of the allotted time, each team will submit a written report of its work. The problem solutions will be hand-graded by a committee of judges. "Ideally, the three-person team should be made up of an engineer/physics whiz, an applied mathematics whiz, and a Shakespeare," says Rodin. "That last member is very important because if the team results are not presented in a logical and readable form, the team's overall score could be hurt."

Rodin sees this science-writing feature as one of the competition's most educational aspects. "After all," he says, "who are the successful scientists, nowadays? Those who get their work published."
United Kingdom sculptor David Nash will exhibit 18 pieces of his sculpture and related drawings from Jan. 6 to Dec. 19 in WU's Bixby Gallery in Bixby Hall. The pieces were sculpted from a fallen tree in Forest Park in September 1983.

An artist's reception will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20, at the gallery.

Nash is the first sculptor to participate in the St. Louis-United Kingdom Artist's Exchange Program. The West End Neighborhood Arts Council, which sponsors this program, invited him to spend two weeks here last fall to make his sculpture. The St. Louis Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry helped make the project possible.

The work has been stored at WU's Tyson Research Center near Eureka, Mo., in the interim.

The St. Louis Public School's School Partnership Program also is involved with the Nash endeavor. Art students in the program saw the film "Woodman," which is about Nash, and heard St. Louis sculptor Bill FitzGibbons talk about environmental sculpture and Nash's work.

City and county high schools paired in the Partnership Program are: Honors Art and Lindbergh; Sumner and Clayton; and McKinley and Parkway South.

On Jan. 8, 9 and 11, the students will create their own large-scale group sculptures, ala David Nash. The Honors Art-Lindbergh team will work at Honors Art High School, 6593 Smiley; the other two teams will work on the WU campus.

Nash will critique the students' work and meet with them at noon, Wednesday, Jan. 23, in WU's Steinberg Auditorium, Steinberg Hall, to discuss their work and show slides of his own work.

The Nash project also is sponsored by the Missouri Arts Council, the Arts and Education Council of Greater St. Louis, and the St. Louis Arts and Humanities Commission.

The public is invited to an exhibition and reception. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays and 1 to 5 p.m. weekends. For more information, call 889-0597.

Rudolf Husar shares recent acid rain findings on Channel 9's 'NOVA'

Rudolf B. Husar, director of the Center for Air Pollution Impact Trend Analysis (CAPITA) and professor of mechanical engineering at WU, will be featured in an upcoming episode of 'NOVA,' the nationally syndicated science program produced by WGBH-TV, Boston.

Acid Rain: New Bad News' will discuss recent findings concerning the relationship between rain and forest damage and will be broadcast locally at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 1, on KETC (Channel 9). It will be repeated at 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 5.

To date, the acid rain debate has concentrated on sulfur emissions typically associated with power plants, but forest damage in the northeastern states has altered this focus. "The new focus includes nitrogen oxide emissions from automobile and industrial sources, as well as sulfur emissions," says Husar.

"Studies indicate that while the forests have been realizing profound damage in recent years, levels of sulfides have actually been going down. So the suspicion has shifted to nitrogen oxides whose levels have been going up. Now we have to worry about other pollutants, other sources, and other industries beyond the power companies."

Husar is currently a member of a National Academy of Sciences committee studying trends in acid rain.

For the fifth year in a row, WU has received an award for outstanding achievement from the United Way of Greater St. Louis for exceeding its campaign goal of $122,000 during the 1984 United Way fund drive.

To date, 931 WU employees have contributed a record $125,278 to the United Way this year. Thomas A. Harig, chairman of the WU United Way campaign and director of Purchasing and General Services, said he especially was pleased with passing this year's goal because it was 2 percent higher than last year's goal of $110,000.

This year's United Way campaign theme is "Winning, It Starts With You," and Washington University can be proud of the part it played in meeting this year's goal," Harig said. "Everyone who participated in this worthwhile effort of helping his neighbor in need becomes a winner. Thank you to all Washington University employees who contributed and a special thanks to the many departmental solicitors who gave their time and efforts to help attain our goal."

Harig, who has served as chairman of the University's campaign for five years, said he expects more pledges to be made through December.

This year's United Way campaign coordinators were: Florence Freeman, administrative officer, General Services Department; Gene Mueh, assistant business manager, School of Medicine; John Sahrman, assistant professor, School of Dental Medicine; and Robert Salisbury, professor of political science, faculty representative.

Chancellor William H. Danforth is the 1984 chairman of the United Way Board of Directors of Greater St. Louis, and H. Edwin Trusheim, a WU trustee, is the St. Louis campaign chairman.

New attorney joins General Counsel

Leslie Strohm has been appointed assistant general counsel for WU. Strohm, who began her new position on Oct. 8, previously was employed at Bryan, Cave, McPheters and McRoberts, a St. Louis law firm.

As assistant general counsel for the University, Strohm serves as one of the University's three staff attorneys.

Her job includes dealing with a wide variety of legal questions involving leases and contracts, labor relations, taxation, health care and trusts and estates.

"It's an enjoyable and challenging job," said Strohm. "The legal practice is very diverse."

Strohm graduated magna cum laude from the University of Michigan Law School. She received her undergraduate degree from DePauw University in Indiana.

Rudolf B. Husar

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Washington University Record

Washington University Record (USPS 480-1430; ISSN 0145-2350), Volume 9, Number 50, Dec. 20, 1984. Published weekly during the school year, except school holidays, monthly in June, July and August, at the Office of News and Information, Campus Box 1142, Washington University, St. Louis, Mo. 63140.

Second-class postage paid at St. Louis, Mo.

Washington University Record is published for the University by the University Press. News items for the record are solicited from all University organizations and departments.

Washington University Record is published on behalf of the University by the Washington University Press, 511攻击 Road, St. Louis, MO 63110.
NOTABLES

Joseph J. H. Ackerman, assistant professor of chemistry, presented a seminar, titled “Applications and Developments in Surface Coil Spectroscopy,” in December at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md.

Leslie Laskey, professor of architecture, is currently in charge of a series of contemporary light fixtures at Craft Alliance, 6640 Delmar Blvd., in University City. Laskey and partner Dan Johnson created the 10 designs, two of which recently won the gallery’s Critics’ Choice Award. The winning works, titled “Pendulum” and “Brooch,” along with the other pieces, will be on display through Dec. 24. Laskey and Johnson incorporate materials such as handmade paper, foil, wire and antique globe lights into their designs. A year and a half ago, the artists formed a business called The Mysterious Light Company, where they design and manufacture their works.


Christopher Loving, coordinator of training in Residential Life, delivered a lecture, titled “Worlds: A Guide to training in Residential Life,” at the National Orientation Directors’ Seminar, titled “Applications and Developments,” at the National Orientation Directors’ Seminar, held at St. Louis University.

Harold W. Shipton, chairman of the Biomedical Engineering Program, currently served as moderator of a course on “Topographic Mapping of Neurophysiological Data” sponsored by the Boston Children’s Hospital.

Martha Storandt, professor of psychology and neurology, has received the 1984 Missouri Association of Colleges and Professional Concert Band.

Louis M. Smith, professor of education, presented one of the plenary addresses at the November Classroom Action Research Network International Conference held in Cambridge, England. He also lectured at the Brighton Polytechnic Institute and at Sussex University. While in England, he signed a contract with Falmer Press for a trilogy of books to be based on his National Institute of Education project, “Kensington Revisited: A 15-Year Follow-up of an Innovative School and its Faculty.”

Duncan, whose retirement party was held Dec. 13, officially will end her 44 years of service to the University on Dec. 28. And who knows? She just might go out the same way she came in. Cashmere sweater, pearls and all.

Michelle Merhan

Bowl winners: The 1981-84 WU College Bowl team recently received a 15-volume set of the McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science and Technology from the McGraw-Hill Book Company for the team’s second-place showing in national competition last spring. The team, in turn, presented the set to the Biology Library on campus. College Bowl is a question and answer game. Pictured at the event are (left) Betsy Glydon, biology librarian, Chancellors William H. Danforth, Walter T. Cammanura, regional vice president-mid continent, McGraw-Hill Book Company; and Andrew Zupan, team captain. Danforth is wearing a College Bowl T-shirt presented to him by the team. Zupan is wearing a College Bowl medal. During the event, the team also gave Danforth a check for $5,000 from College Bowl for the University’s scholarship fund.

Four WU soccer athletes have been named to the 1984 National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) Division III All-Midwest team.

Sophomore forward George Chapin, St. Louis, and junior goalkeeper John Konsek, Neenah, Wis., were first team selections, while junior Nick Tom Ogorzalek, North Brunswick, N.J., and junior midfielder John Brill, Columbia, Md., were honorable mention selections. WU’s soccer squad finished 1984 with a final record of 15-4-2 and dropped a 1-2 decision to the eventual NCAA Division III champion, Wheaton College, in the second round of post-season play.

Commenting on the honors awarded to his players, head coach Joe Careenza said, “After our team’s performance this fall, each player’s selection is justifiable not only for their individual accomplishments, but also for their team efforts. I’m pleased that each one will be returning next year.”

Chapin, the Bears leading scorer in 1984, set a WU single season record tallying 23 goals in his second year of collegiate action. Chapin was also the WU assist leader with 11. Goalkeeper Konsek recorded 8.83 shutouts and posted a goals against average of 0.90. According to Careenza, he was one of the major reasons for the Battling Bears success this past season.

Honorable mention awardees Ogorzalek and Brill solidified the WU defense which allowed less than one goal per game (0.94). The defensive stalwarts had top offensive performances on the same day, each netting a goal in the 2-2 tie with Creighton University.

Helen Duncan, assistant controller for WU, wore almost the same ward-robe on campus in 1941 that girls wear today. So, what if more than four decades have passed? Some things never change. Duncan, who is celebrating 44 years with the University and her upcoming retirement, has many memories of WU. The assistant con-troller received her degree in ac-counting from WU in 1941. "The popular dress for girls back then was a cashmere sweater, a string of pearls and a tweed skirt. It’s remarkable how clothes come back into style," she said.

During the last semester of her senior year, Duncan began working part-time for the University as an assistant cashier. Soon after graduation, she got a job as a WU funds accountant and later was promoted to chief funds accountant. Duncan was appointed assistant controller in 1966. "I’ve seen the dollar amount of the University’s balance sheet increase by a billion dollars since I began working here," she said, proudly.

Although WU has gone through many other changes over the years, Duncan said she’s all been for the best. “In spite of the numerous new buildings, they’ve kept it a beautiful campus,” she said. “The wise men who built the University planned the location well.”

Duncan’s 44 years with WU. Duncan said she will miss its main resource the most. “I’ll miss the people. They’re what made my job interesting. I’ve had some wonderful people to work with through the years. They’re the ones who helped make the wheels go round.” As for her future, the soon-to-be-retiree said she intends to take life one day at a time and just see what comes.

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Michelle Merhan

Happy Holidays!

The Washington University Record staff wishes everyone a happy and safe holiday season. The Record will not be published during the winter break. Publication will resume Jan. 17, 1985.
Lectures

Friday, Jan. 4
6 p.m. 8:30 p.m. WU Association Film Lecture Series, "Shadow and Splendor," Howard B. Meyers, president of Howard B. Meyers Productions, and Lucia Perigo, former dir. of public relations for the Ambassador Hotels, Graham Chapel. For ticket info., call 889-5212.

Monday, Jan. 14

Tuesday, Jan. 15
4 p.m. Dept. of Chemistry Seminar, "Charge Separation in Photosynthetic Reaction Centers," Steven G. Benzer, associate prof. of chemistry, Stanford U. 311 McMillen.

Friday, Jan. 18
7 p.m. Gallery of Art Hortense Lewin Lecture, "Jean Dubuffet: 40 Years of His Art," Graham Chapel. Tickets are $22, section 1; $18, section 2; and $14, section 3. Children under 12 half-price at all matrices. For ticket info., call Edison Theatre at 889-5545 or Opera Theatre at 901-0641.

Thursday, Jan. 17
8 p.m. The St. Louis Actors Ensemble, in conjunction with WU Drama Division, presents the premiere of Georg Buchner's "Woyzeck" at Graham Chapel. Tickets are $2 at the door. For more info., call 889-5588.

MUSIC

Monday, Jan. 14
4:30-6 p.m. Symphonic Winds Audition at Toussaint Rehearsal Hall. To schedule an audition or for more info., call the Dept. of Music at 889-5583.

MISCELLANY

Sunday, Jan. 6
2 p.m. Minicourse in Plant Classification, "It's All in the Families," Erna Eisenbudt, WU assoc. prof. emeritus of hortany. (Course to meet six consecutive Sundays, same time.) Tyson Research Center. Cost is $30 to Friends of Tyson and $40 to non-members. For more info., and to register, call 938-5456.

Saturday, Jan. 12
2 p.m. The Family Activities Section of the Woman's Club has group tickets for a performance of the "Owl and the Pussycat" by T. S. Eliot. Tickets are $2 and must be ordered by Friday, Dec. 28. For tickets, call Lorraine Gionco at 721-1619, or Mary Wilson at 962-1490.

Calendar Deadline

The deadline to submit items for the Jan. 24-Feb. 2 calendar of the Washington University Record is Feb. 15.

EXHIBITIONS

"The Faculty Show." Through Dec. 30. Gallery of Art, main gallery. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays. For evening hours, call 889-5490.


"19th Century Art From the Permanent Collection." Through March 5. Gallery of Art, lower gallery. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays; 1-5 p.m. weekends. For evening hours, call 889-5490.

"Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition." Through Dec. 31. Betsy Hall, Betsy Gallery. 10 a.m.-6 p.m. weekdays; 1-5 p.m. weekends.

"Sculpture by David Nash," Jan. 6-27. Bix by Gallery, Betsy Hall. Artist's reception 2-5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 20, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. weekdays.

"Jean Dubuffet: Forty Years of His Art." Jan. 15-March 5. Gallery of Art, upper gallery. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays; 1-5 p.m. weekends. For evening hours, call 889-5490.

"Classics in the Neurosciences." WU School of Medicine, Medical Library Annex, 618 S. Taylor. Through Dec. 31. Open weekdays. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

"Permanent Collection." Jan. 6-Feb. 24. Gallery of Art, print gallery. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays; 1-5 p.m. weekends. For evening hours, call 889-5490.

Sports

Friday, Jan. 11
7 p.m. Men and Women's Swimming, WU vs. Oral Roberts U. St. Louis Community College at Forest Park.

7:30 p.m. Women's Basketball, WU vs. Principia College, Field House.

Tuesday, Jan. 15
11:15 a.m. Hockey, WU vs. St. Louis University. Creve Coeur Rink.

Friday, Jan. 18
7:30 p.m. Men's Basketball, WU vs. DePaul. U. Field House.

Saturday, Jan. 19
2 p.m. Women's Basketball, WU vs. Wash U. Field House.

MISCELLANY

Sunday, Jan. 6
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Math —continued from p. 1

Contracts. And that means those who write very good papers and proposals.

Originally, 30 or 40 schools were expected to participate, says Rodin. However, recent response indicates that as many as 150 schools may compete during the weekend of Feb. 15.

WU students interested in participating in the competition may contact Rodin; Carl M. Bender, professor of physics; or David L. Elliot, professor of mathematical systems, who will serve as coaches.

Paul Dusseault