



EARLY PICASSO . . . "Harlequin," painted by Pablo Picasso during his circus period (1905), now hangs in the Museum of Modern Art in Barcelona. Columnist Larry Macaray reports that he saw the painting during a visit to Spain last summer.

... Let's Go

By LARRY MACARAY

Sometimes people are like pack-rats accumulating possessions of every description. We all know friends and relatives who stock an overabundance of food in their freezers or save all the letters that have ever been written to them. People seem to acquire a taste for "things" that seem to interest them.

Anyone can be an accumulator. Some years ago I became an antique collector, and in my early zeal (and lack of enough money to buy adequately) I bought all the pre-war Japanese china that I could possibly find — and it was everywhere. Somewhere along the line, I began to discriminate the good from the bad. This must be a common occurrence: what used to seem great, suddenly, in the face of new and better discoveries loses all of its original charm and interest. In the case of the china, I finally ended up collecting fine Meissen.

COLLECTING IS A step up — or many steps up — from accumulating. Collecting paintings and other works of art is a major interest of many people today. What a fantastic history the collecting of art has blazed since the Eighteenth Century when a tight little circle of artists lived in a close relationship with their patrons, usually royal, or at least of the nobility. The love affair between Pablo Picasso and his public, to say nothing of his market, represents the long process of change in the world market of art patronage. Picasso is the greatest single figure in the artistic upheaval of the Twentieth Century. Certainly no painter in his own lifetime has been prized so highly in sheer money terms as this prolific Spaniard.

In the long history of art, probably no master has ever basked in the sunshine of such world-esteem while yet alive as this insurgent of our generation — or rather of almost two generations. No one, except possibly Rembrandt, Michelangelo, and Leonardo da Vinci has been the subject of so many scholarly books.

THE MANY STYLES that Picasso has gone through — the many creative and world-shaking ideas that he has contributed are almost beyond belief. Last summer at the Art Insti-

tute of Chicago I saw "The old Guitarist" from his Blue Period that lasted from 1901 to 1904. The fact that this period lasted only three years and that there can never be any more canvases of this period, helps to explain why some of these works sell at six-figure prices.

His Circus period of 1905 commands even a greater price on the world market. Les Baladins ("the traveling actors") was recently bought by the state museum in Stuttgart, Germany, for \$250,000 — the highest price ever paid for the work of a living painter. Upon acquiring the painting, the museum learned that on the back of this canvas was a typical Blue Period painting done in 1902 when Picasso was 21 and very poor.

AN EARLY PICASSO pencil and watercolor poster, Au Moulin Rouge, was auctioned off in New York in 1950 for \$1,650 and then again 10 years later for \$47,500 — a 3,000 per cent rise in value in a decade, and a small fortune for — a poster. Every time I go to Europe I search for Picasso lithographs that I can buy reasonably. Lithographs that he has signed on the stone I have been able to find for \$40 to \$100, which is a good buy. The mere act of his signing "Picasso" in pencil at the bottom of the lithograph automatically raises the value 10 times — this I cannot afford.

I became interested in his ceramic plates, after reading about them in David Duncan's wonderful book, "The Private World of Pablo Picasso." Finally located the dealer in Cannes who handles the plates and learned (with great shock) that they cost \$8,000 each! Maybe I can afford a small ash tray or something — but I plan to stop in Cannes next summer to check. Write to me if you're interested in his lithographs.

LBSC Professor Named for Award

Dr. Donald J. Reisch, associate professor of biological science at Long Beach State College, has been awarded a \$37,000 grant from the National Institute of Health, U. S. Public Health Service for a study of indicator species of marine pollution.

General Bleymaier to Lead Second Annual Scout Parade

Brig. Gen. Joseph S. Bleymaier has been named honorary Grand Marshal of the South Bay Council Boy Scout Parade. It was announced by Ted Olson, chairman.

The second annual parade is scheduled Saturday, Feb. 8, in Torrance. The South Bay Council represents eight separate communities.

General Bleymaier is Systems Program Director for Titan III. A veteran of 21 years military service, the General served in the Pacific Theater of Operations during World

War II, completing 25 combat missions in B-24 bombers as aerial gunner officer.

A graduate of the University of Texas, Bleymaier received a B.A. degree in business administration.

In his present assignment General Bleymaier is the executive manager of the research and development program to provide a standardized space launch system having an initial liftoff thrust in excess of two million pounds.

The parade theme is "Our American Heritage."



GENERAL BLEYMAIER

Kiwanis Clubs Slates Award Banquet at HC

Kiwanis clubs of Lomita, San Pedro, and Wilmington will sponsor the biennial scholarship recognition banquet at Harbor College Tuesday.

Each of the sponsoring clubs will select a candidate for the outstanding citizen award on the basis of significant and meritorious contribution to civic progress.

Certificates of merit will be presented also to students selected from the president's honor roll and Alpha Gamma Sigma, scholarship club on campus.

Representatives of sponsoring clubs are: Mike Marienthal, Lomita Kiwanis; Oliver Vickery, San Pedro Kiwanis, and Dr. Charles Pages, Wilmington Kiwanis.

Entertainment will be provided by the Harbor College concert choir of 110 voices, under the direction of Robert Billings.

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Garden Checklist

1. You will find roses and fruit trees and other deciduous plants bareroot but time is getting short. As long as the soil isn't too wet, plant.
2. You should be able to start gladiolus, amaryllis, and cannas now in the more favored areas of California. Not in frozen ground, of course.
3. Fruit trees can take a dormant spray still as a preventive measure against curly leaf. Ask your nurseryman for the right material and drench the trees.
4. Keep rotting foliage, scraps of wood or debris of any kind cleared away. They're the happy homes of earwigs, snails, slugs and other garden-lovers you don't want to encourage. Use snail bait now for effective control.
5. Berries and grapes can be planted now. Berries want perfect drainage but grapes will tolerate a soil that stays moist longer than will the berries.