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The PIONEER

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"Global Vision: A Survey of World Art" Comes to CSUEB

By Anne Cunningham
Staff Writer

Have you ever wished you could drop everything and take a trip around the world, viewing masterpieces of art that date back as far as 3,500 B.C.?

"Global Vision: A survey of World Art" will provide that experience at Cal State East Bay when it opens with a reception sponsored by Friends of the Arts on Oct. 16, from 5-7 p.m.

"Diversity is at the heart of the Gallery's exhibition program," said Lanier Graham, gallery director. "In recent years we have been able to exhibit masterpieces from all over the world at different shows. Now for the first time, we are able to present an overview of world art from the Stone Age to the present."

A novice who knows nothing about the history of world art could visit this exhibit and get a very general picture of Stone Age Art and how that changed into Bronze Age Art, and then into Iron Age Art; and how Realism was followed by Impressionism and Post Impressionism, and how Postmodernism followed Modernism.

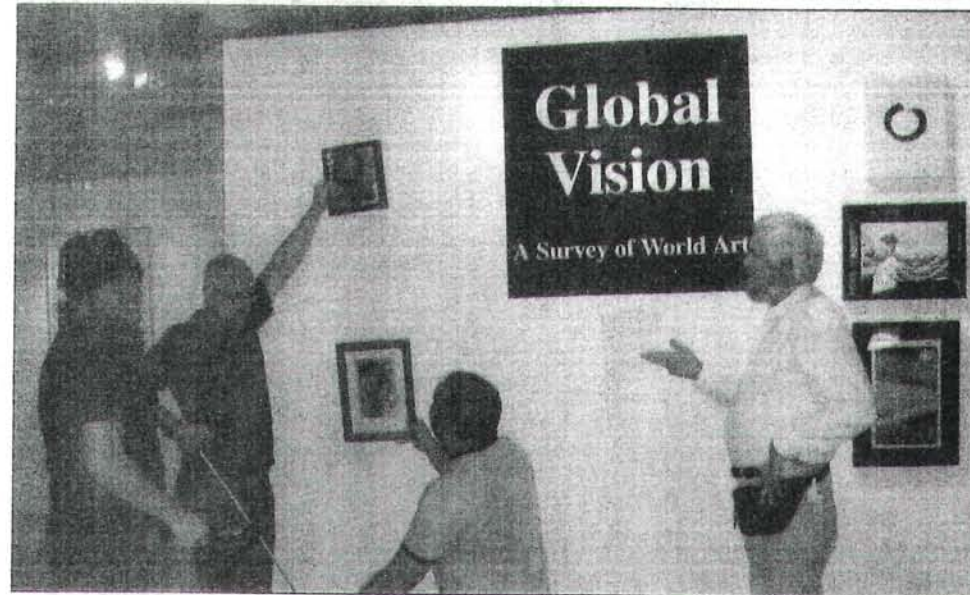
"This exhibit shows the established doctrine of art history, the canon of Modern art," said Graham.

Highlights include a wall of powerful tribal sculpture from Africa and Oceania, a major group of traditional Chinese, Japanese, and Tibetan art, conic images from India, Southeast Asia, Pakistan, Persia (Iran), and Turkey, as well as famous prints by Hiroshige and Hokusai, and modern calligraphy by Zen masters.

"This campus has an eclectic group of students from many different cultures," said student Philip Ringle, who worked on the project. "This show not only offers the community insight into the art of many individual cultures, it provides a holistic framework to experience the interconnectedness of all cultures."

Some of the cultural artifacts are extremely rare and quite mysterious in nature.

"Among the tribal art is a remarkable nail fe-



Artistic Vision: (Top)
Gallery supervisor Lanier Graham coordinates the arrangement of an exhibit "Global Vision: A Survey of World Art" that will be open on campus on Oct. 16.

Photos/
Top: Anne Cunningham
Right (Dancing Shiva): Philip Ringle



tish from the African Congo, which may be a reliquary, we don't know for certain," said Graham. "Tribal people often maintain secrecy on their most sacred objects."

Graham highlights other special cultural pieces of significance such as the Dancing Shiva of India.

"The Dancing Shiva of India encompasses one fluid reality; the circle represents the universe, and Shiva is dancing his way into existence," said Graham. "The drum in one hand is the tick-tock of time, and the fire in his other hand is destruction. Shiva is constantly creating and destroying in an endless dance."

The beauty of this exhibit is that you gain insight on artwork that represents the most cherished parts of so many cultures, gaining insight to the soul of our global society.

"We are educating people to their collective cultural and spiritual presence," said Graham.

There are about 150 works on display, with about 15,000 words on wall labels identifying the pieces and providing historical context, plus internet access for more information on the spot. Student interns from the Museum Studies program will serve as docents for the exhibition.

The artwork is arranged both geographically as well as chronologically, literally allowing the viewer to take an aesthetic trip through time and space.

"Usually our students must visit large museums several times to develop a global perspective. Here is a rare opportunity to see a concentrated survey of world art in a single exhibition," said Graham.

A concise survey of the modern Western tradition begins with Impressionists and Post-Impressionists such as Degas, Manet, Renoir, Cassatt, and Cezanne. The exhibition continues with 20th century work by artists such as Picasso, Matisse, Kandinsky, Duchamp, Dali, Pollock, de Kooning, Rauschenberg, Bearden, and Warhol.

Graham could not say which piece was most interesting, because they are all interesting.

"But in terms of historical importance, the most important piece for each individual culture is centered on the walls of each gallery," he explained. "For example, the Bronze ritual vessel of Shang Dynasty China, The Tang Dynasty Buddha of medieval China, the dancing Shiva of India, and the Walking Buddha of Thailand."

The oldest objects in the exhibition date

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