

# Artist talks shop with students

by adrienne l. zedaker

Artist Richard Mayhew exhibited eight pen and ink drawings along with eleven oil paintings in the Gallery Lounge.

Mayhew is an Associate Professor of Art at University Park, an occupation which he views as a means to subsidize his art. Among other vocations, Mayhew has been a courtroom reporter and illustrator, a medical illustrator, and a juvenile illustrator. Outside the realm of visual arts, he has been a jazz singer, and an actor, but always the artist first.

Fairly well known in the art world, Mayhew has exhibited in the Whitney Museum in New York, the Brooklyn Museum, the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and the Museum of Modern Art, to name just a few. The exhibit being presented in the Gallery Lounge will go to the San Jose Museum around Jan. 1, 1980. The catalogue of his awards is nearly as long as the list of his exhibitions. Among his most recent awards are the Benjamin Altman Award, National Academy of Design in 1970, and the National Institute of Arts and Letters in 1965.

On Mon., Oct. 1, Mayhew lectured to two art classes, and spoke with interested students. The art classes, both instructed by Troy Thomas, were regaled by the articulate Mayhew on subjects as diverse as how a price for a painting is set, the functions of an agent or gallery; and, more importantly, how and what he feels about his own work. Mayhew also mentioned his background, and the various artists he has worked with. Among the latter is Abstract Expressionist Hans Hofmann, with whom similarities in palette can be seen.

At times Mayhew's art has been described by art critics as in a lyrical, lyrical abstract, or abstract impressionist style. They have also been characterized as romantic landscapes. Especially in the exhibited works, Mayhew is dealing with optics, the illusion of space. He is concerned with the essence of space, rather than the strict identification of the object.

Primarily a landscape artist, Mayhew conveys somewhat abstract landscape images with musical textures such as space, feeling and

mood. At one time Mayhew worked closely with leading American composers such as Aaron Copeland. In fact, one painting in the exhibit is based on a Copeland work. Mayhew feels that the musical elements in his painting should be discernible to the viewer; at least, he hopes so. Music is an abstract idiom, and so is his work. Neither have any particular structural elements. Elements of music which exist in Mayhew's art are rhythm, density and tonality. How warm or cool a painting "feels" or appears is relative to the density of the

color. The optical density of this color can be seen in relationship to sound space. The colors in his oils, as well as the pen strokes in his drawings, are variations in intensity of the overall composition.

Mayhew's pen and ink drawings are worked using a crow quill pen. According to Mayhew, his choice of paper color is more or less arbitrary; it introduces mood space, more than anything else. Since there is no color, other than the background paper, the dark and light areas indicate the intensity of space.

The drawings are also landscapes, and are involved with musical elements, just as the oils.

The paintings exhibited are based on native American space, and some are "dedicated" to various Native American Indian tribes. Mayhew sees landscape painting, as well as other art forms, as virtually inexhaustible. Art should reflect society, and as society changes, so should art. There are constantly new challenges for an artist to overcome, and once overcome. Once they are conquered, the artist moves on.



Artist, Richard Mayhew, lectured in the Galley Lounge last Monday. His paintings were exhibited in the lounge.

## Calendar

Oct. 4--

HACC movie, "Wedding in Blood", Friday, 8 p.m. in Arts bldg.

LECTURE SERIES Dr. Theodore L. Gross, Provost/Dean; in Gallery Lounge 8 p.m.

HERSHEY MED CENTER film, "Play It Again Sam," 8 p.m.; PSU I.D. \$1.50.

Oct. 6

American Folklife Festival, Washington D.C. trip. Contact Mike Sopata 944-1552.

Oct. 8

SGA meeting rm. W-138, at 3:30 p.m.

XGI meeting at American Legion, Middletown at 9 p.m.

First Floor Wrisburg Hall Party 9 p.m., Student Center

Oct. 10

Hershey Med Center films, "Frankenstein" and "Young Frankenstein" PSU I.D. \$1.50.

HACC film, "Let Joy Reign Supreme" 8 p.m. Srts Bldg.

Oct. 13, 14, 20 and 21

HACC Children Theatre performed by the Sunshine Players. \$1 admission, 2 p.m.

Oct. 15thru 19

Road Rally sign-up in main lobby in the Main Bldg.

Oct. 15

film "All The King's Men," aud.

Oct. 18

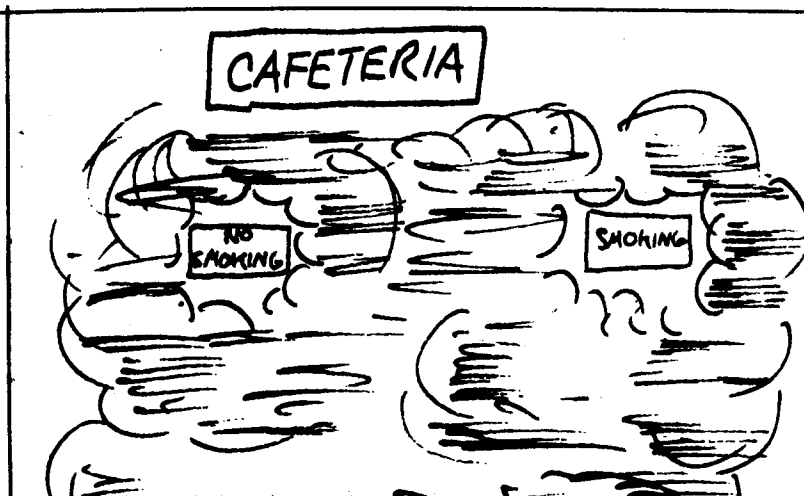
Hershey Med Center Documentary --expose of society's treatment of the criminally insane.

Lecture Jim Siegelman and Flo Conway, authors of "Snapping." HACC aud.

Hacc movie "Conversation Piece," 8 p.m.

October 8 - 26 Gallery Lounge  
David Armstrong, painter

October 5 - 26 HACC Gallery -- Carrie Thomas will exhibit a sample of her paintings and collages. Reception is Oct. 5.



\*\*\*\*\*

The next scheduled exhibit will be hung Oct. 8, and taken down Oct. 26. The artist, David Armstrong, is a Pennsylvania resident who works in watercolors.

\*\*\*\*\*

On Oct. 23, the Erickson Gallery of Cockeysville, Maryland will have original prints on exhibition and for sale in the Black Cultural Arts Center from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

