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Celebrating 175: Mel Casas, Exhibition Announcements and Catalogs, 1971-1974

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The pictures here represent the esthetic expression by four distinct racial mixtures—mixtures, since all peoples have intermixed to an extent which makes "purity" a relative matter. In each of these categories are shown works by two artists, one of whom paints in traditional manner, and the other in a more contemporary style, although, rigid distinctions here are not too easy to establish.

Carroll Simms, from Houston, Texas, and Jim Richardson, of Las Cruces, N.M., are Blacks, and son's "Hardrock" is a bright amalgam of crosshatched their paintings defy the style classifications; Richard colors, and his "Loneliness in a City" a starkly simple arrangement of black and white, excited by small spots of blue and red. Simms displays consistency of style and color in "New Monday" and "Two Corners", both of which use soft greys as dominants with pale pinks, blues and yellow setting them off.

Mel Cases, of San Antonio, and Manuel Acosta, of El Paso, represent Chicano paintings, Casas' huge canvases are loaded with message and harsh color, while those of Acosta are subdued renderings of Head studies.

Woody Crumbo, from Oklahoma, and Fritz Scholder, of Sante Fe, represent respectively the Indian traditional and the Indian modern. Crumbo maintains time-honored subject-matter and Indian style., while Scholder depicts Indian subjects in powerful contemporary manner.

Dorothy Hood, of Houston, and Peter Hurd, of Hondo, N.M., represent the Anglo contemporary and traditional. Hood's paintings are large, non-objectives with provocative titles, while Hurd's small watercolors describe typical grandeur of the New Mexico landscape.

Mexican painting is represented in the works of one anonymous painter working in north central Mexico in the late 17, or early 18th centuries. His "Our Lady of the Rosary" is in the muted, limited color range, and semi-primitive manner of self-trained painters of that region and of that time. Also shown is sprightly painting, "Sabado de Gloria" by Alberto Carlos Diaz of Chihuahua.

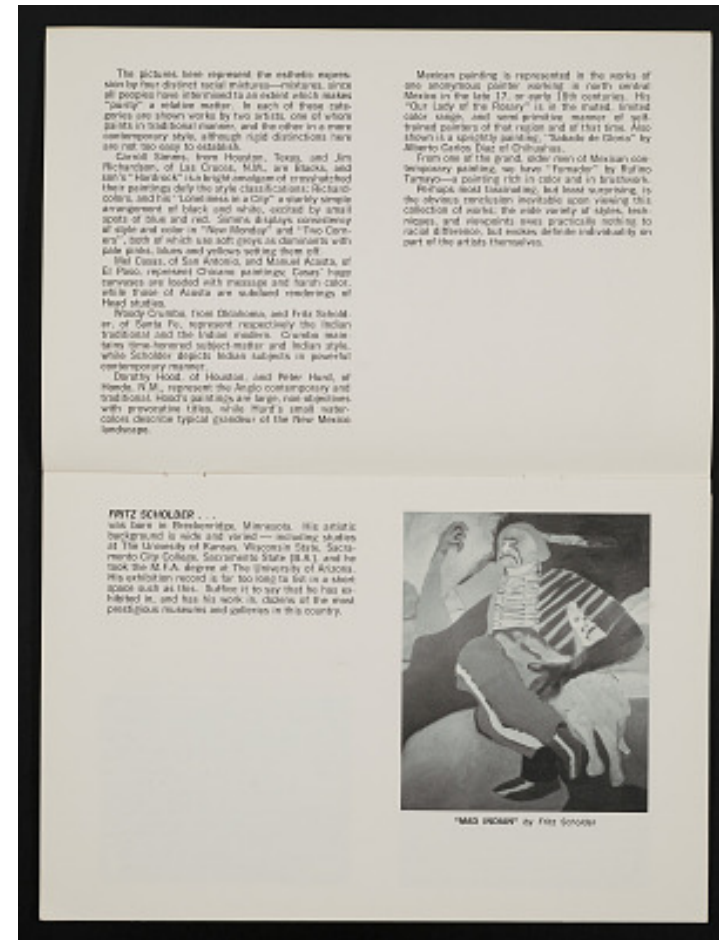
From one of the grand, older men of Mexican contemporary painting, we have "fumador" by Rufino Tamayo- a painting rich in color and in brushwork.

Perhaps most fascinating, but least surprising, is the obvious conclusion inevitable upon viewing this collection of works; the wide variety of styles, techniques, and viewpoints owes practically nothing to racial difference, but evokes definite individuality on part of the artists themselves.

FRITZ SCHOLDER...

was born in Breckenridge, Minnesota. His artistic background is wide and varied - including studies at the University of Kansas, Wisconsin State, Sacramento City College, Sacramento State (B.A.), and he took the M.F.A. degree at The University of Arizona. His exhibition record is far too long to list in a short space such as this. Suffice it to say that he exhibited in, and has his work in, dozens of the most prestigious museums and galleries in this country.

[[image]] "MAD INDIAN" by Fritz Scholder



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