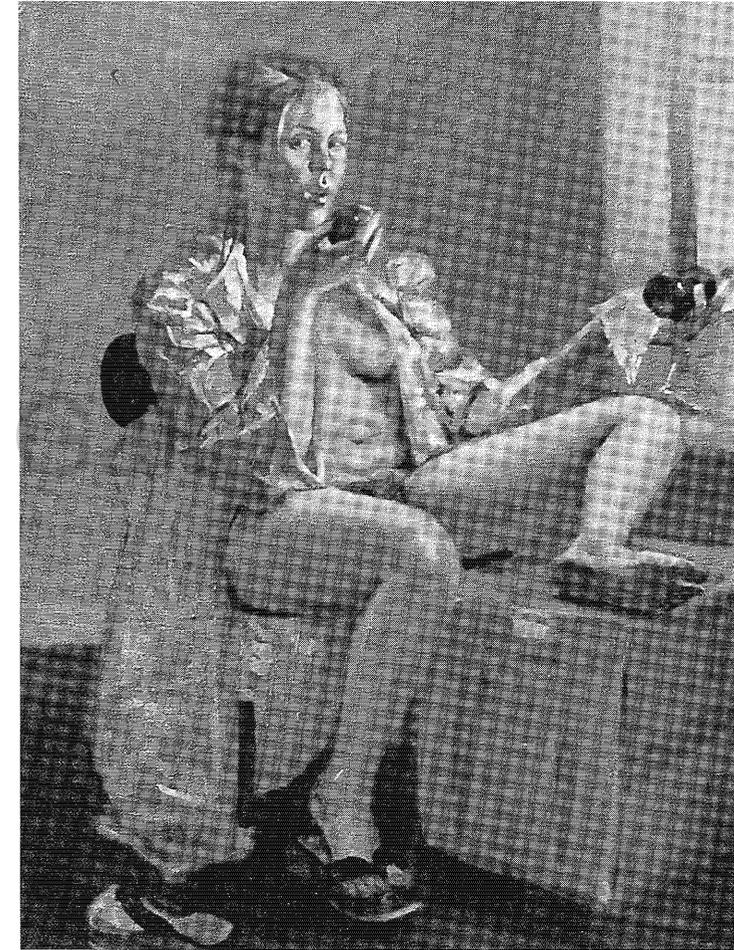


BARBARA DENNIG

Paintings and Drawings

Syracuse University Art



Syracuse University Lubin House Gallery
11 East 61 Street
New York, New York
January 18 - February 7

The paintings of Barbara Dennig demonstrate the ongoing vitality of the figurative tradition in American Art. Figurative painting has always had its followers, even during the heyday of "mainstream" abstract painting. Today many painters, especially young painters, are enthusiastically returning to various forms of "realism."

Many of these young painters are rejecting the obsolete notion that there is such a thing as a "mainstream," even a figurative one. Instead they are working with a belief in the importance of independent vision and are attempting to develop an individual aesthetic instead of falling in lockstep behind those who easily succumb to the glib persuasiveness of the slick art magazines.

While Ms. Dennig is well informed about "photo realism," (the painting from and of photography) and what is sometimes called "direct painting" (opaque, oleomargarinous oil paintings) she has rejected these options. Obviously she has realized that the methodologies in both cases are extremely limited in expressive potential.

Her paintings are clearly manifestations of form experienced first hand through critical perception. There is a cool objectivity in the deliberate arrangement and staging of the subject and composition of the pictures. The forms are analyzed by a keen knowledge of drawing. There is emotional content as well and it comes through in the expressive way things are painted. Here she takes advantage of the many things possible with paint: underpainting, glazing, scumbling and opaque application. She is just as likely to break away from the underpainting when charged with excitement about a form as she is to carefully structure a form which began life spontaneously.

These paintings have the conviction of independent judgement, an authority born of good training, and add to the rich and continuing use of the figure in American art.

Charles Schmidt
Tyler School of Art, Temple University
December, 1976

CATALOGUE

1. *The Breeze*
60" x 36"
oil
2. *Elinor*
54" x 60"
oil
3. *The Plum-eater*
68" x 72"
oil
4. *Pink Satin Robe*
24" x 36"
oil
5. *Mexico*
60" x 66"
oil
6. *The Nude*
78" x 81"
oil
7. *Drawing - the Plum-eater*
36" x 48"
pencil
8. *Black Lace Slip*
18" x 24"
pencil
9. *Still-life*
24" x 48"
oil

Barbara Dennig, Instructor of Drawing at the School of Art, College of Visual and Performing Arts, Syracuse University holds the B.F.A. and M.F.A. degrees from the Tyler School of Art. She has participated in the Temple Abroad Program at the Tyler School of Art in Rome, Italy. She also has studied in London and Vienna.

Ms. Dennig's one woman show, "The Fruits of My Work," was at Syracuse University in 1975. She has exhibited in group shows at the Tyler School of Art in Philadelphia; in Rome, Italy; at Pearl Fox Galleries in Philadelphia; and at Moore College of Art. Her work is represented in various private collections in Italy and in the United States.

Syracuse University Art Galleries