

**Article on Artist**

An article "Portrait of an Artist: Robert Thom" appears in the May issue of "The Michigan Bell" employe magazine. The story is about the history of Michigan series of paintings by Thom, 6160 W. Surrey, Birmingham, as a commission for the telephone company.

... those who are wise and courageous in the administration of a state—they ought to be rulers.

PLATO from Gorgias

of reality takes place under the influence of the reality principle (one of the two principles of mental functioning). But this creation of a pseudo-reality with its magical significance satisfies psychic tendencies that are entirely dominated by the pleasure principle (normally held back from consciousness).

Thirdly, the artist follows certain laws of beauty (aesthetics) so that the art work becomes a social phenomenon. The aesthetic side of a work of art, preconditioning one to enjoy it, seduces the individual to enjoyment of forbidden instinctual wish gratification.

ALTHOUGH THE AMOUNT of pleasure radiating from these unconscious sources is automatically ascribed to the aesthetic aspects of a work of art, the real source of pleasure is, for the most part, unconscious.

The artist then is still the age-old magician, weaving human fantasies with his own mystical skill into a delightful new reality. A teacher or critic might point the way but obviously the only real way to enjoy art is directly and individually experiencing it.



**Americana Is Their Hobby**

Officers of the Elijah Willits Chapter of The Questors, national organization for antique collectors, examine Early American primitives. The women are (from left) Mrs. Rudolph R. Kaplan, secretary; Mrs. James F. Irwin, president; Mrs. Frank E. Gray, treasurer; and Mrs. Gordon S. Wood, vice president. The Questors also has another chapter in this area, Beverly Hills.

By CAROLYN HALL, Special Writer

**ART FOR ART'S SAKE**

**Artists and Daydreamers Both Creates Fantasies**

Artists are like daydreamers, says Sigmund Freud, with one significant difference. Artists and daydreamers both create a fantasy world in their minds making life more to their liking. But while daydreams dissolve unfulfilled, the artist uses his visions as a basis for creating art works.

The practice of art is an activity whose aim is to assuage unachieved wishes. This aim is achieved not only for the creator but for the person enjoying the art work.

These quotes come from an article by noted Detroit psychiatrist Dr. Richard Sterba who compiled Freud's views on art, since none existed in total form in Freud's writings.

A work of art is the product of psychic forces which are in opposition to each other, such as desire and prohibition. It is a reconciliation between these forces. And this is the artist's success, to turn his dream world into a material force in the real world and so achieve real success.

The artist's ego must necessarily be at the center of the work of art, but to make it palatable to others he must transform it, disguise it, suppress by the ego and kept from consciousness. So the main communication of a work of art is on a secret level, soul to soul, bypassing society.

Present 'Unicorn'  
Pine Lake Drama Club of Pine Lake School will present a tragicomedy "To Catch a Unicorn" at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday. The play is open to the public without charge.

Unrepressed wishes, common to nearly everyone, are banned by culture, repudiated by education, suppressed by the ego and kept from consciousness. So the main communication of a work of art is on a secret level, soul to soul, bypassing society.

HOW DOES THE artist get people to participate in his own individual fantasies? Freud points out three technical means by which



MRS. HALL

the artist can make his daydreams enjoyable to others.

First by transforming the fantasy, secondly by elaborating its contents in such a way as to represent the fantasy, and third by the effective use of aesthetic principles in this elaboration.

This transformation may be compared to dreams. All that is repulsive is distorted or tempered and made unrecognizable to get past the social conscience. Art is, again, a compromise between the demands of unconscious wishes and the demands of the social conscience.

The second means of abolishing barriers between the artist's ego and other people's egos is the artist's mysterious facility to form a certain material so the fantasy expressed appears as a new kind of reality. Such images of reality are highly prized by mankind.

THE IMITATION of reality represents a primitive kind of mastery of reality made possible by an exchange of psychic for actual reality.

Forming material as an image

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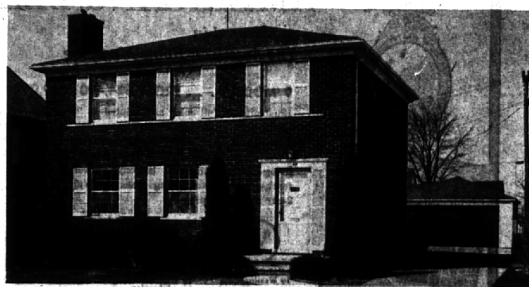
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