

# The A.M.

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## Yunkers: print maker, painter, powerful man

Adja Yunkers commands respect.

He is 72, a painter and print maker. His newest show, just closed at the prestigious Whitney Museum in New York City, is traveling to Caracas, Venezuela, and will finish at the museum of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

He will not teach this fall at Columbia University, but there is no sense of retirement about him; only a sense of other work to be done.

Yunkers has been at Kent working with students of the Blossom-Kent Art Program and is impressed with them.

"I've rarely had such a nice, wholesome experience," he said, "and that's the bloody truth."

He said he came to Kent, sat down with the students and they talked. "They opened up. There were lots of smiles. I knew the week would be easy going."

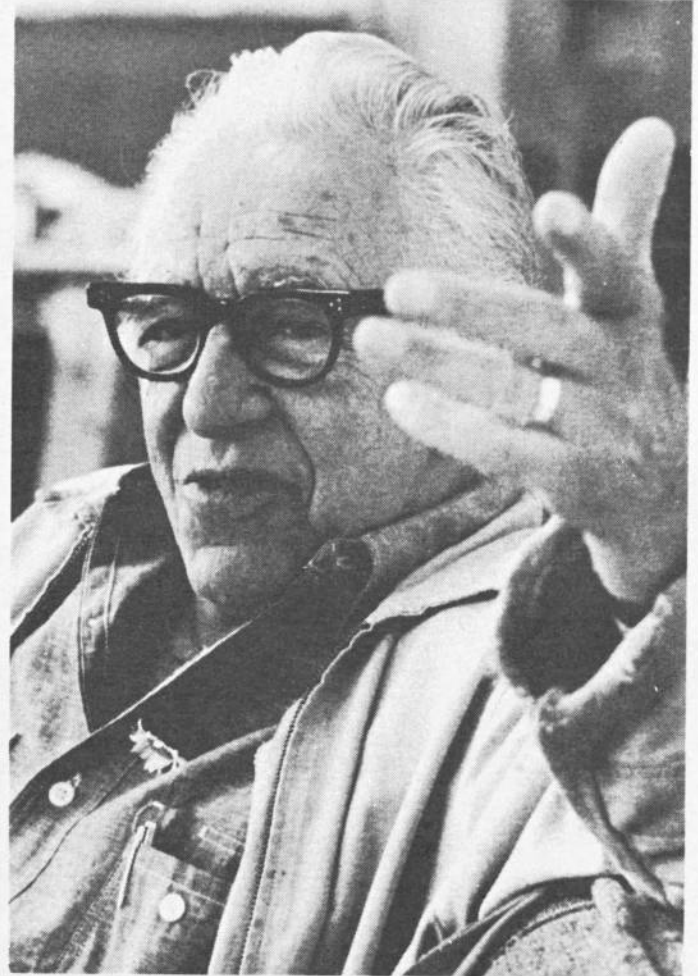
The visiting artist is pleased with the work the students are doing. "The standard of work is above average since most of the students have painted for only a year.

"The percentage of gifted students is very high," he said.

There is a sense of great physical power about the man, though 72 and though he is not much larger than average. As he talks about his background, those dimensions enlarge.

"I came to the United States after living literally everywhere in Europe, Africa and South America."

Yunkers was born in Riga, the capital of Latvia, and  
(See 'Yunkers,' page two.)



PAINTER ADJA YUNKERS

## Vandals spraypaint KSU, city

Pro-abortion, anti-war and other political slogans were painted on two dozen university and city buildings and bus stops early Wednesday morning.

Ten city buildings including the First Federal Savings and Loan, the Army Recruiting Office, Ohio Bell Telephone, the Fifth Quarter, the Record-Courier and the Knights of Columbus Hall were defaced with red or black spray-painted slogans.

University buildings painted included Leebrick Hall, Bowman, Fletcher Hall, Heer Hall, Taylor, Moulton, Musselman Hall and Apple Hall.

No arrests have been made, according to James Fyke, director of KSU security, and according to a spokesman for the Kent city police.

No estimate of damage was available, however Fyke said the cost of sandblasting an area to remove the paint from brick would

be \$55 to \$60 per building.

A spokesman for the city said the cost would vary depending on the merchants' method for removing the paint.

Slogans included 'Make Love and Revolution,' 'PIGS,' 'Don't Pay War Taxes,' 'Nixon Thou Shall Not Win,' and 'Legalize Abortion.'

The vandalism occurred between 2 a.m. and 4 a.m. yesterday, Fyke said.

# Lectures precede symposium

'Contemporary Problems of the American Indian,' a symposium, will highlight a day of activities related to the problems of the American Indian.

The symposium will be held at 7:30 tonight in Bowman Lecture Hall A. Participants are five American Indians, including Robert Burnett, a candidate for Congress from South Dakota and author of 'The Tortured American,' and Simon Ortiz, a poet and leader of the National Indian Youth Congress.

Preceding the symposium, Burnett and Ortiz will be speaking in a number of classrooms; a luncheon, open to the public, will be held; and movies will be shown.

'American Indians and Work' will be Burnett's topic of discussion at 9:45 a.m. in 202 Bowman.

At 11:30 a.m., Burnett will lecture on 'Economic Institutions of Early American Indians' in Room 104 Bowman.

'American Indians and the Law' will be discussed at 2:15 p.m. in 218 Bowman by Burnett.

Ortiz will lecture at 10:15 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. The first will

be a reading and discussion of his poetry in 366 Satterfield. The second, 'Acoma Pueblo Culture,' will be held in 110 Bowman.

The luncheon will be held at 12:30 p.m. in Beall-McDowell cafeteria. All students are invited with the only limitation being seating accommodations.

At 2 p.m., the American **Yunkers . . .**

moved to Leningrad, then St. Petersburg, after a year. During World War II, he fled the Germans and lived in Stockholm.

In 1947, he came to the United States to New York City.

His wife's allergies bothered her and so Yunkers bought "an old jalopy" and started driving toward the desert. "About half way between Albuquerque and Sante Fe, we stopped for a rest along the road," he recalls.

"I picked up a stick and drew a foundation in the sand and asked if that was big enough."

On that spot, Yunkers built an adobe home for his family with his bare hands.

"A Mexican family showed

Indian Film Festival will be presented in Lecture A Bowman.

Preceding and following the symposium, slides of the Chippewa Indians, taken by Charles Brill, associate professor of journalism, will be shown. The photographs, which are on tour around the country, have appeared in Life magazine.

me how to make the brick. You build a form for the brick, mix the sand which has some clay with water and straw. Pour it into the form and let the sun bake it. Then you turn it over and let the other side bake. Then you have a brick. Each brick weighed 34 pounds."

Yunkers said the house was huge and quite lovely. There were problems, which is why he called the place 'Calamity Ranch.'

"I dug the well myself. You had to spit in the pump to get it started. Sometimes it took half an hour to get enough water to brush your teeth.

"After three years there, I realized you don't argue with the desert or the mountains. I had been traveling back and forth to New York (where he was teaching during the winter).

"I am a failure pioneer," he said with a laugh, "but it was beautiful."

Yunkers speaks eight languages, and was asked if he felt a person could get along with English in all of the places he has lived.

"No, I don't think so. Rather than knowing English, I think you would do better to not know any language. What does a South American Indian know about English? I think you would do better with sign language.

"I have found how easy it is to say nothing and how important that is. The simple things go on. only we become more complicated."

## Qué pasa?

CHAMBER MUSIC RECITAL tonight at 8:30 in the Recital Hall, sponsored by the Blossom Festival School of Music.

'THE FBI STORY,' starring James Stewart, will be shown today at 12:30 p.m. in the Union Subhub and again at 8:30 p.m. in Eastway Center Fishbowl. The free film is sponsored by COSO.

'IN CIRCLES,' Gertrude Stein's bizarre musical experience, returns to Porthouse Theatre tonight and Friday at 8:15 p.m. Albee's 'A

Delicate Balance' will continue at Porthouse Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon.

'WONDERFUL TOWN,' by Comden, Green and Bernstein, is now in rehearsal and will open tomorrow evening at 8 in E. Turner Stump Theatre.

AN ART EXHIBIT of work by Adja Yunkers, Brent Kington, Al Held and Robert Ebendorf is now open at Van Duesen Gallery II in conjunction with the Blossom-Kent Art Program.