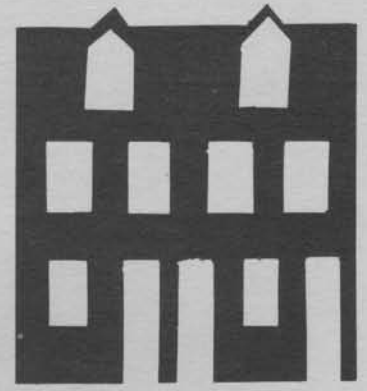


D E M U T H

# DIALOGUE



VOL. 2, NO. 1

NEWSLETTER OF THE DEMUTH FOUNDATION

SUMMER 1983

## DEMUTH SHOW IN LANCASTER

Charles Demuth, Lancaster's most famous artist, is coming "home" at last in the form of an exhibition containing 33 of his works. The show, "Pennsylvania Modern: Charles Demuth of Lancaster", marks the 100th anniversary of his birth in Lancaster and will be housed in the Heritage Center, Penn Square from October 1, 1983 to November 13, 1983.

Organized by the Philadelphia Museum of Art, at the instigation of Gerald and Margaret Lestz, this show is the first to focus on Demuth's personal and artistic relationship to Lancaster. All the paintings in the show were painted in Lancaster, inspired by Lancaster or are owned by Lancaster collectors.

Art scholar and author Dr. Betsy Fahlman wrote the text for the exhibition's handsome catalogue, which will be available for sale at the show. In it she says: "In spite of the changes made in the half century since his death, much of the Lancaster that he knew still exists, presenting an unusual opportunity to study the artist in the context in which he lived. The artist's house stands next to his family's tobacco shop, which is still in business. Demuth's house on East King Street will soon be opened as a museum by the Demuth Foundation. Many buildings that inspired his paintings remain, as do the local farm markets that provided fruit and flowers for his still lifes. The Fulton Opera House, where he enjoyed vaudeville entertainment, continues to

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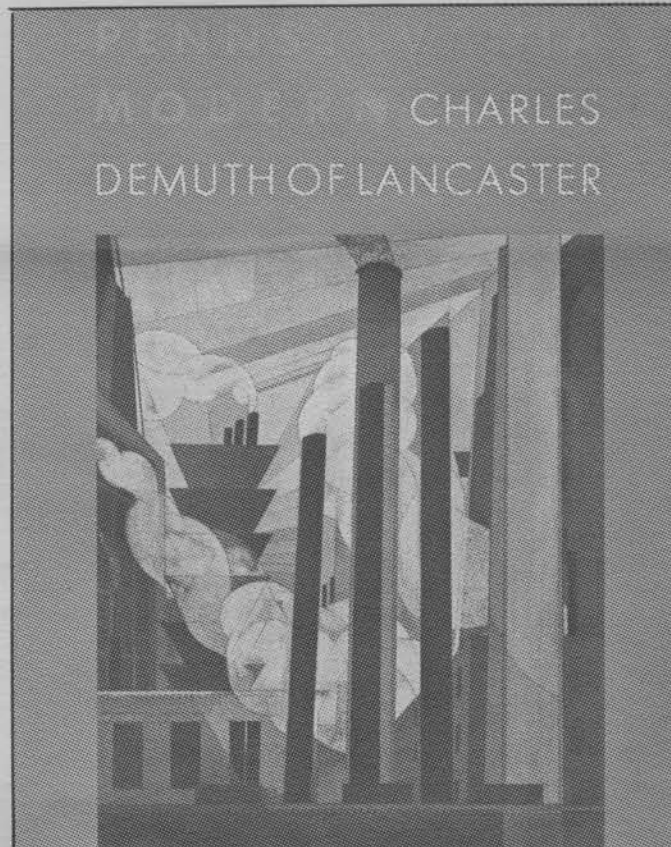
## DEMUTH CENTENNIAL SYMPOSIUM

The Demuth Foundation will sponsor a Demuth Centennial Symposium on Saturday, October 1st from 2 to 4 PM at Fondersmith Auditorium, Trinity Lutheran Church, Lancaster. The Pennsylvania Humanities Council has granted the Foundation \$1,000 to present this event free of charge, in conjunction with the opening of the Demuth art exhibit at the Heritage Center and the anticipated opening of the Demuth House on the same day.

The symposium will be structured as a panel discussion on the artist, his times and contemporaries, and their effect on the art scene and the changes in our society brought about by the industrial and cultural developments in the 1920's and 1930's.

The panel will consist of the following: Moderator,

Sumner J. Germain, Associate Professor of English, Millersville University; Dr. Betsy Fahlman, Assistant Professor, Department of Art, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, Va; Henry Miller Libhart, Professor of Art, Elizabethtown College; Warren Rohrer, Associate Professor of Painting, Philadelphia College of Art.



### SCHEDULED EVENTS

#### Friday, September 30

Preview of Heritage Center Exhibit and Gala Benefit.

#### Saturday, October 1

Centennial Symposium  
Heritage Center Exhibit  
Opens

Demuth House expected  
to open

Downtown Sidewalk Art Show

#### Sunday, October 2

Art Sunday  
Demuth House Open  
Heritage Center Exhibit

## FLOWER SHOW JOINS FESTIVAL



The Tremellen Galleries, 127 East King Street, provided the perfect scene for the recent Demuth Flower Show. Over 1300 people attended the exhibit to be greeted by an old fashioned circus scene complete with popcorn provided by Bob Case, lemonade vended by Jody Briner and Allie Miller and the Lancaster Summer Arts Festival balloons distributed by clowns. The Women's Garden Club of Lancaster also sold cut and potted flowers and "fussie mussies" (small floral and herb bouquets). Piano music provided by Sylvia Wisenhaupt and the ragtime combo of Eddie Humph and Walt Baum alternated throughout the two days of the show.

Co-chairwomen, Kitty Brown and Saranna Miller, co-ordinated the entertainment and exhibit using Demuth's works as inspiration. Shown were 45 arrangements prepared by 33 entrants ranging from art students to professionals trained in floral arranging. All entrants in this non-competitive show were responsible for their own research and subject choice. Surprisingly little duplication occurred and interpretations of all phases of Demuth's work were represented.

Numerous volunteers from the show committee, the Junior League membership and the Lancaster Summer Arts Festival Committee were rewarded for their efforts with a terrific public response. This unique tribute to Charles Demuth was contributed greatly to Lancasterians' awareness of Demuth.

## FOUNDATION ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Demuth Foundation was held at 8:00 PM, May 18, 1983 at the Lancaster County Historical Society auditorium with Gerald S. Lestz presiding.

The president welcomed approximately 50 members who attended. Mr. Daniel C. Herr presented the slate of officers for the year 1983-84. The slate as follows was approved by vote: 1President: Gerald Lestz; V. President: Caroline S. Nunan; 2nd V. P.: John L. Farmer, M.D.; Secretary: Gloria Henneman; Treasurer: Robert Garner.

Elected to terms expiring in 1986 were the following directors: Robert N. Case, Merry Jaeger, Margaret Lestz, Nancy Roye, Robert Garner, Gloria Henneman, Susan Stoudt, Frederick Schroeder and Shirley Reed.

Next followed a slide presentation put together by the Junior League and narrated by a League member, Susan Doyle. It showed a representative sampling of Demuth's watercolors and oil paintings, including city scenes, poster portraits, fruit and vegetable still-lives and floral paintings.

The highlight of the evening then followed with recollections by four persons who knew or saw the late

Charles Demuth. Dorothea Demuth, widow of Charles' cousin, Christopher, and proprietor of Demuth Tobacco Shop, told the members present, "Charles loved to walk down South Duke Street and up into Cabbage Hill." She remembered Charles had a special request whenever she would go to market. "He always told me, 'Bring home eggplants with a deep purple color and good shape.'

"I would see him evenings, about 5:00 PM. He would stand on the front step at 118 East King Street and just watch the world go by," attorney Harris C. Arnold, Sr. said. Mr. Arnold, who served as Charles' mother's attorney, had his office a few doors away from the Demuth home.

Yetta Sachs Carpenter reminisced about her visits to the Demuth home to see Charles' art work and her visit to Charles' studio. She stated, "I felt like I lost my very best friend when he died."

Attorney H. Clay Burkholder, whose law office had been located in the front of the Demuth home, remembered, "I would see a tall, relatively thin man out in the yard once in awhile, and we would speak briefly."



## GALA PLANNED

November 8, 1983 will mark the 100th anniversary of Charles Demuth's birth. The Foundation will be celebrating a bit early at a gala to be held **Friday, September 30, 1983**. This gala benefit will feature a visit to the Heritage Center to preview the show from the Philadelphia Museum. After the show, patrons will cross King Street and enjoy refreshments and dancing at **Rick's Place**. The band for the evening will be the **Sound of the Roses**, employees of Bell of Pa.

The benefit birthday at Rick's Place will give Foundation supporters a rare opportunity to glimpse the inside of a teenage nightclub usually closed to individuals over 21 years of age! The nightclub is located at 52 West King Street in an 1868 Italianate building once occupied by Joseph Royer. In the early 1870's, Royer, a local candymaker, oversaw the apprenticeship of Milton Hershey, to whom he taught the chocolate business. The building features the most intact 1860's commercial facade in Lancaster and is the sole extant building in Lancaster city associated with the career of Milton Hershey.

Additional details will be coming soon, but now is the time to circle **September 30** on your calendar!

## HOUSE...

Construction work at the Demuth house will soon be completed and the Foundation expects to open the house to the public on October 1st. Work on the garden restoration will begin as soon as the building renovations are finished.

## BUS TRIP...

The Demuth Foundation is planning a fall bus trip to the Barnes Foundation in Merion. Dr. Albert Barnes was a friend of Charles Demuth and collected about 40 of his works. Watch for additional information about the date and time of this trip.



Mary Brubaker's photograph of the grain elevators of the Eshelman Feed Company which was the subject of Demuth's *My Egypt*.

Mrs. Brubaker has kindly donated this handsome framed photo to the Foundation.

Announcement of this gift was made at the annual meeting on May 18, 1983.

## IN HONOR OF CHARLES DEMUTH

The Community Gallery of Lancaster will present an exhibit entitled "In Honor of Charles Demuth—An Exhibition of Works on Paper" from September 6th to 25th.

The show will feature works by members of the Fellowship of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. Members of the Fellowship are current and former Academy students, faculty and directors. Exhibition of the members' work has been an annual event since 1897.

Charles Demuth attended the Academy from 1905 to 1911 and the Fellowship has chosen this theme to honor him in the centennial year of his birth.

One of the awards for this show is being offered by Mrs. Antonio

Alvarez of Lancaster. Mrs. Alvarez, a graduate of the Pennsylvania Academy, has long been an admirer of Charles Demuth. She is offering the prize in honor of his mother, Augusta Demuth, whose flower garden had been the inspiration for so many of his paintings.

The Community Gallery, 135 North Lime Street, will hold a special reception for the artists and their friends from the Academy on September 11th. At the same time, the Demuth house will be open for this special group of visitors.

The Gallery is open to the public, without charge, Monday-Friday, 10 to 4, and Saturday and Sunday, 12 to 4.

# DEMUTH SHOW

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present theatrical performances. Many people who knew Demuth and his family still reside in the city. The will of his mother, Augusta, may be examined at the Lancaster County Courthouse ... (near) Demuth's home, and the offices of the lawyer who served as the executor of her estate are next door to the tobacco shop. The courthouse was photographed by Demuth's father, Ferdinand, and later inspired one of Demuth's paintings. Local residents still possess cherished Demuth memorabilia. Thus, much of the fabric of the town that nurtured and inspired is intact. Modern intrusions scarcely spoil the sense of his presence in Lancaster, reinforcing an

observation made by Marsden Hartley in a tribute he wrote after Demuth's death in 1935: 'Charles has only jsut gone'."

The show is a "jewel" according to Philadelphia Inquirer art critic Edward J. Soznaski. Lancaster will have a chance to re-acquaint itself with its own world famous artist and be proud of his feelings for his hometown where he chose to do most of his paintings.

## ART SUNDAY

The Community Gallery of Lancaster is sponsoring Art Sunday October 2nd from noon to 5 PM. The Demuth house will be open and the Heritage Center of Lancaster County will feature the show, "Pennsylvania Modern: Charles Demuth of Lancaster."

# CATALOG FOR SALE

The catalogue of the Demuth show, **Pennsylvania Modern: Charles Demuth** (shown on page 1) is now available by mail order from the Foundation. The price is \$12.67 for nonmembers and \$11.40 for members (includes sales tax.) Add \$1.00 for postage and handling and send your check to:

DEMUTH FOUNDATION  
P.O. Box 328  
Lancaster, PA 17603

The catalogue is also for sale at the Demuth Tobacco Store on East King Street and at Marion Art Center on North Christian Street.

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### ARE YOU A MEMBER? IF NOT, PLEASE JOIN US!

Memberships are 12 months from enrollment.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to DEMUTH FOUNDATION, PO Box 328, Lancaster, PA 17603.

Membership contributions are tax-deductible!

I wish to volunteer

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### Categories of Membership

- Active \$15
- Household/Associate \$25
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- Sponsor \$1,000

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