

HOWARD DEARSTYNE

Wall label
for exhibition
1962.

Howard Dearstyne is an Assistant Professor of Architecture at The Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago where he has taught since 1957. His remarkable career began at the Bauhaus of Dessau, Germany (he is the only American to hold a Bauhaus diploma), working there with Josef Albers, Paul Klee, Wassily Kandinsky and Mies Van der Rohe. After several years in 1941 spent as an architect in New York City, ~~he began~~ he began teaching for five years at Black Mountain College, Lawrence College and the Cranbrook Academy. For ten years (1946-1956) he was Assistant Architectural Records Editor of Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia, engaged in research in and writing about the architecture of colonial Virginia. With A. Lawrence Kocher, he produced a fascinating volume, Shadows in Silver, published by Charles Scribner's Sons in 1954, which deals with the Cook family of photographers and their precious record of Virginia life during the last half of the nineteenth and the beginning of the twentieth century. Howard Dearstyne has written several books and at present is working on a history of the Bauhaus. and He has contributed many articles on architecture and photography to periodicals.

As a photographer, Howard Dearstyne has produced significant work which identifies him as one of a small number of distinguished practitioners of the difficult and usually abused medium of color photography. Recently he made the following statement concerning his photographic work:

"I started my photography, as a boy, with a Brownie box camera. It was while I was studying in Germany (1928-1934) that I first began a serious search for form with the camera. In 1934, shortly before returning to the United States, I took the advice of Walter Peterhans (founder and director of the photographic department of the Bauhaus in Dessau) and purchased a Leica camera. I have used only this, with a single lens, ever since. In 1940 I turned from black and white to color and have made only 35mm color photographs

Since then.

"At first my photographs were exhibited only in the form of color transparencies. They are now shown both as transparencies and prints made from these. The first showing ~~of my photographs~~ was in the Second Armory Show in New York City in 1945. I had my first showing at The Museum of Modern Art in New York in 1946. Since then my pictures have been ~~shown~~ ^{exhibited} there seven other times, the latest being February 15, 1962, when Edward Steichen showed some of my color transparencies in a lecture called Toward Abstraction. My pictures ^{exhibited,} have been ~~shown~~, among many other places, in The Los Angeles County Museum and George Eastman House in Rochester, New York. In 1951 The Virginia Museum of Fine Arts gave me a one-man show and acquired a set of my trans-^{exhibition}parencies for circulation as one of its travelling ~~shows~~. Copies of my transparencies are in a number of colleges and private collections".

^{large}
The prints of Howard Dearstyne's photographs ~~shown~~ in the present exhibition were made by George Nan of Dearborn, Michigan, an exhibition of whose work was held in this gallery during the winter.

Prints of these photographs may be purchased. Questions concerning them will be answered in the ~~Study Room for Prints and Drawings~~ Glore Print Study Room on the ground floor of the museum.

label 2 [This exhibition begins on the opposite wall and visitors are advised to view it from the beginning.