

News Release FROM THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO

MICHIGAN AVENUE AT ADAMS STREET, CHICAGO 3, ILLINOIS, U. S. A.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:
Martha Bennett King, CE 6-7080

Photographs by a young Chicagoan, Rudolph Janu, will be on display at The Art Institute of Chicago through Sunday, June 10, 1962.

Rudolph Janu was born in Chicago in 1934 and after attending school here enlisted in the Air Corps. When he returned to Chicago, he worked as a commercial artist, but during the last year and a half has dedicated all his efforts to photography. The result is a large amount of serious and expressive work from which a selection has been made for this exhibition, his introduction to the Chicago public. In February and March of this year his photographs were shown at the Leica Gallery in New York City where they attracted favorable attention, and the larger part of the current issue of the Leica Magazine is devoted to them. Other than a few landscapes in West Virginia and the portraits of members of a Comanche family in Oklahoma, all the pictures in the present showing were taken in and around Chicago.

Janu's 58 black and white photographs are concerned principally with human beings. The camera is focused on individuals rather than crowds. Off guard, Janu's subjects move through city streets, pause in restaurants and railroad stations, kill time on porch steps and park benches.

Janu's pictures are more than candid. The mind of a philosopher directs the searching eye, creating essays on man in a particular environment. Satire is absent -- comment is honest -- composition is not tortured. Janu avoids the obvious drama of men on Skid Row and accepts the challenge of reporting hidden emotions of children, teenagers, men and women who live their days behind masks of undramatic routine.

Trained as a designer and commercial artist, Janu is now training himself in a field which has no apprentice positions. His equipment is the Leica with 35 mm and 50 mm lens.