

His Art Looks Staid to Him

Rochester-Finger Lakes Art Exhibit | Memorial Art Gallery, Rochester
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Note: "Ancient Symbols" was later re-introduced into Daly's *Civilization of Llhuros* (1972) as "Facsimile of Wall-Painting with Tal-Hax" (catalog no. 77)

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Wins in Rochester-Finger Lakes Art Exhibit

By ELIZABETH GREACEN
A Cornell University art professor who thinks contemporary art looks "quite mad" to the average person but whose own work in the Rochester-Finger Lakes Exhibition looks "quite staid" to him, is the winner of the top prize in the annual show.

Norman Daly of Ithaca received the Jurors' Show Award last night for his work as a whole (he has two oil paintings and an iron sculpture in the exhibition at the Memorial Art Gallery). He also won the \$150 B. Forman Co. award for one of the oils, "Ancient Symbols."

One of two prizes given for the first time this year went to a Rochester Institute of Technology junior, Patricia Kelly, whose "Interiors" won the Suburban Art Group Award of \$50 for "The representational painting with the freshest and most creative approach done by a Rochester-area artist in any painting medium."

The other prize, the Traditional Artists' Award of \$150, was won by Molly Eipper of Ithaca. Nearly 30 other artists from the 19-county Rochester-Finger Lakes area received awards.

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"NEARLY ALL the figures I work with have an air of the supplicant," Daly says in describing his work. "This is something which I think is in all religions."

Questioned on the "ancient symbols," he mentioned a show of his paintings about 15 years ago, many of which were inspired by the work of American Indians of the Southwest. He also noted that "years ago" he became very interested in Christian symbols when he designed stained glass windows for a monastery.



NORMAN DALY—Top prize winner and his art.

As winner of the Jurors' award, he is invited to hold a one-man show at the gallery in the coming year, and he thinks the show "will probably have as much sculpture as painting."

Daly thinks of himself as a "painter/sculptor." He says he has no preference between the two media—though he never had any formal training in sculpture and started working in three dimensions only three years ago. He began in marble, then turned to iron constructions, and is now carving wood—which he admits "might be a reversal" of the usual sequence.

He has been painting, on the other hand, for some 30 years (20 of them while a

teacher at Cornell). He started painting in Saturday morning museum classes when he was a high school student in Pittsburgh. "I'm one of those Saturday morning products. A morning glory."

He studied at Carnegie Institute of Technology, receiving his undergraduate degree from the University of Colorado and his master's from Ohio State University. He did further study in Paris and at Parsons Institute in New York. He also studied art history at the Graduate Institute of Fine Arts of New York University "toward a doctorate I never finished."

The Finger Lakes show is open through June 2.