

Helen Hardin: featured artist

by Lou Ann Faris Culley

Helen Hardin is an exciting and dedicated young artist whose works have been widely acclaimed, both in this country and abroad. Helen, the daughter of Herbert O. Hardin and the internationally-known traditional Indian artist Pablita Velarde, was born and educated in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She studied art history and anthropology at the University of New Mexico and also attended the Special School for Indian Arts at the University of Arizona.

Helen paints under her Indian name, "Tsa-sah-wee-eh," which means Little Standing Spruce in the Tewa language of the Santa Clara pueblo. Her signature is always followed by a small symbol of a spruce tree. Although Helen was not brought up in the Indian traditions of the pueblo, she has seriously studied the designs and art of her heritage. Using acrylics, acrylic varnish, inks,

washes, and architects templates, Helen paints in a very contemporary style. Her work is rarely, if ever, traditional, yet it is clearly representative of the Indian culture.

Helen's interest in painting began in her childhood and she was soon entering competitions for children's art. During her high years, she was featured in an article in the June, 1959 issue of the national magazine "Seventeen." Since then, her work has been seen in numerous exhibitions throughout the country, including many two-woman shows with her mother, Pablita Velarde. When Helen was only nineteen, she exhibited her work in the first of many one-woman shows, including one at the prestigious Heard Museum in Phoenix, Arizona in 1969.

Helen's work has also received an enthusiastic reception abroad. In 1968, she was given a one-woman show at the Bi-National Center in Bobota, Colombia. In her most recent foreign show, she exhibited twenty-three paintings at the Instituto Guatemalteco Americano, at the invitation of the United States Information Service in Guatemala City.

From the beginning of her career, Helen has received numerous outstanding awards, including the Grand Award, Best Art Work in the Painting and Sculpture Category, and Best in the Acrylics Division of the eleventh annual National Indian Arts Exhibition in Scottsdale, Arizona; dozens of First Awards in both the annual Inter-tribal Ceremonial Exhibition in Gallup, New Mexico and the Santa Fe Indian Market; the Patrick Swazo Hinds Award for Excellence in Painting, and First and Second Awards in Tanner's Invitational Pottery and Painting Exhibition, Scottsdale.

Many national magazines have featured Helen's work, including the New Mexico Magazine (March-April, 1970) and Arizona Highways (August, 1976). In addition to her painting, some of Helen's other activities include the illustration of children's books published by the Clarke Industries and a commission from the Franklin Mint to design coins for the series "History of the American Indian."



ROOTS: timely and appropriate

February is National Afro-American History Observance Month. This year's theme is "Heritage Days: 1977-The Black Perspective/Third Century." Two recent events support the appropriateness of that theme.

During 1976, America's Bicentennial year, it was not uncommon to hear Black Americans voice opposition toward the celebration of the United States' 200th birthday. They were concerned with the omission of certain events that embarrassed the majority of citizens.

Black historical contributions were taken lightly and remained separated from the mainstream of events. Many Black Americans did not and could not share in the country's historical celebration.

In October 1976, Alex Haley published **Roots**. The book is a historical narrative dealing with the dramatization of Haley's family—from Africa to the United States, from freedom to slavery to freedom again.

In it Haley traces his family roots back to Kunta Kinte of Gambia. The family is depicted as a strong, moral, dignified people with a remarkable tolerance for suffering and pain.

The book provides a past for Haley, but for many Black Americans it has also become a symbol of their past and their involvement with Africa and the United States. No longer are they a people with only a present, but now like Kunta Kinte they can see themselves as a link between a past and a future.

Perhaps as important as the publication of the book, was the television presentation of **Roots** in January 1977.

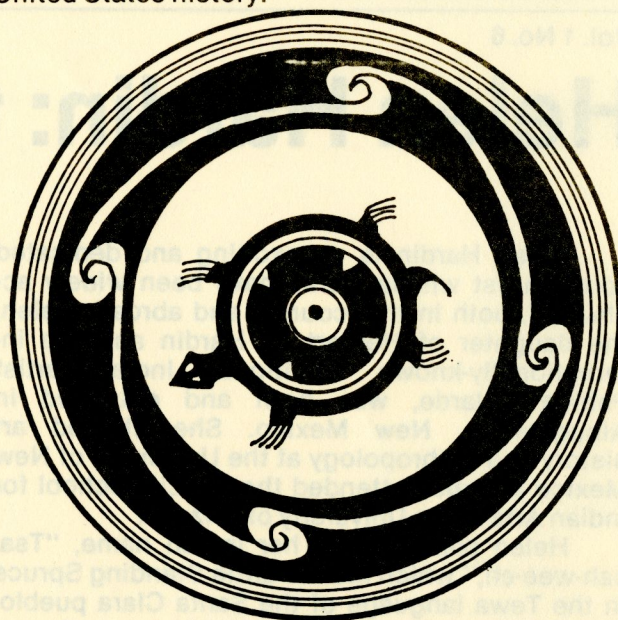
The dramatization, aired in eight consecutive nightly segments, reached millions of people. Americans of all races were able to witness the history of a proud and dignified family.

The presentation made it possible for many who might not have read the book to be moved by the programs. It sometimes created an intense feeling of shame and guilt in white Americans and anger and violence in Black Americans.

It is appropriate that Black History Month comes directly after the televised production of **Roots**. It is also fitting that the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and history had chosen the theme "Heritage Days: 1977—The Black Perspective/The Third Century" even before publication of **Roots**.

Perhaps **Roots** will be responsible for making that theme viable and relevant for 1977. It is certain that Haley's story will affect all Americans and the telling of American history.

The coincidental combination for the Bicentennial, which was not celebrated by many Blacks, and the televised showing of **Roots** have served to emphasize 1977 as the occasion for recognizing the full extent of Black American involvement in United States history.



RESIGNATION

Ms. Elaine Oates, Ph.D. candidate in Educational Media has resigned from the staff of the Minorities Resource/Research Center. Her immediate plans include the completion of her degree requirements. We extend our appreciation to her for being a vital part of the Minorities Resource/Research Center program.

APPOINTMENT

Juanita V. Briggs, a 1976 graduate of Kansas State University and a graduate student in Adult Education is the Graduate Assistant in the Minorities Center. She is a native of Arkansas and a resident of Kansas.

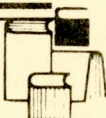
The Minorities Resource
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Antonia Quintana Pigno, Director

532-6516 Ext. 51

Melinda Melhus, Editor

NEW ACQUISITIONS



BOOKS...

Black Legislators in Louisiana During Reconstruction by Charles Vincent. Presents detailed biographical sketches of Black legislators from 1867-76, with coverage of leaders during the Civil War and in the state constitutional convention of 1867-68.

The Trouble They Seen by Dorothy Sterling. The Reconstruction as seen from the Black perspective. A collection of documents from Black Newspapers and manuscript sources, House and Senate reports, national and state archives.

CASSETTES...

Carl Rowan (Landon Lecture #34) Nov. 18, 1976.
"What Jimmy Carter's Election Will Mean."

Mariachi (Mexican-American)

FILMS...

Beyond Black and White. 32 minute, color, Motivational Media. "The psychological, sociological and historical origins of prejudice against minorities and women are classified for front-line supervisors and other levels of management."

Tapestry. El Paso Public Schools and Junior Women's Club. Music and dance and how they serve as a means of exchanging feelings and thoughts on a non-verbal level, person to person, regardless of nationality, religion, or language.

FILMSTRIPS...

With Pride to Progress: The Minority Child. 20 full-color filmstrips, fifteen cassettes, 20 audio-script booklets. (4 sets of color filmstrips) Parents' Magazine Films, Inc. 1976. "Designed to provide clear and sensitive insights into the needs of children from minority cultures."

Set 1—The Black Child

Set 2—The Chicano Child

Set 3—The Indian Child

Set 4—The Puerto Rican Child

MICROFILM...

Kansas City Call. Jan. 1956-Dec. 1975.

NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES...

Ethnic Groups. An International Periodical of Ethnic Studies. A quarterly publication which is "concerned with the social and cultural composition of ethnic groups, as well as with problems relating to the question of ethnic identity and the economics and political implications of ethnicity."

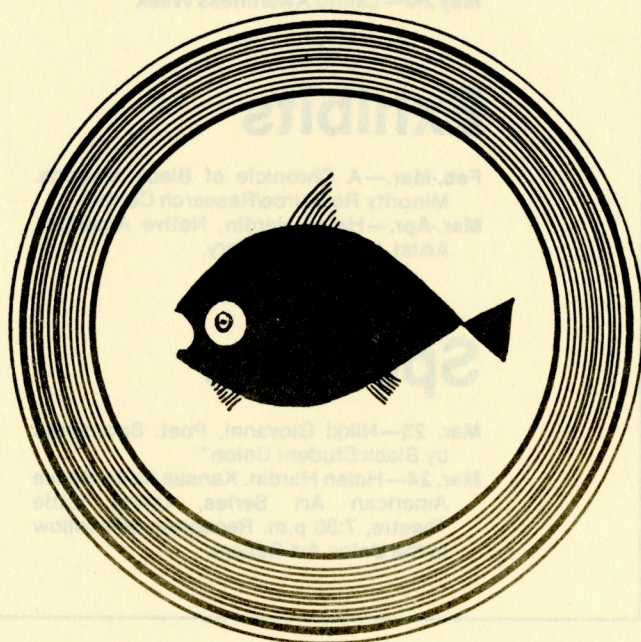
Jade. The Asian/American Identity. A quarterly publication of Jade Publications, Los Angeles, California.

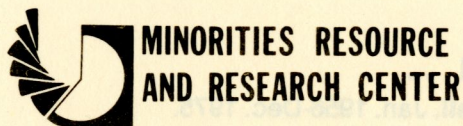
Journal of Black Studies. A quarterly publication which "sustains full analytical discussion of economic, political, sociological, historical and philosophical issues related to persons of African descent."

Journal of Ethnic Studies. "A publication of interdisciplinary scholarship, opinion, and creative expression." Published quarterly by Western Washington State, Bellingham, Washington.

Indian America. A quarterly publication from the Indian America Publishing Corporation.

Sun Tracks. An American Indian Literary Magazine published semi-annually by the Amerind Club of the University of Arizona, Tucson. Includes such artists as N. Scott Momady, R.C. Gorman and Leslie Silk.





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CALENDAR

Conferences

Feb. 20-28—BLACK AWARENESS WEEK
"We Are The Dream"

Apr. 14-16—Images of God and Man in Latin America

May 2-6—Latino Awareness Week*

Exhibits

Feb.-Mar.—A Chronicle of Black America.
Minority Resource/Research Center.

Mar.-Apr.—Helen Hardin, Native American
Artist, Union Art Gallery.

Speakers

Mar. 23—Nikki Giovanni, Poet. Sponsored
by Black Student Union*

Mar. 24—Helen Hardin. Kansas State Native
American Art Series, Union Little
Theatre, 7:30 p.m. Reception will follow
in the Union Art Gallery.

Mar. 28—Alex Haley, Author of **Roots**. All
University Convocation. Ahearn Field-
house, 10:30 a.m.

Apr. 18—Leslie Silko, Author and poet. Kan-
sas Native American Art Series.*

Apr. 26—Jerry Apodaca, governor of New
Mexico. All University Convocation. Mc-
Cain Auditorium, 10:30 a.m.

Apr. 28—Lucy Laudin, Weaver, potter and
sculptor. Kansas State Native American
Art Series.*

Movies

Mar. 10—Black Orpheus. International Film
Series. Union Little Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

Miscellaneous

Mar. 27—Afternoon of Black Poetry.
Fellowship Temple Church, 605 Allen
Road. 3:00 p.m.

*Watch **Collegian** for further information