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ANTHONY THORN

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By ELIZABETH SEITZ

Biographical Sketch: Arthur Goldman was born in Regina Saskatchewan on March 7, 1927 to parents Leon and Dorothy Goldman and married Jacqueline in 1963. In 1950 the pseudonym Antony Thorne was used, later the spelling was changed to Anthony Thorn. In 1955 this artist made a slight change in signing his last name by starting to write the letter r as the printed R.

Anthony Thorn obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1947 from the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, he studied art at the University of Saskatchewan, Regina Campus with Ken Lochhead in 1948 studied at the University of Chicago and the Chicago Art Institute in 1949. Arthur attended the Banff School of Fine Arts in 1950. In Paris he studied at the Academie de la Grande Chaumiere and the Centre d'art Sacre. In 1955 he studied in Mexico with the famous muralist David Siqueiros and the painter Jose Gutierrez. In Japan in 1960, he studies Japanese watercolor and sumi painting with Mataichiro Isoda and then in 1970 studied metal-smithing in Corfu, Greece.

From 1971 to 1977 Anthony Thorn lived in Toronto working as an art critic, instructor and lecturer, in the 1980s he was an instructor of painting technique in Victoria British Columbia, guest speaker at events for the Oak Bay Art Club, Federation of Canadian Artists and Island Illustrators' Society, he was also a participating artist in the Art Gallery of Greater Victoria Artists' Studio Tour in 1992.

His first group show was in 1953 in Paris France and his first one-man show was at the MacKenzie Art Gallery in 1954, since then he has take part in many solo exhibitions as well as group shows, his work has exhibited all over Canada from coast to coast.

In 1997 Anthony Thorn's work was recognized as having "outstanding significance and national importance" by the Canadian Cultural Review Board.

His 1974 work "Pieta", commissioned by the Reverend. W.A. Wadey for the Lumsden Roman Catholic Church, is painted in a 500 year old technique but in a modern way, this 11x4 foot mural on three panels was installed above the entrance door and when a new church was built in Lumsden this mural disappeared.

The original file titles and their order have been maintained.

THE ETCHEN FILES #23, #24 and #25.

Anthony Thorn and Eric Etchen have been friends since the 1950's. They met in Regina, continued their friendship in Toronto, and maintained correspondence over two main periods, 1959 to 1980, and 1992 to the present. The letters from Thorn also included many photographs of his work, invitations, a Paris diary, and other material.

The Etchen Files where very kindly offered to the University of Regina by Mr. Etchen via Anthony Thorn

Box 1

1. Diplomas, degree, I.D. 1944-'55 (12 items)
2. Letters to his parents 1949-'90
3. Convocation - University of Saskatchewan 1948
4. Masters paper - University of Chicago 1949
5. Exhibition catalogues 1955-'84
6. Publication - Living in Canada (Spanish ed.) 1971
7. Brochures, invitation, C.V. 1972-2002
8. Canadian artists in exhibition 1972-'73 (book)
9. Leader Post article on new city hall 1976
10. Brochure. Creative artists in schools. Thunder Bay 1976
11. Saskatchewan Arts Board collection 1978
12. Notebooks of Anthony Thorn (publication) Lakehead Univ. 1978-'79
- 12b New material and lecture notes.
13. Research material on the art of gilding 1980's
14. Catalogues - University of Victoria (extension dept.) 1983-'85

Box 2

15. Studio interview video tape for T.V. Victoria 1984
16. Arts Calendar (magazine) Victoria 1985
17. James Bay Journal 1984
18. Red Cross Show poster 1993
19. Genesis Show poster 1993
20. Four certificates- Canada Cultural Property Review Board 1997, '98, '98, 2001
21. Saskatchewan Arts Board reports 1996-'97, 1997-'98
22. Nuvo Magazine - 2001

The Etchen Files

23. Letters and other materials sent to Eric Etchen
 - A. early biography with enclosures, caricature self portrait 1954, form of a will 1965, price list Tygesen Gallery 1965, article 1969, invitations, newspaper clipping, 1960.
 - B. letter from Las Palmas, Canary Islands, May 1959
 - C. letter from Regina, Nov. 1959
 - D. letter from Cascais, Portugal, Mar. 1965
 - E. brochures
 - F. article, Regina Leader Post
 - G. article-Creative Artists in Schools
 - H. letters from Corfu, Greece, Jan. to Aug. 1970
 - I. letters from Toronto, June and Dec. 1971
 - J. article, Regina Leader Post, 1976
 - K. letters from Thunder Bay, Jan. 1979, July 1980. article
 (all of the following are letters from Victoria, which include other material)
 - L. Oct. 1992
 - M. Jan. 1993
 - N. April 1993 July 1993. articles
 - O. Aug. 1993
 - P. Dec. 1993
 - Q. Feb. 1994
 - R. Mar. 1994
 - S. April 1994
 - T. May 1994
 - U. June 1994. article
 - V. July 1994. menorah design
 - W. Sept. 1994
 - X. Aug. 1994
 - Y. Dec. 1994
 - Z. Jan. 1995
 - AA. Feb. 1995
 - BB. Mar. 1995. Paris diary (1953, with sketches, ideas)

CC. April 1995
 DD. May 1995. Etchen's memoir
 EE. June 1995
 FF. July 1995
 GG. Aug. 1995. Successful Senior Magazine, early Bio. (probably 1978, repro. of photo in Victoria Times-Colonist of Thorn holding his ivory carving "SHEMA").
 HH. Sept. 1995
 II Nov. 1995
 JJ. Dec. 1995
 KK. Mar. 1996
 LL. June 1996
 MM. July 1996

24. Photos and other material sent to Etchen
 Two portraits taken of Elias Wolf Mandel, the poet, and one of Fran Hyland, actress, taken in Saskatoon, University of Saskatchewan 1947.
 Publicity photos of Thorn taken by John Reeves, Toronto circa 1965, one with model Ann Barlow.
 "THE ETCHEN BODHISATTVA" mosaic on panel 1967, (two photos)
 "ANCIENT DRAGON" 18x22 in. owned by Greater Victoria Public Library 1994
 "THE HEBREW LETTER AYIN" carved and gilded walrus ivory. Underhill collection 1995
 "THE GUARDIANS" wall jewel
 "ANCIENT DRAGON" on easel
 "CROWN FOR SARAJEVO". sculpture, free-cast tin and opals, later gilded, Jewish Community Centre of Victoria.
 "CALLIGRAPHIC STUDY-TOWHEED". Dr. Nancy Micklewright
 "IVORY MENORAH", carved ivory, gold inlays. Evelyn Shaw. Studio corner. 636 Simcoe St. Victoria. (attic studio).
 "RISEN", enamel and oil on panel. Later reworked, gilded, walnut inserts
 Name changed to "STARGATE". Mackenzie Gallery Collection, Regina.
 "CHRYSANTHEMUM MIRROR", (two photos), gilded scraperboard. Lyn Goldman
 "ISLAMIC INSCRIPTION", sgraffito on gilded panel. Lyn Goldman. A much larger version of the same subject, later destroyed. Works in progress circa 1994, on studio windowsill, a wonderful period, carvings gilded by dewaxed shellac technique, a very rare technique, laborious but great burnish).
 "ANCIENT WALL - JERUSALEM". "ANTHROPOS" MENORAH". "CONSTRUCT".
 "THE DARK STONES". "DRAGON'S HOARD" "AND THE OPHANIM" (later reframed)
 Invitation, Winchester Gallery
 Model for design of menorah. Business card.
 Source material-towheed, (Turkish)
 "CONSTRUCT"
 Invitation, Winchester Gallery, two works illustrated.
 Work in progress, later disassembled. Central portion "SPHERE - AMBER AND GOLD". owned by Goldberg/Goltzman.
 "THREE PANEL SCREEN". Saskatchewan Arts Board Collection. Gilded panel. Nocturnal Figures.
 "HEBREW LETTER SHIN". gilded gesso carving.
 Invitation Vanderleelie Gallery, Edmonton. wall jewel in metals, with whalebone.
25. 24 photos taken by Eric Etchen, of the artist in his studio, and some of his work. II Yorkville Ave. A couple of the paintings are identified. 1963.
26. Letters - Thorn to Etchen (one early letter April 1960, the rest are from 1981 to 2002 with photos, brochures etc.)

- Box 3 27. 25 Letters from Etchen to Thorn June 1988 to December 1998
- Box 4 28. (folder 1 of 2) GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE for the years 1975 to 2000
28. (folder 2 of 2) GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE for the years 1975 to 2000
 Includes brochures, letters, photos, price lists, inventories, consignment contracts.
29. PUBLICATION
 "ART IN VICTORIA 1960 Art Gallery of Greater Victoria.
 biographical information, including an accidentally truncated list
 of collections. A very fine illustration of the wall jewel "HOMAGE
 TO ICARUS".
30. Ink drawing on panel – Geraniums (Oversize Folder 1)
30a. Photograph – "White Clematis" – Painting
b. Photograph – "Messenger" – Carving
c. Photograph – "Ammonite" – Carving
d. Photograph – "Ammonite (detail)" – Carving
e. Photograph – "Book of Daniel" – Painting
f. Photograph – "And the Ophanim" – Painting
g. Photograph – "Shema" – Carving
h. Photograph – "Figures in a Landscape" – Carving
i. Photograph – "Ancient Wall – Jerusalem" – Carving
j. Photograph – "Geranium on studio Table" – Painting
k. Photograph – "Small Abstract City – Spanish City (1954)" – Painting
l. Photograph – "The Aleph" – Bronze Casting with Gold Leaf
m. Photograph – "Ramshorn" – Gilded Carving, inlay
n. Photograph – "Ramshorn" – Gilded Carving, inlay
o. Source Material – Islamic Inscription (Arabic)
p. Source Material – Hebrew Word "Hear"
q. Article – Robert Amos 1997
r. Invitation
s. Article – Lora Burke 1976
t. Artists statement 1991
u. Doodles with Trial Signatures
v. Article with Comment
31. sketches, design, menorah project. aborted.
32. child's drawing, Thorn and class, Thunder Bay 1976
33. 81 slides of work of various periods
34. brush painting in Chinese ink and watercolor "JONAH AT NINEVEH" 1991
 (Oversize Folder 1)
35. ideas, sketches 1910
36. sampling of letters from Helen Hawley (England) correspondence file
37. sampling of letters to Robert Amos (Victoria), art critic. correspondence file.