

UNIVERSITY OF REGINA ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

DR JOHN ARCHER LIBRARY

COLLECTION NUMBER: 2019-52

WILLIAM (BILL) LOBCHUK

OCTOBER 10, 2019

BY MICHELLE OLSON AND ELIZABETH SEITZ

## Biographical Sketch

Bill Lobchuk has carved a unique niche for himself in the Canadian art world. He is both an artist and a facilitator for others' art. He achieved the former through the training he received at the School of Art at the University of Manitoba. The latter he achieved through his establishment of a screen shop, where artists could make their own prints or have their works printed.

Lobchuk was born in Neepawa, Manitoba, in 1942. He studied under Ken Lochhead and received a Diploma of Art from the University of Manitoba in 1966. In 1968 he opened the Screen Shop at 50 Princess Street in Winnipeg. By the early 70s he had operated the Screen Shop, the Printmakers Gallery and the Sunnyside Sign Company. These were replaced by the Grand Western Canadian Screen Shop which he formed with partner Len Anthony in 1973. The Shop was a focal point for many printmakers and artists through the 70s. Artists such as Judith Allsop, Ted Howorth, Chris Finn, Robert Archambeau, Don Proch and Tony Tascona, from Winnipeg, and David Thauberger, Vic Cicansky, Joe Fafard and Russ Yuristy from Saskatchewan printed many of their works at or through the Shop.

While the Grand Western Canadian Screen Shop drew together artists of varying backgrounds, Lobchuk threw himself into various professional organizations. He was President of the Canadian Artists' Representation, Manitoba, from 1972 to 1975, National Representative of the same organization from 1976 to 1978, and National Director from 1978 to 1980. He was a member of the Manitoba Arts Council from 1974 to 1976, President of the Canadian National Committee of the International Association of Art (1977-80) on the Advisory Committee to Gallery Oseredok of the Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre, fund-raiser of the Jack Chambers Foundation, and so on.

Both his works and those printed through and by his screen shop have received ample recognition in Canada and throughout the world, with shows and works in France, Poland, Yugoslavia, Holland, Norway and Japan. The Great Western Canadian Series '78 and Series '80 were significant co-operative efforts typical of Lobchuk's screen shop.

As the only western screen shop, the Grand Western Canadian Screen Shop has been integral to promoting the serigraph on the prairies. Bill Lobchuk himself has devoted much time and his not inconsiderable energies to promoting the cause of visual art throughout Canada. Together they have contributed much to the Canadian art world.

**Scope and Content:** The collection ranges in date from 1968 to 1972 and includes undated material. It is comprised of textual material, negatives (#1 - #5), oversize (#1 - #31), and photographs (#1 - #4). The collection was transferred to the Archives and Special Collections from William Lobchuk via the Mackenzie Art Gallery in October 2019. Indices were made for the negatives, oversize and photographs. Future accruals are expected.

**Access Restrictions:** All requests for access to the Bill Lobchuk archives will be forwarded to Bill Lobchuk for approval. No persons shall have access to any part of the Bill Lobchuk papers without prior consent of the donor. All material will be available for limited loan for exhibition purposes to accredited repositories and art galleries with the donor's consent.

**Related Accessions:** 88-75, 89-16, and 2009-32.

**Legal Agreement:** The legal agreement is pending.

## Small Accession

- 1 William (Bill) Lobchuk Material  
(Includes: Negatives #1 - #5)  
(Includes: Oversize #1 - #31)  
(Includes: Photographs #1 - #4)