

DESMOND RAYNER s.g.a. B.1928

Desmond's birth was celebrated with the arrival of talking pictures, and the advent of Mickey Mouse. Although silver spoons were in short supply at the time, he settled for making his first appearance with a paint brush in one hand, and a stick of theatrical grease paint in the other.

Theatre and art have vied for dominance throughout his life ever since. He studied art and drama at evening classes. At the age of sixteen he began to write plays, being convinced that the world was waiting for his precious offerings; alas, nobody was listening.

Once he escaped from the R.A.F. he settled down to study drama full-time at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. His theatrical career quickly led him to Stratford-upon-Avon, the Old Vic and other notable stages. Plays followed with a persistent lack of success. Being unable to contend with the rumblings of an empty stomach he finally decided to deprive the theatre of his talent and joined the nine to five rat race.

Painting continued at week-ends, and round the edges of the day. The playwriting proceeded with a marked lack of success.

Desmond met his wife when she was a nurse and he still an actor; having nothing between them they decided to marry and live on anticipation. Claire Rayner is now an established journalist, successful novelist and problem page 'auntie'. Desmond now acts as her agent and personal manager.

In 1984 Desmond's first novel was published; "THE DAWLISH SEASON" is under the Hodder and Stoughton imprint and claws away the glamour so often mistakenly associated with the theatre. It has aroused considerable interest.

Desmond's last major exhibition was a one man event at the Barbican Centre at which he showed seventy paintings.

THE AMERICAN FESTIVAL

This exhibition is part of The American Festival, the largest celebration of the culture of the United States ever held in Britain. Under the patronage of His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh KG KT, over forty concerts, plays, exhibitions and special events are being presented in London, Cardiff and Glasgow. The Festival has been co-ordinated by the British American Arts Association and Harold Holt Ltd., and is presented by Endless Holdings Ltd.



desmond rayner

at

WYLMA WAYNE FINE ART

17 OLD BOND STREET, LONDON, W.1

THE EXHIBITION

INDIANS OF THE AMERICAS

The fifty works in this group are intended to show the amazing design ingenuity employed by the essentially nomadic tribes who first inhabited North America. The highly sophisticated shapes and patterning used to enhance their wide range of artefacts reveals a finely developed awareness of complicated draftsmanship linked to the subtle use of colour. Pottery forms were delicately decorated to enhance a vessel; intricate needlepoint was applied to large and small backgrounds; leather would be embellished, and wood heavily carved. Their sources of pigment were animal, vegetable and mineral dyes. They developed a remarkable skill at blending these basic ingredients to afford their talents a wide range of both vivid primary shades, and gentle variations of less obvious combinations.

These works are not a definitive collection, but a starting point for the curious.

NEW YORK - NEW YORK *Another Perspective*

This is a mixed media exhibition based upon the architecture of New York. When Desmond first visited New York in 1978 he found the sight of skyscrapers a great inspiration, and slowly formulated a project that would encourage people to look up and try to see the abundant embellishments that adorned so many of the long, lean buildings. He was impressed with the self-confidence of the architects who designed these buildings; to put so much so high above the heads of passers-by! Desmond was shown over several of the buildings, and allowed to make rough sketches. In addition eight rolls of ciné film were taken, and a constant stream of letters despatched to various organisations for the fullest possible details. If the result of this exhibition is more people looking with new eyes at what they have been passing, ignoring and taking for granted in architecture for many years, then Desmond will be more than satisfied.

AMERICA- ANCIENT & MODERN

Exhibition of Paintings by

desmond rayner

PRIVATE VIEW

MONDAY, 13th MAY, 1985 5.30 - 8.30 p.m.

TO BE OPENED AT 6.30 p.m. BY

ANNE COLLINS

Cultural Attaché
The Embassy of the United States of America

EXHIBITION CONTINUES UNTIL 30th MAY, 1985

WYLMA WAYNE FINE ART

17 OLD BOND STREET, LONDON, W.1

R.S.V.P.
01-629 4511

Mon - Fri
10.30 - 6.00

U.S. ELECTION NIGHT 1980

Jimmy Carter	
Ronald Reagan	
John Anderson	

Ballot must be placed in box by 1.00 a.m.

Welcome to Election Night at the US Embassy. If you would like to "vote" please mark your ballot and put it in one of the ballot boxes in the party area. Ballot boxes look like ash trays (which they are) and are located by the information desks downstairs and in the Media area. Only one ballot per person. "Voting" closes at 1.00 a.m. Results will be announced as soon as the votes are counted.