

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS & ARCHIVES: EXHIBITIONS, 1987-1988

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In the exhibitions of the past year various aspects of the holdings of Special Collections & Archives were displayed as well as the rare book collection of a Rutgers alumnus.

To Please the Eye: Decorated Maps of the Sixteenth Through Eighteenth Centuries displayed the early maps housed in Special Collections & Archives, many of which were donated by the late I. Robert Kriendler. Maps produced by Abraham Ortelius, Gerard Mercator, Sebastian Munster and Martin Waldseemuller, among others, were shown. All are distinguished not only for the best cartography of their day, but also for the artistic treatment with which they were done.

Rutgers' Nobel laureate, Selman A. Waksman, was the subject of an exhibition on the occasion of the centenary of his birth. The show featured material from the university archives, including early photographs, letters from grateful patients (who had benefited from Waksman's discovery of Streptomycin), and honorific medals. Byron Waksman, his son, lent the Nobel medal which had been presented to Dr. Waksman in 1952.

Leonard J. Hansen, Rutgers Class of 1943, was responsible for two Gallery '50 exhibitions. The first, *The Effects of Time* (co-curated by Richard Minsky), displayed rare books in various states of disrepair, the normal attrition of time to which all printed materials are subject. The second show, *The Collector's Art: Items from the Collection of Leonard J. Hansen*, featured M. Hansen's collection of early English books: Bibles, religious tracts, herbals and books from the age of the Stuarts.

Smaller exhibitions were equally interesting. *New Jersey in the 1780's* concentrated on daily life in New Jersey during the decade of the writing of the Constitution. It featured letters, broadsides, diaries and other items from the collections. *The Spirit of Nubia*, mounted in honor of Black History Month, showcased contemporary Black art. It was sponsored by the Paul Robeson Cultural Center. *The Great Visitation: A March Surprise* commemorated the centennial of the blizzard of 1888, using letters and photographs. *A Concise History of Books & Printing* used items from the rare book collection to show the birth and development of the printed book. Alexander Pope's tercentenary was remembered, using volumes of

Pope's poetry printed during his lifetime. *Predecessors and Contemporaries of Matsukata* commemorated the centenary of the arrival of Kojiro Matsukata at Rutgers. Matsukata was one of some three hundred Japanese who studied at Rutgers, forging a strong tie that still exists today. Original letters, photographs, maps and museum objects illustrated the story of Japanese students at Rutgers.

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- November, 1987—January 1988 *To Please the Eye: Decorated Maps of the Sixteenth Through Eighteenth Centuries.* Gallery '50. Curator: Janice A. Kraus
New Jersey in the 1780s. New Jersey Room. Curator: Maxine N. Lurie
- January—March, 1988 *The Effects of Time.* Gallery '50. Curators: Leonard J. Hansen, Richard Minsky; installed by Janice A. Kraus
- March 1988 *The Spirit of Nubia.* Alexander Library lobby case. Sponsored by the Paul Robeson Cultural Center; installed by Janice A. Kraus
The Great Visitation: A March Surprise. New Jersey Room & Alexander Library lobby cases. Curator: Clark L. Beck
- April—May 1988 *Out of the Earth Shall Come Thy Salvation: Selman A. Waksman Centenary 1888-1988.* Gallery '50 Curator: Janice A. Kraus
- April 1988 *A Concise History of Books & Printing.* New Jersey Room. Curator: Janice A. Kraus
- May—June 1988 *The Collector's Art: Items from the Collection of Leonard J. Hansen, Class of 1943.* Gallery '50. Curator: Janice A. Kraus

May 1988

*Alexander Pope Tercentenary. 21
May 1688.* Alexander Library
lobby cases. Curator: Janice A.
Kraus

Alumni Reunion Weekend Exhi-
bition. New Jersey Room & Alex-
ander Library lobby cases. Cura-
tor: Janice Levin

May—September 1988

*Predecessors and Contemporaries of
Matsukata.* New Jersey Room. Cu-
rator: Clark L. Beck