

If You Can Hold a Brush You Can Paint, Says Garbo

By JOYCE WEAVER

"Anyone who can hold a paint brush can learn to paint." That's what Norman Garbo, distinguished young artist, author and art columnist told MSTC students during the assembly program last Wednesday.

In his highly entertaining lecture-demonstration Mr. Garbo contended that one isn't "born" a painter, for painting is the most natural of all things.

"It's a release to put your emotions and feelings on paper or canvas," said the talented artist, who is a shining example of his theory that art should be for fun.

With a keen sense of humor and an equally eloquent brush, Mr. Garbo tore away some of the popular misconceptions surrounding art and artists. He brought out the fact that it is good not to look like an artist, since the artist has been portrayed as a public abuser with an odd hair-do and a paint-smearred smock.

Shows Ability

Mr. Garbo first demonstrated his remarkable ability by adding a simple charcoal sketch to a blank canvas. Then he continued to give the audience a well-rounded basic approach to the creation of a picture with a variety of brush strokes. His running commentary as he explained the fundamental relationships added to the pleasure of seeing a landscape take form.

Claiming himself a foremost exponent of the "pit of the stomach school of expression," Mr. Garbo added that he paints only what he likes. Pointing out that most artists take themselves and art too seriously, he

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Norman Garbo

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stated, "You learn to become an artist because you learn to see, and you learn to see because you learn to become an artist."

Surprisingly, Mr. Garbo hadn't the slightest interest in art until he was a young adult of eighteen. At this time he was majoring in advertising at the Brooklyn Academy of Fine Arts.

Since then, Mr. Garbo has established himself as one of our most talented artists. His works have hung in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Chicago Art Institute, The Philadelphia Museum and numerous other leading art galleries throughout the country.

Paints Ike, HST

Having devoted himself to portrait painting, he is one of the few artists who has painted both President Eisenhower and President Truman. Besides conducting classes in painting, Mr. Garbo writes a weekly syndicated column entitled "Pull Up An Easel," which appears in 75 newspapers. His book, of the same title, is already in its third printing.

Mr. Garbo now considers writing the most exciting part of his life. He wrote an article on his works which appeared in the Saturday Evening Post on Dec. 17. Another article written for the same magazine is soon to be published.

Presenting 20 to 30 lecture-demonstrations in a year, Mr. Garbo feels that in this way he most easily gets across information on a subject which is deadening if approached in the wrong manner.

In expressing that art is his interpretation of life, Mr. Garbo truly demonstrated that every one can enrich his life and express himself effectively in this fascinating medium.
