

December 29, 1993



Rosemarie Farish
Lorraine Phillips
Clifford Ehn
The John Ehn Family Trust
10340 Lorne Street
Sun Valley, California 91352

Dear Members of the John Ehn Family Trust,

Enclosed is a prioritized listing of works of art by John Ehn. The Oakland Museum would very much like to acquire for our Collection of California Art. Works of the very highest priority are marked in yellow circled with red; high priority works are marked in yellow, and second priority works are marked in orange.

We, of course, as "The Museum of California", would like to acquire a comprehensive group of John Ehn works for the purpose of exhibition and study. The points listed in your Draft-Letter of Agreement- are in keeping with the mission and policies of The Oakland Museum, and would be honored without reservation. All works deeded to The Oakland Museum would be accessioned into the Collection of California Art and held as a public trust; the works would not be deaccessioned, but would be exhibited in our Gallery of California Art, used in special exhibitions and loaned to qualified institutions for exhibitions, study and publication.

I am personally very excited at the prospect of receiving some of Mr. Ehn's work for the collection. The examples of his work shown at The Oakland Museum (S-24, S-28 and S-29) had a memorable impact among the artist community here, and would constitute a major addition to our permanent collection. For many years I have been interested in what has been termed "outsider" art, and consider Mr. Ehn's sculpture and objects to be prime examples; their honesty, integrity and humor have a direct appeal to artists and the general public alike.

The year 1994 is The Oakland Museum's 25th Anniversary Year. We are planning a number of special exhibitions and events in celebration, and would certainly include Mr. Ehn's work in a variety of ways, including exhibition and publication. I do look forward to hearing from you regarding the distribution of the artwork, and am available at your convenience should you have any questions regarding our selections.

Sincerely,

Philip E. Linhares
Chief Curator of Art


The Oakland Museum
Art Department


1000 Oak Street
Oakland, California
94607-4892
Tel 510.238.3005
Fax 510.238.2258

✓ BCC - Seymour Rosen

Prioritized listing of works by John Ehn requested for the Collection of The Oakland Museum:

color key:  highest priority

 high priority

 second priority

- ✓ S 10 Face Plaque: Mary Ehn
- ✓ S 12 " " Marianne w/long braid
- ✓ S 13 " " Old Trapper John Ehn
- ✓ S 16 9 hands and 3 arms (concrete objects)
- ✓ S 17 Feet x 10
- ✓ S 18 Face Plaque: Judy w/long braids
- ✓ S 20 " " Steve (red)
- ✓ S 20 " " Steve (green)
- ✓ S 22 " " Louise w/long braids
- ✓ ~~S 24~~ Bust: Mary Ehn, OT's wife (painted) Exhibited at The Oakland Mus.
- ✓ ~~S 28~~ Bust: John Ehn (painted) Exhibited at The Oakland Museum
- ✓ S 29 Bust: Buxom Blonde w/rouged cheeks; Exhibited at The Oakland Mus.
- ✓ S 30 Legs as Humorous Tombstone

13

- ✓ OT 14 Memory Board w/skunk hide and skull
- ✓ OT 17 Gun and Knife Memory Board
- ✓ OT 21 Memory Board w/snake skins outlined in red leather
- ✓ OT 31¹³² Collection of 4 Memory Bottles (one or all)
- ✓ OT 36 Knife Board
- ✓ ~~OT 40~~ Rifle: Henry 45-50
- ✓ OT 43 Custom Chopper: Montages and Article
- ✓ OT 57 Photo Board: "It Was Long, Long Ago..."
- ✓ OT 58 Photo Board: "Early Americans"
- ✓ OT 59 Photo Board: guns, leather soap cans and tree fungus, etc.

10

Additional, not listed or numbered: Photo Boards, top of page opposite OT 57, 58, etc. people, cars, deer; "Old Trapper Buys Snakes", etc.

Plus old, repaired tools (saws with leather handles, etc.) stored in barrel in storage facility.