



520 Dublin Road Perkasie, PA 18944 215-249-0100 www.pearlsbuck.org

Pearl S. Buck International® (PSBI) is a non-profit organization with three distinct functions that operate as one with the common mission of continuing the legacy and dreams of Pearl S. Buck. her committeent to improving the quality of life and expanding opportunities for children and promoting an understanding of the values and attributes of other cultures, the injustice of prejudice, and the need for humanitarianism throughout the world:



THE ART & SCULPTURE OF GREEN HILLS FARM

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FOREWORD

he art collection of Pearl S. Buck remains as eclectic and unique as it was during her lifetime. Housed within this unique Bucks County farmhouse are the prints and paintings of renowned local and international artists.

Buck's art collection reveals the life of a citizen immersed in many cultures and world events. Pearl S. Buck spent the first forty years of her life in China and her remaining years near the emerging art colony of New Hope, Pennsylvania. The established art and culture of Philadelphia and New York were often frequented by Buck and her publisher, husband Richard Walsh. These cultural influences are evident in the art, furniture and gardens of Green Hills Farm.

It is my sincere hope that you enjoy this anthology of the distinct and diverse collection of Pearl S. Buck.

Donna Carcaci Rhodes Curator of Green Hills Farm

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR RESEARCH COMMITTEE:

Donna D'Angelo Molly Caufman Peggi Clauhs Judy Comes Jo Farina Mary Pat Holewinski Teri Mandic Janet Mintzer Catherine Pahutski Sandra Weikel Susie Woodland



Bert Baum
"Perkasie Spring" 1980
Oil on canvas
19.5" x 15.5"
(49.53cm x 39.3cm)
Hall, west wing



Bert Baum
"Untitled" 1960
Oil on masonite
16" x 20" (40.6cm x 50.8cm)
Hall, west wing

Bert Baum is the son of artist Walter Baum. "Perkasie Spring" and "Untitled" are the only father and son artists featured in the collection. "Perkasie Spring" has many personal notes written on the reverse of the painting. The notes indicate there is much to document in this particular scene: "On February 21, 1980 a light snow followed by one half inch of rain, mildest winter in years. This bridge was moved to Menlo Park years ago by truck at \$5000.00. Covered bridge...Perkasie .. also Bridgeton... Benjamin too."

Julia and Bert Baum gifted "Untitled", an oil on wood painting, and recorded personal notes on the reverse. Note the imagery of the east and west, with the grazing deer just south of the present greenhouses. The notes on the back of this reveal a possible title that is not indicated in the framing plaque: "Where Welcome House began. Signed and monogrammed tree w/bird Tarzana Calif, near L.A. by Jack Laurence. Owned by David and Julia Baum 1960. Sellersville Pa. Main and Green Streets."



Walter Emerson Baum (American 1884-1956) "The Businessmen" Oil on masonite 23.5" x 30" (59.6 x 76.2 cm) Pearl S. Buck Office, north wall

This piece by Baum features three men seated at easels paining canvases amid sculptures, vases of flowers fruit and paintings. This is very unusual for the artist as the colors and style are different from his usual choices.

Walter Emerson Baum was born in Sellersville, Pennsylvania in 1884. Baum grew up in Bucks County and developed an affinity for the Lehigh Valley. The local landscape served as the subject for many of his pieces. Through his artwork, Baum worked to maintain the cultural identity of the area. He studied under William T. Trego (1859-1909) and studied for a brief time at the Pennsylvania Academy of Art. During his career, Baum was awarded over thirty awards and was a member of many prestigious art societies. To augment the family income, Baum taught art classes at the Allentown Art Museum, where he also served as Curator. Early in his career, he photographed for the *Poultry Item*, a farming magazine. He was also an art critic for the *Philadelphia Bulletin*, as well as reporter and editor of the *Sellersville Herald*.

As an impressionistic painter, Baum preferred landscape scenes and often worked outdoors, even when capturing his picturesque winter scenes. He worked in both oil and watercolor and favored large scale pieces. Point Pleasant, near New Hope, was one of his favorite locations to paint. Although many of his pieces may seem simple, Baum was a bold painter and is said to have used the plein-air style since he did not use photos. Over the years, Baum's work has been studied and copied by other artists. Not only is he known throughout the local area, but he is revered as a great artist in the art community as well.



Joseph Bowler
"Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John."
ca 1966/1967
Gouache on masonite
20 ½" x 30" (50.8 x 76.2)
Kitchen, east wall

This illustration is based on a book by Pearl S. Buck of the same title. Originally it appeared as a short story in a 1966 *Good Housekeeping* magazine to promote Welcome House and the Pearl S. Buck Foundation for children. The young boys are children of Korean mothers and American servicemen stationed in Korea during the Korean conflict of 1950-1955. The United States State Department first used the word Amerasian to describe these children.



Charles Binger
"My Several Worlds" ca 1954
Oil and pencil on artist's board
29 ½ x 16 ¾ (73.7 x 41.8 cm)
Mud room, north wall

This painting of Pearl S. Buck was used for the book cover illustration of her autobiographical book of 1954 titled "My Several Worlds". This is the only illustration used for the book, and depicts a Chinese village with a symbolically red sky under the view of Miss Buck as if in memory.



Pearl S. Buck"Children of Pearl S. Buck"
ca. 1945
Plasticine clay

Miss Buck integrated her 1938 office writing space and art space in an addition to her 1825 home. Her loft served as a sculpting area, which has a low balcony wall and a window facing east.

Her office had two desks pushed together, where she often worked on two separate pieces of literature each morning. Her work day began at 8:00 a.m. after her children left for school, and ended at 1:00 p.m. for lunch and further demands of her day.

In the office, a large picture window faces east, and she writes of the scene in many books including "My Several Worlds". At one time, her namesake yellow rose bushes had a home under this window. In 1949, the two greenhouses are added. One with her original camellias, the other for fresh cut flowers.

"Two of my sons one day when they were small and naughty, broke their heads, so I have only the face of my eldest son left there. The other had to be thrown away."

-Pearl S. Buck



Selma H. Burke (American 1900-1995) "Uplift" (1991) Bronze Driveway end location 72" (182.9 cm)

A distinguished artist, educator and activist, Dr. Selma Burke said of "Uplift", "This statue is something I wanted to do for Pearl Buck. It's how I see her. She took those children and lifted them up to better things."

Ms. Burke worked her way through New York Art Student's League and took art courses at Sarah Lawrence College.

In 1936 she won a Boehler Foundation Fellowship which allowed her to study sculpture in Europe under Aristide Maillol, and painting under Henri Matisse, her mentor in Paris France. She did additional independent study of sculpture in New York under Reis and Malderelli, and studied drawing under Cornahan.

Ms. Burke earned her Master of Fine Arts degree with the help of scholarships and the Julius Rosenwald Award at Columbia University in 1941. She earned a Doctor of Philosophy in Arts and Letters at Livingstone College, NC in 1970.

In her 70-year career, she was many things: teacher, administrator, model, nurse, even truck driver. Her work as a sculptor, however, led

to her most memorable achievement of being the first black sculptor to design a United States coin. In 1943, she won an international competition and was chosen to design a portrait of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, later attributed as the model for the United States dime.

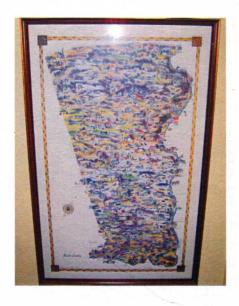
Her works of art have been exhibited in countless museums around the world. In 1940, she became the founder of the Selma Burke School of Sculpture in New York City. In 1968, she established the Selma Burke Art Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The annual Bucks County Pennsylvania Sculpture show was founded by Ms. Burke.

She received numerous awards and citations for excellence in art, community service and achievements in the area of civil rights, including eight honorary doctorate degrees, and the 1987 Pearl S. Buck Foundation (now Pearl S. Buck International) Woman of the Year Award.

Racial prejudice brought about the first meeting between Burke and Buck. Burke was traveling with her family in North Carolina when they stopped to eat. Because a segregated South didn't permit black people inside the restaurant, Burke's mother had planned a roadside picnic. At the same time a woman with two small girls, one with white skin and one with dark skin, left the restaurant followed by a waiter carrying a tray of food. Burke's mother invited the trio to join their picnic. The woman, Pearl Buck, graciously accepted.

As the sculpture was being prepared for its position on Green Hills Farm, several visitors, including Janice Walsh, the daughter of Pearl S. Buck, added Roosevelt head dimes under the base of the statue.

Ms. Burke attended the unveiling and dedication of the statue on October 6, 1991 at the Pearl S. Buck Centennial Celebration. The bottom back drape of the gown is inscribed with the artist's name.



Ranulph De Bayeux Bye (American 1916-2003) "Bucks County Watercolor" Paper 72"x 48" (182.9cm x 121.9 cm)

Ranulph Bye was born 1916 in Princeton N.J. He graduated from the Philadelphia College of Arts and attended the Arts Students League in New York City. In 1953 he was elected to the American Watercolor Society and was a member of the National Academy of Design. He taught at Moore College

of Art for thirty years. Over his career, he painted between 2,700 and 4,000 watercolors and oils. Bye is said to have preferred watercolor to other mediums because it provided greater freedom from the technical demands of oil painting.

In 1699, Bye's ancestors purchased land in what is now Bucks County from William Penn. Bye moved to the area in 1931 and considered the area home. This is where he found many of his subjects. Due to his strong ties to the area, Bye worked to preserve the essence of Bucks County through his paintings. In "Bucks County Watercolor", Bye painted over 240 historically significant subjects in watercolor bordered and cornered with Mercer tile. The watercolor, set in both winter and spring, symbolizes the historic character of the county. Green Hills Farm (The Pearl S. Buck house) is depicted in the painting.

In 1984, during a special reception, the Pearl S. Buck House released both limited and open edition format reproductions of the watercolor, measuring 39 x 24 inches. The original hangs in the Bucks County Courthouse. Reproductions abound, especially in the Bucks County area. Pearl S. Buck International owns two limited edition prints.



Paul Calle (1928-)
"The Pearl S. Buck Commemorative Stamp" 1983
Paper, print
31" x 41" (78.7cm X 104 cm)

This portrait was later the basis of the United States Postal Service's commemorative stamp of Pearl S. Buck. The medium-tone brown stamp was created by internationally renowned stamp designer Paul Calle. The stamp is the 40th honoring a woman in the post office department's "Great Americans Series". On June 25, 1983, first-day sales of the 5-cent stamps took place and were restricted to Hillsboro, the location of Pearl S. Buck's birthplace.