

VENICE
BIENNALE
PRIZE-WINNERS
1960

ENTO DI STORIA
CA DELLE ARTI

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TÀ DEGLI STUDI
VENEZIA



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DIPARTIMENTO DI STORIA E CRITICA DELLE ARTI
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI VENEZIA



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Venice Biennale Prize-Winners 1960

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Walker Art Center, Minneapolis

McCormick Place Art Gallery, Chicago

Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse

EVERY OTHER SUMMER the world's largest art exhibition is held in a public garden in the Adriatic sea. The Venice Biennale, originally known as the *Esposizione Internazionale d'Arte della Citta di Venezia*, was initiated in 1895 by the playwright Riccardo Selvatico and a group of artists. Fifteen nations including the United States were represented in the first exhibition; thirty presented their artists at the Thirtieth Biennale in 1960. Only the two World Wars have interrupted the sequence of these great exhibitions of contemporary art; the Biennale was not held in 1916, 1918, or 1944, 1946. Until 1929 it was sponsored by the City of Venice. Now the Biennale functions as an autonomous organization, perennially engaged in planning and preparing the presentation of this most important of international exhibitions.

For some years The American Federation of Arts has been eager to present in the United States a selection of works from a Venice Biennale. In the summer of 1960, while visiting the exhibition, I stopped in to see Dr. Umbro Apollonio, Technical Adviser to the Biennale's Secretary General, and this selection is the result of our conversation. Had it not been for his personal interest, assistance, and attention to the many complexities involved in bringing these works to our shores, this presentation of **VENICE BIENNALE PRIZE-WINNERS 1960** could not have been realized.

Twenty-one artists were awarded prizes at the Thirtieth Biennale; seventeen are represented here. Because we wished to include in this exhibition only examples actually shown in Venice, we have regretfully omitted four prize-winners whose entire representation had previously been committed to other exhibitions following the close of the Biennale. They are: *Julius Bissier*, German painter, winner of the 500,000 Lire Prize given by the Museum of Modern Art of São Paulo; *Hans Hartung*, French painter, winner of one of the two Official Italian Prizes for Foreigners; *Manabu Mabe*, Brazilian painter, winner of the Fiat Prize of 200,000 Lire open

to an Italian or Foreign painter, sculptor, or graphic artist; and *Eduardo Paolozzi*, British sculptor, winner of the David E. Bright Foundation 500,000 Lire Prize for a sculptor under 45 years of age who has not previously been awarded an international prize at the Biennale.

Artists from France, Greece, Italy, Poland, Spain, and the United States are among the seventeen prize-winners represented in this exhibition. It was our original intention to include two examples by each artist where the works were large, and four examples of smaller works such as drawings and prints. Problems of obtaining loans for a circulating exhibition have altered slightly this neat pattern. We are, however, extremely grateful to those who have made it possible for us to present these thirty-eight fine examples. Artists, dealers, private collectors and public institutions all have contributed generously to this exhibition. Some of the works are for sale and we hope they will find homes in this country.

We should like also to express our gratitude to the Italian Line for its assistance in providing free transport from Italy to New York, and to Dr. Filippo Donini, Director of the Italian Cultural Institute, New York City, whose interest in this project from its inception has been most helpful.

Here, then, is a sample of what the judges thought the best of the Biennale.

Virginia Field
Secretary for Exhibitions, AFA

NOTE: *In the following listing, one work by each artist is illustrated. Dimensions are in inches; for pictures, height precedes width.*



Alberto Burri

Italian, born Citta di Castello, Italy, 1915, lives in Rome.

AICI Prize of 1,000,000 Lire for an Italian artist, instituted by the
Italian Section of the International Association of Art Critics.

SHROVE TUESDAY (1955), collage, $59\frac{1}{2} \times 98\frac{1}{2}$
Lent by the Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh

RED (1956), collage, $73\frac{1}{4} \times 78\frac{3}{4}$ (illustrated)
Lent by the artist

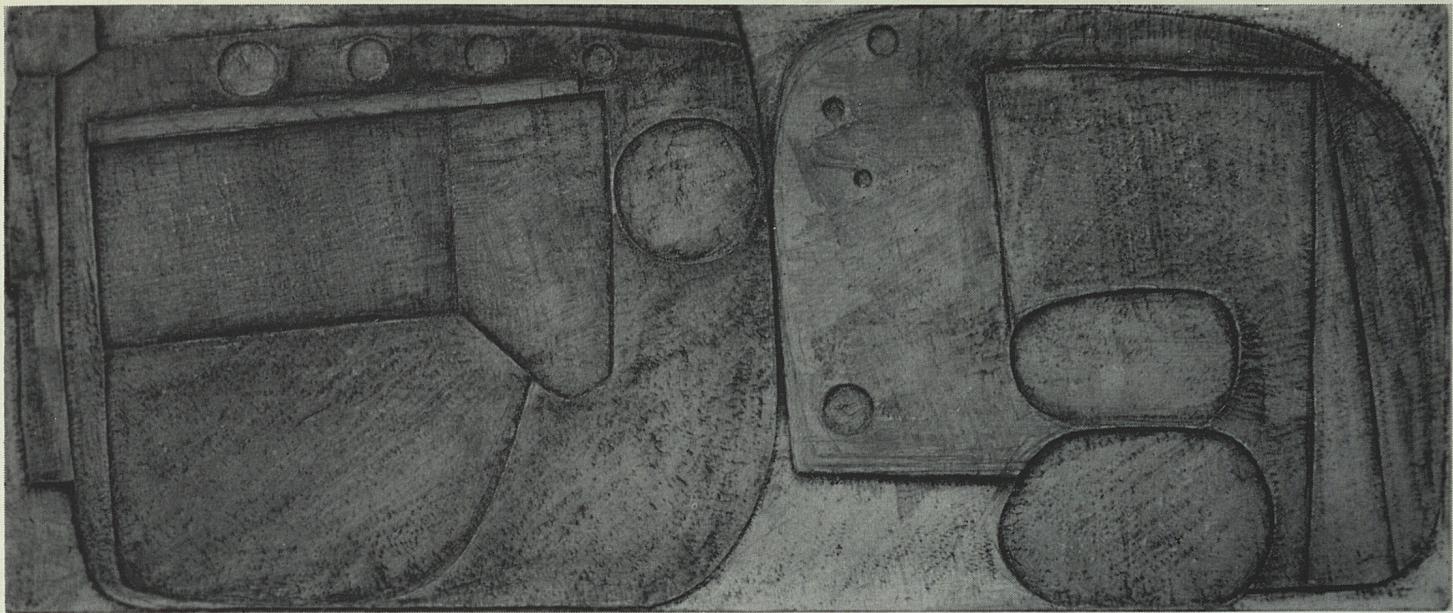


Pietro Consagra

Italian, born Mazara di Trapani, Italy, 1920, lives in Rome.

Official Italian Prize for Sculpture.

HAPPY COLLOQUY (1960), bronze, 36 high (*illustrated*)
Lent by the Galleria Odyssia, Rome



Pierre Courtin

French, born Rebréchien, France, 1921, lives in Le Mesnil-le-Roi.

David E. Bright Foundation Prize of 100,000 Lire for an engraver under 45 years of age who has not previously been awarded an international prize at the Biennale.

UNTITLED (10-18-1951), burin-engraving, $10\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$

UNTITLED (11-14-1953), burin-engraving, $21\frac{1}{4} \times 9$

FLOWERS OF MOURNING (7-8-1955), burin-engraving, $13\frac{1}{4} \times 18\frac{1}{2}$

REBRÉCHIEN (1955), burin-engraving, $8\frac{1}{2} \times 21\frac{1}{4}$ (illustrated)

Lent by the artist



Luciano De Vita

Italian, born Ancona, Italy, 1929, lives in Bologna.

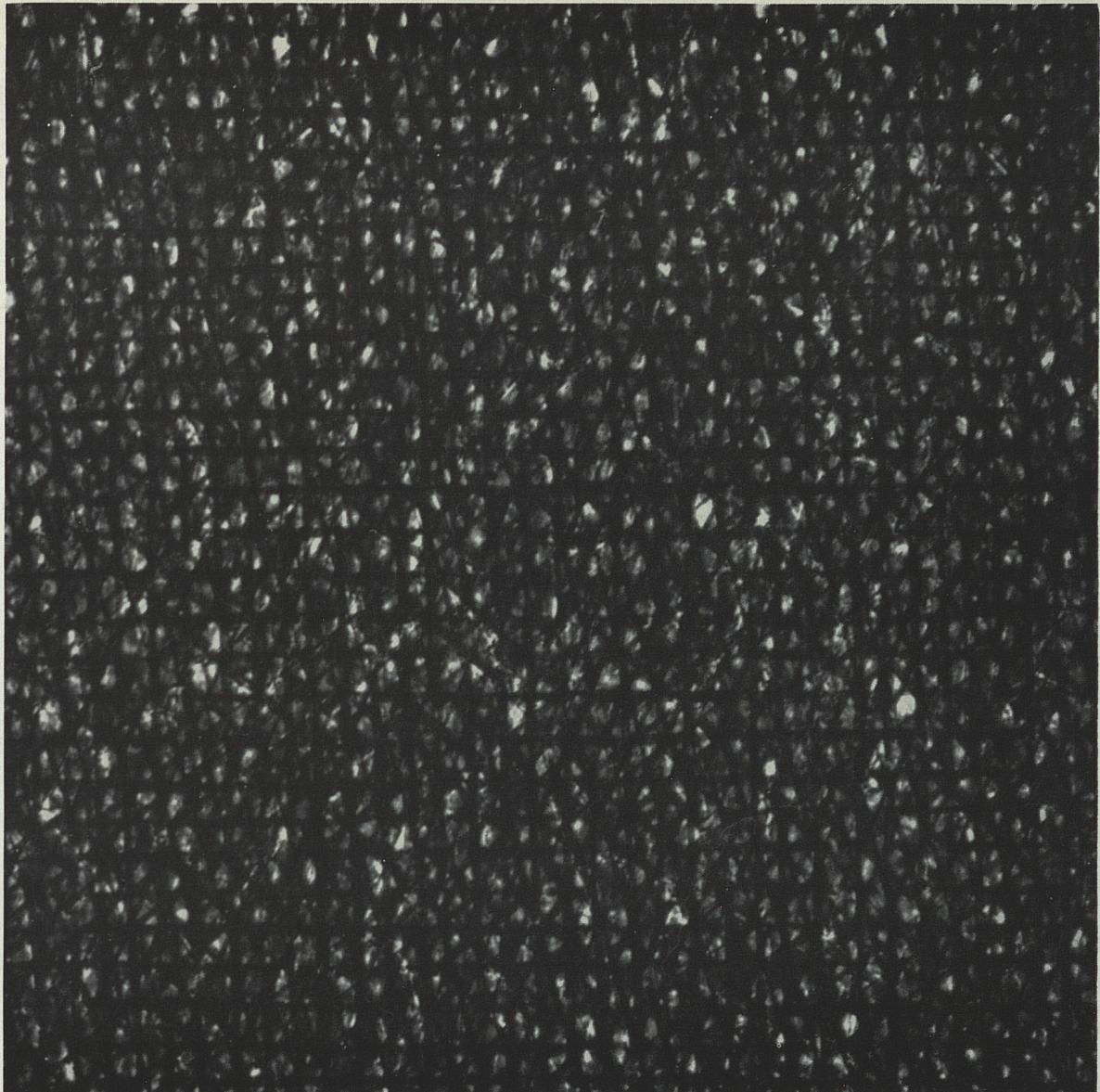
Schwarz Prize, the equivalent of 250,000 Lire in volumes published by Schwarz, to be given to a young artist of any nationality for a graphic work.

FIGURE (1956), etching, $7\frac{3}{4} \times 5\frac{1}{4}$

THE GREAT ROOT (1957), etching, 17×15

FIRST FIGURE (1959), etching, $17\frac{1}{2} \times 15$

DEUCALION AND PYRRHA (1960), etching, $16\frac{1}{4} \times 19\frac{1}{2}$ (*illustrated*)
Lent by the artist



Piero Dorazio

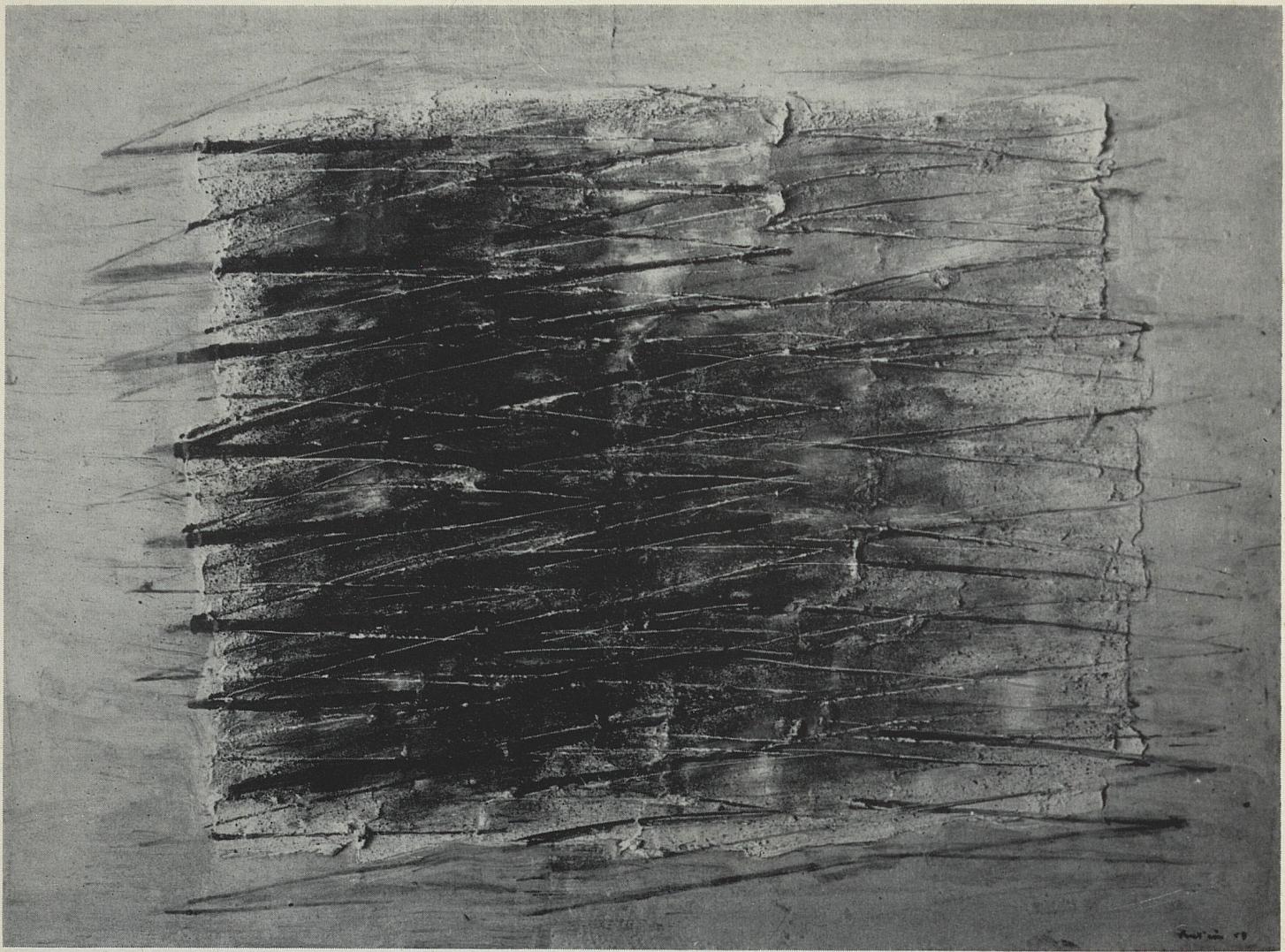
Italian, born Rome, Italy, 1927, lives in Rome.

Francesco Tursi Foundation Prize of 75,000 Lire for a young Italian artist.

TANTALUM T. (1958-59), oil, $47\frac{1}{4} \times 63$

RED TICK-TACK (1959-60), oil, $77\frac{1}{2} \times 77\frac{1}{2}$ (*detail illustrated*)

Lent by the artist



Jean Fautrier

French, born Paris, France, 1898, lives in Chatenay Malabry.

Official Italian Prize for Foreigners.

GREEN TREES (1958), oil, $45\frac{1}{4} \times 57\frac{1}{2}$

WIGGI WOOGY BOOGIE (1959), oil, $29 \times 39\frac{1}{2}$ (illustrated)

Lent by the artist



Luis Feito

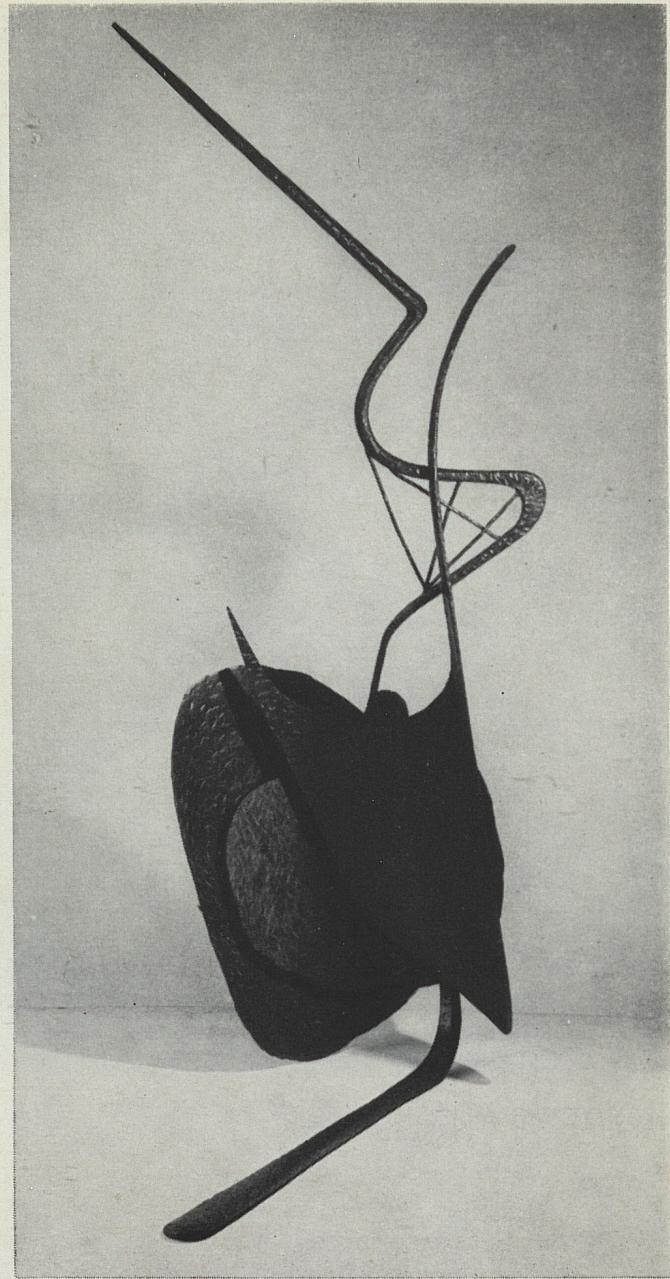
Spanish, born Madrid, Spain, 1929, lives in Madrid.

David E. Bright Foundation Prize of 500,000 Lire for a painter under 45 years of age who has not previously been awarded an international prize at the Biennale.

PAINTING (1960), oil, $67 \times 78\frac{3}{4}$

PAINTING (1960), oil, $62\frac{3}{4} \times 92\frac{3}{4}$ (illustrated)

Lent by World House Galleries, New York



Angel Ferrant

Spanish, born Madrid, Spain, 1890, lives in Madrid.

David E. Bright Foundation Special Prize of 500,000 Lire for an Italian or foreign artist.

POSTURE FOR TANGENCY (1958), iron, 23½ inches in longest dimension

959 - 0, 3 U (1959), iron, 47¼ inches in longest dimension (*illustrated*)
Lent by the artist



Franz Kline

American, born Wilkes-Barre, U.S.A., 1910, lives in New York City.

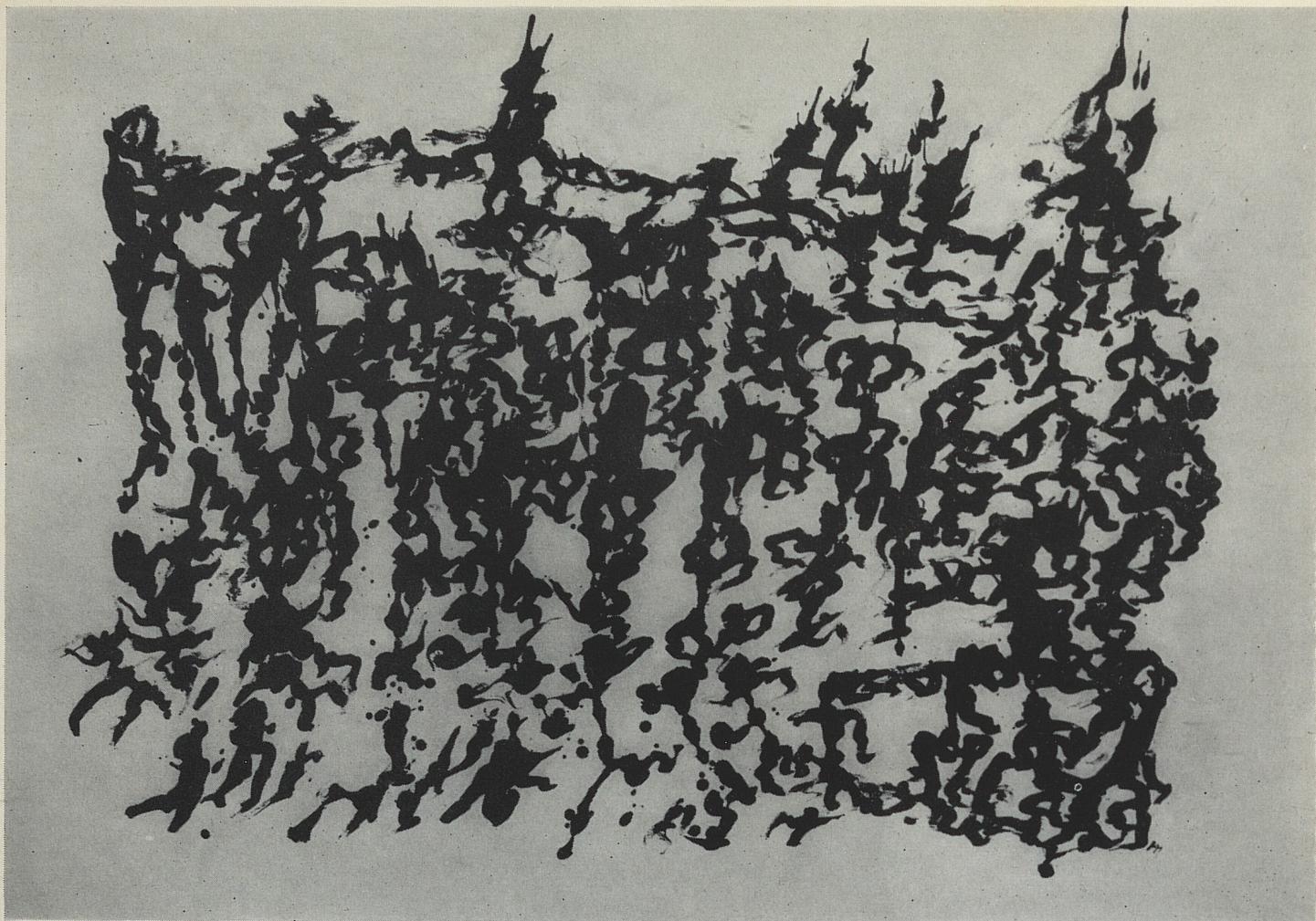
Ministry of Public Instruction Prize of 1,000,000 Lire.

NIJINSKY (1950), oil, 46×34 (illustrated)

Lent by Mrs. Albert H. Newman, Chicago

WHITE FORMS (1955), oil, 74×50

Lent by Philip C. Johnson, New York



Henri Michaux

French, born Namur, France (now Belgium), 1899, lives in Paris.

Giulio Einaudi Prize of 500,000 Lire for graphic work by an Italian or foreign artist.

CHINESE INK NO. 2 (1959), ink drawing, $41 \times 27\frac{3}{4}$

CHINESE INK NO. 5 (1959), ink drawing, $41 \times 27\frac{3}{4}$ (*illustrated*)
Lent by Galerie Daniel Cordier, Paris



Mattia Moreni

Italian, born Pavia, Italy, 1920, lives in Paris.

Giulio Einaudi Purchase Prize of 400,000 Lire for an Italian painter.

ALMOST BEIGE IMAGE (1960), oil, $63\frac{3}{4} \times 51\frac{1}{4}$
Lent by the Galerie Handschin, Basle

TO ALL THE WELL-MEANING BLUNDERERS OF THE WORLD (1960), oil, $63\frac{3}{4} \times 51\frac{1}{4}$ (illustrated)
Private collection, Basle



Antonio Music

Italian, born Gorizia, Italy, 1909, lives in Paris.

Unesco Prize, consisting of the reproduction of two works
for the Unesco "Art Popularization Series."

BYZANTINE SERIES III (1959), oil, $5\frac{1}{4} \times 69\frac{3}{4}$ (illustrated)

MONOTONOUS COUNTRY (1959), oil, $69\frac{3}{4} \times 5\frac{1}{4}$

Lent by the Galerie de France, Paris



Peter Potworowski

Polish, born Warsaw, Poland, 1898, lives in Gdansk.

Cartiera Vita Mayer & Co. Purchase Prize of 300,000 Lire, open to all artists, painters, sculptors or engravers, whether Italian or foreign.

REWA (1959), oil and collage, $78\frac{3}{4} \times 53\frac{1}{8}$

THE BRIDGE (1960), oil, $26\frac{1}{2} \times 51\frac{1}{4}$ (*illustrated*)

Lent by the artist



Jannis Spyropoulos

Greek, born Pilos, Greece, 1912, lives in Patisia.

Unesco Prize, consisting of the reproduction of two works
for the Unesco "Art Popularization Series."

REFLECTION (1959), oil, $34\frac{3}{4} \times 57\frac{1}{4}$

MONDAY MORNING (1959), oil, $62\frac{3}{4} \times 86\frac{1}{2}$ (*illustrated*)
Lent by World House Galleries, New York City



Emilio Vedova

Italian, born Venice, Italy, 1919, lives in Venice.

Official Italian Prize for Painting.

PRESENCE 1959, NO. 3, V. (1959), oil, 58 1/4 x 67

Lent by the artist

PRESENCE 1959, NO. 5, V. (1959), oil, 57 x 76 3/4 (illustrated)

Lent by the Galleria Blu, Milan



Alfred Wisniewski

Polish, born Rogozno, Poland, 1916, lives in Sopot.

Francesco Nullo Prize, instituted by the Francesco Nullo Polish-Italian Association of Venice, for a living artist shown in the Polish Pavilion at the Thirtieth International Venice Biennale.

TORSO OF A YOUNG GIRL (1959), bronze, 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches high

Lent by the National Museum, Poznan

TORSO (1959), bronze, 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches high

TORSO WITH HANDS (1959), bronze, 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches high (*illustrated*)

Lent by the artist



Giuseppe Zigaina

Italian, born Cervignano del Friuli, 1924, lives in Cervignano del Friuli.

Richard Ginori Purchase Prize of 400,000 Lire for a figurative painting by an Italian artist.

THE PROTAGONIST (1959), oil, $25\frac{1}{2} \times 31\frac{1}{2}$
Lent by Vittorio Galeotti, Udine

THE GENERAL AT THE ATTACK (1960), oil, $59 \times 78\frac{3}{4}$ (illustrated)
Lent by the artist

The American Federation of Arts, with headquarters at 1083 Fifth Avenue, New York City, is a national, non-profit, educational organization, founded 1909 in Washington, D.C. and incorporated 1916 in the State of New York. It is composed of chapter, individual, and corporate members. The purpose of the Federation is to cultivate the appreciation and foster the production of art in America. This is carried out through a program of activities including traveling exhibitions, publications, national and regional conferences and consultation services.

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