Chuck Patton proud to pour 'best cup of coffee in San Diego'

Bird Rock Coffee Roasters was recognized last week as a recipient of the 2016 Good Food Award in the coffee division, and owner Chuck Patton couldn't be prouder. Winners of this award represent the forefront of American food, making products that are “delicious, respectful of the environment, and connected to communities and cultural traditions.”

The coffee that sealed the award for BRCR was its Geisha varietal from the Lino Lot on the Panama Esmeralda Estate, Panama. The coffee is characterized by tasting notes of jasmine, honey, dried raspberries, cream and lavender with a velvety texture. Geisha varietals from the same estate are on sale now at Bird Rock Coffee Roasters for $50 for eight ounces, or via pour over at all three locations for $11 per cup.

William Newport Goodell: Painter, craftsman, teacher

Historical Society, Athenaeum link for dual-venue exhibition

Linda Hutchison

William Newport Goodell (1908-1999) was an artist who painted in the bold strokes of American Regionalism and who also made an indelible impression on La Jolla as a teacher and member of the community. For the first time, his collected works are being exhibited here in two related venues. “William Newport Goodell: painter, craftsman, teacher” is a joint effort of the La Jolla Historical Society and the Athenaeum Music & Arts Library.

Opening Feb. 6, the Historical Society’s part of the exhibit will showcase Goodell’s self-portraits, family portraits and still life paintings, as well as his craftwork. A wood and metal worker, he made many of his own wood frames and metal items such as goblets. The exhibit at the Society’s Wisteria Cottage galleries will also include biographical information and photographs.

The Athenaeum venue, opening Feb. 20, will feature Goodell’s landscapes, seascapes and World War II service work. According to Heath Fox, director of the Historical Society, there were several reasons for selecting Goodell, even though he is not well known.

“He was an interesting character in the history of the community,” Fox explained. “It’s part of our responsibility to tell the story of individuals who were part of La Jolla. He was underappreciated, but he produced art work that paralleled a significant movement in art history, Regionalism, that was a foil to Abstractionism.”

Although the bulk of Goodell’s work was created on the East Coast before he moved to San Diego in 1951, today many of his paintings are owned by collectors in Southern California. There were so many...
FROM GOODELL, B1

in fact, Fox turned to the Athenaeum for extra space. “We had more material than we can show in our gallery,” he said. “The Athenaeum is a natural partner and it’s a nice thing when we can collaborate.”

Athenaeum executive director Erika Torres concurs. “Goodell was an important figure and teacher, an interesting artist and the exhibit helps promote art history knowledge in La Jolla and San Diego. It’s a wonderful collection,” she said.

Curator Tara Centybear carefully laid out Goodell’s two main bodies of work in the two venues. “We made the groupings beneficial to the viewer, so he or she can absorb the deeper view,” she said. “He was an exquisite painter, his work was powerful, if somewhat bizarre.” Centybear said she hopes that celebrating artists who are not as well-known will also inspire those currently working.

Some Goodell History

Goodell was born in Germantown, Philadelphia to a Quaker family. He was the youngest of four children. His two older sisters were Impressionist painters and his brother a photographer. He studied art but set off early to work in a studio and build a forge. In keeping with Quaker tradition, he also enjoyed the practical arts of wood and metal crafting. His painting style was influenced by American Realism and to some extent by Impressionism, but he was most closely identified with Regionalism (also called American Scene painting) that was popular from the 1920s to 1950s. In his early 40s, he married a family friend, Ruth, a widow, and the couple moved to San Diego for her health. His focus then shifted to family, technical illustrating and teaching. He taught art at the La Jolla Country Day School from 1961 to 1985, and lived on Country Club Road in La Jolla. Adding another historical dimension to the exhibit, Fox points out that from 1942 to 1961 the school (then The Balmer School) was located in Wisteria Cottage.

Goodell’s wife died in 1980 and after he retired in 1983, he returned to painting. Centybear said he was an engaging man, but modest and humble, a combination of extrovert and introvert. He enjoyed entertaining, but also kept to himself and preferred deep friendships.

Visitors to the exhibits can purchase a catalog that includes artwork, biographical information and essays by Centybear, Bram Dijkstra and Lynn Thwaites.

The Engraver by William Newport Goodell, oil on canvas, circa 1948, collection of Alex Gano

The Red Boots by Goodell, oil on canvas, circa 1942. Collection of Sandra and Bram Dijkstra

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