

ROME REMEMBERED — The Columbus Gallery of Fine Arts has opened an exhibit of works by 18th century Italian artist Giovanni Battista Piranesi. The pen and gray ink drawing, above, is *Cross Section Show Projected West Wall of Transept, With Baldacchino Placed Inside Sanctuary* of S. Giovanni in Laterano, Rome. At left is also from the presentation drawings embodying proposals for a new sanctuary of S. Giovanni in Laterano, Rome, done in 1764. The works will be displayed through Aug. 29

With The Fine Arts Columbus Gallery Hosts Piranesi Print Exhibition

By Patricia R. Hodges
Of The Dispatch Staff

A major exhibition of rare graphic works by 18th century Italian artist Giovanni Battista Piranesi has opened at the Columbus Gallery of Fine Arts.

The show includes 23 drawings and 80 etchings from the Arthur M. Sackler Collection housed at the Avery Architectural Library, Columbia University. The collection is on an extended tour of United States museums, under the auspices of the International Exhibitions Foundation, Washington, D. C.

SIGNIFICANT IN the collection is the group of 23 recently discovered original hand-colored drawings which represent Piranesi's designs for remodeling the sanctuary of the Roman basilica of S. Giovanni in Laterano. The architectural project is one of only two Piranesi is known to have designed.

In 1767, Piranesi presented the drawings to Cardinal Rezzonico for consideration by the cardinal's uncle, Pope Clement XIII. The plans were never carried out, and nothing is known of the history of the drawings between 1767 and 1968, when they were discovered in the possession of a European family.

A second group of rare works included in the exhibition is a first-state set of 14 *Carceri* etchings. These imaginative scenes of fantastic and monumental prison interiors were executed in the late 1740s and are illustrative of Piranesi's ability to employ light and shade for dramatic effects and to maximize the emotional content of architecture.

AROUND 1760, Piranesi added two more plates and reworked the original copper plates, making changes in style and composition and adding significant details. Gallery visitors will have an opportunity to see the first state of plans in juxtaposition with prints from the later state.

The display also contains prints from two other major series by Piranesi, *Le antichita romane* and the *Vedute di Roma*, works which are important archaeologically as well as artistically. When Piranesi first came to Rome in 1740, he was determined to record the city's ancient monuments.

"When I saw in Rome how most of the remains of ancient buildings lay scattered through gardens and ploughed fields where they dwindle day by day ... I resolved to preserve them by means of engravings."

AS A RESULT of his effort, the four volumes of *Le antichita romane* were published in 1756 and soon earned Piranesi an honorary membership in the Society of Antiquaries in London.

A large number of prints of 18th century Rome, the *Vedute di Roma*, were published individually by Piranesi from 1745 until his death in 1778.

Sixty-one of these etchings are included in the current exhibit.

The display will remain at the gallery through Aug. 29. The gallery is located at 480 E. Broad St. and is open to the public without charge from noon to 5 p.m. daily.

IN GERMAN Village, the current show in a continuing series of American craftspersons at Helen Winemore's Contemporary Crafts Gallery, 150 E. Kossuth St., features the decorative and functional weaving of Betty Meador of Albuquerque, N.M.

It is the first exhibit of her work outside of the southwest. She has exhibited her crafts in galleries in Texas, New Mexico and California.

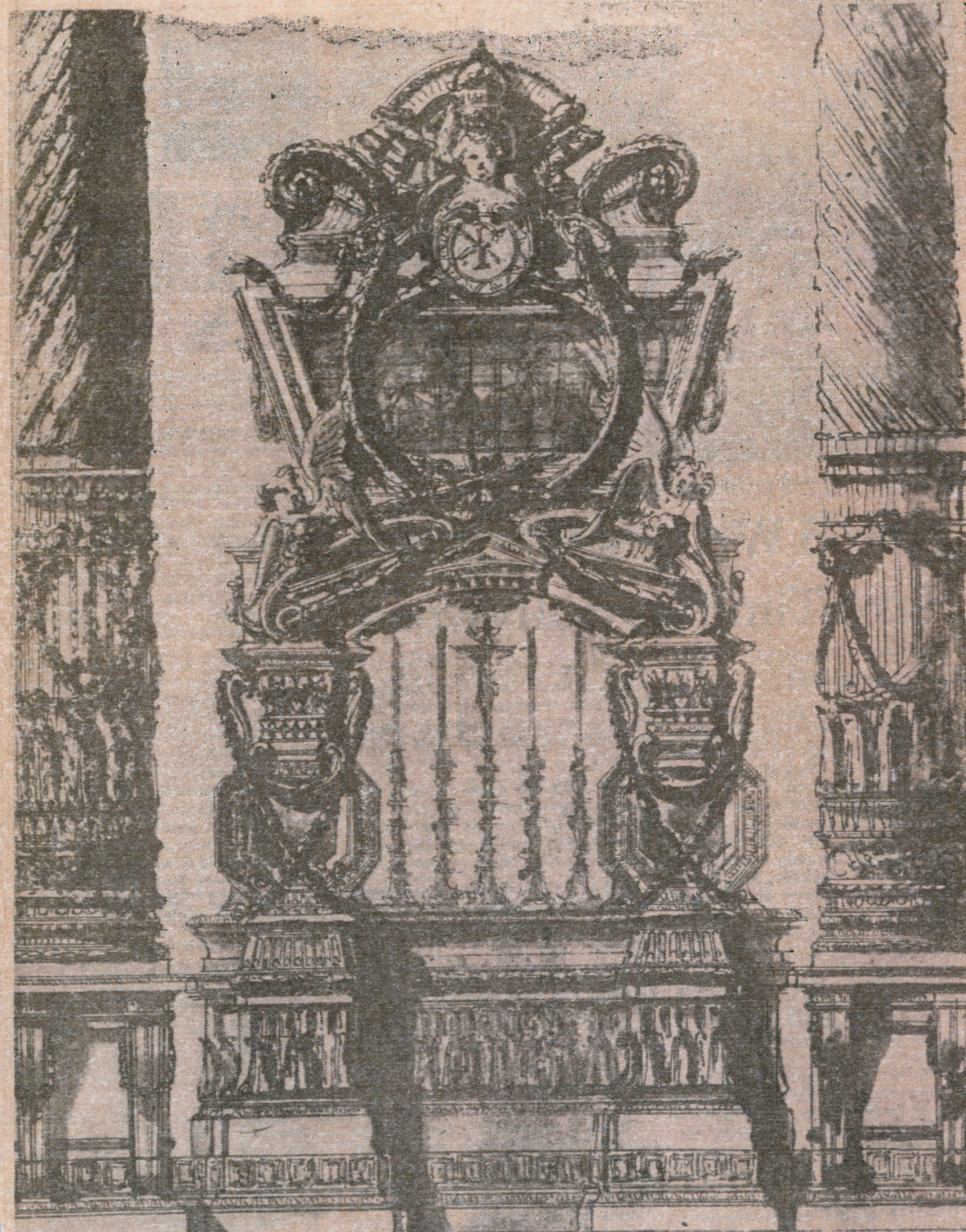
Meador is a self-taught, full-time craftsperson who works on looms and spinning wheels which she has designed and constructed. She has been associated with the Albuquerque Museum Association, Southwest Arts and Crafts Festival, New Mexico Arts and Crafts Fair and Albuquerque Designer Craftsman.

MEANWHILE, HOPKINS Hall Gallery of the Ohio State University Gallery of Fine Art will open its final exhibit for the summer Monday. The entire university gallery system will be closed Aug. 27 through Sept. 21.

Graduate thesis exhibitions by students Anne Schwartz, Deborah Padway, Terry Speer, Bertha Sarmina and Chrissy Park will share the Hopkins display areas with examples of art from the studio program of the college of the arts.

The display provides an opportunity to observe current trends in both artists' creations and educational emphases in art at Ohio State University. The exhibit is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

SULLIVANT HALL Gallery continues the Campbells Soup Tureen exhibit: *Soup Tureens: 1976*. The display is



Current Exhibitions

BUTLER INSTITUTE of American Art, Youngstown, Ohio — 40th National Midyear Show.

CINCINNATI Art Museum — Survey of American Prints, II.

CLEVELAND Museum of Art — The European Vision of America: ends Sunday.

CONTEMPORARY Arts Center, Cincinnati — 14 Cincinnati Artists.

COLUMBUS GALLERY of Fine Arts — First Ladies of the White House: Utilitarian Objects, Design in Tools and Kitchen Utensils. AMISTAD II. Piranesi print exhibit.

GALLERY 200 — Works by Ohio artists.

GRANDVIEW Public Library — Photography by Rick Kocks.

HELEN WINEMORE'S Contemporary Craft Gallery — Weaving by Betty Meador.

HUNTINGTON Gallery — Abstract & Real Images.

MILLCENT EASTER Gallery — Paintings by L. M. Phillips.

SILVER IMAGE Gallery, OSU — Photographs from Columbus Collectors.

TOLEDO Museum of Art — Heritage and Horizon: American Painting 1776-1976.

UNIVERSITY Gallery of Fine Art, OSU — Graduate thesis exhibit at Hopkins Hall. Soup Tureens: 1976 at Sullivant Hall.

Sullivant Collection Gallery, works from the permanent collection.

WESTERVILLE Public Library — Oil paintings by Bill Forsbach and woodcarving by Encil Hawkins.