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Lumières, Special Issue, 1992

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College

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LUMIÈRES

Paper Impressions II

Paper Impressions II, the second auction to benefit the Goodrich-Taylor Graduate Assistantship Endowment, matched the success of the premier effort, Paper Impressions I, held in 1990. Paper Impressions II raised \$25,700 to put the Goodrich-Taylor endowment over the top for the goal set five years ago.

The reception and lecture areas of Hill Memorial Library were decorated in the English manner for the gala event of March 28, 1992. Paul S. L. Viney, European director for Phillips of London and auctioneer for Paper Impressions I, made a repeat appearance. Having heard so much about Louisiana attractions and hospitality, his wife, Salley, accompanied Viney on his second visit. The Viney's transportation was furnished courtesy of American Airlines.

During the preview hour

before the auction, those attending were treated to a delicious buffet. The first floor exhibit foyer hosted a banquet table with a lavish food display arranged by Anne West. An elegant topiary swan made up the centerpiece surrounded by artfully arranged fruit and vegetable edibles. The swan, in keeping with the theme of the evening, was quickly linked to the British expression "Swanning around," meaning to go out and have a good time, a somewhat more sophisticated version of "Laissez Le Bontemps Rouler."

(The swan has since become an unofficial mascot of the Friends, making a second appearance at the annual dinner.)

Prior to the auction, the announcement was made of the first recipient of the assistantship. Sigrid Marika King, a Ph.D. candidate in the LSU English department, will hold the assistantship for the 1992/93 academic year.



Chancellor Emeritus Cecil Taylor and the first recipient of the Goodrich-Taylor Graduate Assistantship, Sigrid Marika King.

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*The latest
and most
elegant
"mascot"
for the
Friends.*



She will work on a special project in the Rare Book collections in Hill Memorial Library.

The auction began promptly at 7:30 p.m. with not even standing room left in the Hill lecture hall. Bidding was enthusiastic and the pace quick, punctuated by Viney witticisms. Popular items were a set of five military figurines cast and painted by LSU Chancellor William Davis especially for the auction; an original oil painting by A. Hayes-Town; a painting of Ruby-throated hummingbirds by ornithologist John O'Neill; and an original art work for a cartoon by David Norwood of a giant tiger being swarmed over by tiny football players of the Southeastern conference

The most competitive bidding of the evening focused on two David Duke political items. The first was an anti-David Duke billboard from the 1991 Louisiana governor's race. The billboard was picked up by the Associated Press and Reuters and published in newspapers around the world. With the original art work was a two page letter from Barry W. Miller who was responsible for the billboard and photocopies of newspaper clippings about it. The billboard was featured in several in pre-auction announcements. John Kinnane, writing in the March issue of the *Antiquarian Monthly Review*, described the Duke item as "about as contemporary as you can get."

The bidding for the anti-Duke billboard was fast and furious between two bidders—so fast that one bidder looked around to determine if she were bidding against herself. At which point, the auctioneer quipped, "Madam, I can assure you there is someone bidding against you."

The other David Duke item in which there was also much interest was the original art work for a Doonesbury cartoon strip. The Doonesbury character named Duke converses with a presidential candidate who is depicted as a small talking swastika. Doonesbury Duke calls the swastika, "Cuz." The cartoon strip, which appeared in December 1991, was donated by Gary Trudeau.

One of the charming bidding incidents of the evening involved a "Molly McIntire" doll accompanied by six books, all donated by the Pleasant Company. The bidding war was set up several months prior to the auction when the granddaughter of Eugene Owen and the daughter of Bruce Storey appeared in *The Register* to publicize Paper Impressions II. Each of the little girls wanted the doll. The scenario of a bidding war was foretold by Kay Harrison in *The Register* and was enacted on auction night with Bruce Storey emerging as the victor.

Everyone comes seeking a good deal—to bid and come away with something for less than market value. Among the bargains of the evening were sets of botanical prints by Margaret Stones which sold for several hundred dollars, about the same price as individual prints on the open market. Map collectors were delighted with the purchase of several 18th century maps at bargain prices. A "Mrs. Muggles" signed watercolor drawing donated by the artist, Ruth Gembicki Bragg, was a popular item secured at a good price by one purchaser. There was a fine selection of rare books and limited editions, including two in detective fiction, all of which were claimed for good prices by those present.

One item which was received too late to be included in the auction catalog or to be sufficiently publicized, is still available for sale. This is the George Rodrigue print of President Ronald Reagan on a white horse. The auction copy is the only copy of the print which has been autographed by President Reagan. The Friends wish to thank the LSU Alumni Association and Charlie Roberts, for the donation of the print and LSU Alumni Lod M. Cook for obtaining the Reagan autograph.

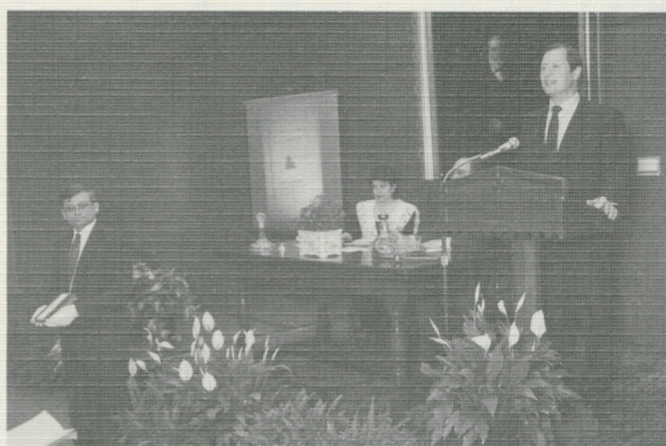
Following the main event, a silent auction was held while coffee and desserts were served in the first floor exhibit hall.

*Co-chair of the planning
committee for Paper
Impressions II, Dr. Trent
James, Friends President Julia
Hamilton, co-chairs Kay
Harrison and Anne West with
Paul Viney.*





Chancellor and Mrs. Davis discuss bidding in the silent auction with LSU Dean of Libraries, Jennifer Cargill.



As John West displays the item up for bid, it appears on screen. Margo Olinde records bids as auctioneer Paul Viney runs the show.



The room was overflowing and the bidding was brisk.



*Auctioneer Paul Viney
in action.*

Photographs by Jim Zietz

The Friends of the LSU Library wish to thank the following individuals, corporations and businesses whose generosity and support for this event is much appreciated.

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LUMIÈRES

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LITERALLY "LIGHTS" IN FRENCH, LUMIÈRES IS FREQUENTLY USED TO DENOTE ENLIGHTENMENT OR KNOWLEDGE. AS SUCH, IT ILLUSTRATES THE PURPOSE OF THE NEWSLETTER: TO ENLIGHTEN MEMBERS OF THE FRIENDS OF THE LSU LIBRARY WITH THE NEWS OF THE ORGANIZATION AND WITH THE NEEDS OF THE LSU LIBRARY. THE COVER DESIGN IS BASED ON AN EXQUISITE HAND-ILLUMINATED BORDER FROM A 15TH CENTURY FRENCH RELIGIOUS MANUSCRIPT.

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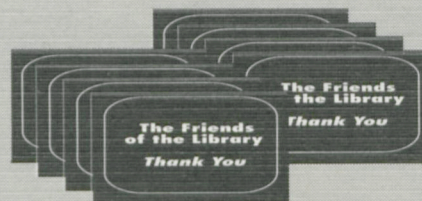
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Sheryl Campbell Incorporated
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Wok & Whisk

▼ **Music for the evening provided by:**

Dennis Johnson
and Dr. James West

The Friends of the LSU Library Book Auction Committee, 1992



Dr. Trent L. James, Kay Harrison, & Anne West,
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