



RALPH FASANELLO

An Artist Talks About the World

By JOHN DASH

When Xerox opened the first one-man art show its gallery has hosted, the company brought to the city a very colorful and voluble artist: Ralph Fasanello.

Fasanello's paintings are on display at Xerox through Oct. 28.

Over breakfast coffee recently, Fasanello, who still had the gray stubble of a day-old beard on his jaw, expounded on the meaning of his paintings, his commitment to organized labor, his concern for the "little guy" and his relationship with the Church.

He said the Church could "wear out" unless its leadership started more vigorously to tackle moral problems and provide a greater ongoing philosophy of the family. "Institutions, he says, need to reach the whole man quickly if they are going to survive."

"You can't have the banjos and beards on the altar, 'bandwagonism' without radical solutions" to the problems that beset modern man, he says.

Fasanello, who came to the attention of the art world in 1972 after a life that included union organizing, fighting in the Spanish Civil War and pumping gas in the Bronx, has been labeled "The Modern Grandma Moses" (a title he doesn't like) and the most important primitive in America today.

He says the Church isn't the only group that has to reach the whole man. He wants unions to do the same thing. "Unions," he said, "think economics, the bread and butter." He wants unions "to stir up the brains of labor," too.

He confessed that while his paintings are achieving a great market value, he would be just as happy if unions would give him \$500 for his work, hang them in the union halls and make cheap reproductions of them for workers to buy. And Fasanello's concept of labor "goes beyond the assembly line. It includes engineers. They're selling their labor time. These guys think and smell like workers and get their money at the end of the week, too."

He admits to ambivalent feelings about the Church. "But I grew up in it. I learned to paint by looking at the colors of the altar and the windows during sermons. I guess I love it."

He says this despite the treatment he received at a reformatory run by a Catholic order. Two paintings in the Xerox show speak of brutality and regimentation he came to know from the Brothers at the institution.

"But," he said, "Babe Ruth grew up in the same kind of thing."

Fasanello's worried about the country as a whole. While in Rochester, he was asked how he liked the architecture of the downtown section. He said, "It's the energy and wealth of a people being consumed for nothing. It's all just surplus profit."

He's also worried about man being alienated from man, and feels that one of the biggest contributing factors to that

alienation is the individual motor car.

The remedy to alienation, he says, is to recognize that "mankind is a social force, a survival grouping," and to start acting from that premise.

Spanish Boys Circus To Perform Oct. 2-4

Los Muchachos, Spain's celebrated International Boys Circus, is coming to Rochester for performances Oct. 2-4 at the War Memorial.

A highlight of their tour of the United States which will take four months and 23 cities occurred when they performed near the main altar in St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City.

The 85-member troupe of youthful performers is being presented by ABC Entertainment, a division of ABC Television, and the Shubert Organization, with Herbert Wasserman as producer.

The boys, ranging in age from 11 to 21, have entertained audiences in Spain, France, Germany, Belgium and Italy. As highly skilled and professional as any circus in the world, Los



Andrew William Rey, 11 (top) and Jose Luis Martinez, 19, are two of the star performers of Los Muchachos, The International Boys Circus. The Circus opens in Rochester October 2 at the War Memorial.

Senator Calls Abortion Ruling 'Throwback' to Barbarism

Washington, D.C. RNS] — Sen. Dewey F. Bartlett (R-Okla.) has charged that the U.S. Supreme Court ruling on abortion may be considered "progressive" by some, "but in reality it is regressive, a throwback to the primitive and barbarian past."

He held that the court arrived at its position by a "gross distortion of history, of the Constitution, and of the nature of man."

The Oklahoma senator, one of the co-sponsors of the Human Life Amendment introduced by Sen. James L. Buckley (R-N.Y.), called on the Senate to support the measure which would serve to overturn the Supreme Court decision. Like Sen. Buckley, he is a Roman Catholic.

The Buckley amendment would guarantee that protections to the right to life given "persons" under the Constitution would be extended to include "unborn offspring at every stage of their biological development."

"The decision of the Supreme Court is a direct attack on this fundamental human right," Sen. Bartlett said in a statement on the Senate floor. "It is offensive not only to common sense and established scientific fact, but to that precious moral tradition which is the product of ages of human endeavor."

He argued that "to hold that many of us can solve our problems only by killing others is a blow to human development and justice."

Sen. Bartlett said that under the new court ruling, "a woman now has a Constitutional right to pursue the abortion of her unborn child if giving birth would be socially inconvenient, or would make her emotionally upset."

"The right to life is no longer a right, but is now dependent on the comfort and well-being of the mother," he told the Senate. "A human being is reduced to an expendable social convenience."

"The Supreme Court, however,

Bicycle Tour For STEP Fund

A 50-mile route through Rochester and its suburbs has been mapped out for bicyclists who will ride for STEP on Sunday, Sept. 30. The cyclists will have their mileage recorded at 14 checkpoints, and collect money accordingly from their personal sponsors.

STEP, the Society for Total Emergency programs, is an association of volunteer and professional ambulance services, doctors and emergency department personnel. It proposes to have two "super ambulances," or mobile critical care units in operation in Monroe County by 1974.

One important facet is its circus training school, the only one in Western Europe. It was founded in 1963 by Father Jesus Silva, who also founded Bemposta seven years earlier. Father Silva, a descendant of a famous Spanish circus family, admits the lure of the Big Top had something to do with his founding the circus school. But he also conceived the project as a potential source of revenue for Bemposta, which survives on private contributions.

The inhabitants of Bemposta can study to prepare themselves for the university or learn a trade. Along the town's narrow streets are a bakery, a souvenir shop, a ceramics shop and a "zapateria," where all the shoes for the boys are made and where boys can learn to be cobblers.

The boys also have their own bank and print their own currency, called "coronas," (18 coronas equal one dollar). They also govern themselves. They elect deputies who cast secret ballots for the office of mayor. The mayor then selects his council and governs from a "town hall."

does not concern itself with the issue of whether or not abortion is murder," he said.

Sen. Bartlett said that "one must always value human life. The right to life is not the gift of a state, a judiciary or any other organization or individual. It is innate in the nature of man."

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