

Handwritten signature in black ink, possibly reading "J.M.C."

April 19 to May 14, 1976

Gallery 111

School of Art

University of Manitoba

Winnipeg

R3T 2N2

Bob Bruce was one of the first people to greet Jeanne and me when we visited the School of Art during its annual Open House. In bounding strides and with enthusiastic, informative speech he gave us a tour of the School from floor to floor. Wall after wall was hung to the ceiling with work, and Bob moved through and among it, gesticulating and talking about it in the animated manner which I have come to know marks this man as an absolute live wire.

He has been a wonderful teacher they tell me through the years, and I only wish I could have known him sooner, for he stands for the kind of spirit and love of life and adventure that I hope represents education at its best.

I have quickly grown to appreciate his openness and his straight-on-target thinking. He has left a large imprint on this School which will be virtually impossible to erase. Fortunately, it is an imprint, like his pictures in his current show, full of joy, color and excitement. I will miss him a great deal.

*Alfred E. Hammer
Director, School of Art.*

Robert Bruce

At the end of April this year Professor Robert Bruce completes 21 years as a teacher at the School of Art and retires from University life.

Robert Bruce was born in Manitoba and schooled at the Winnipeg School of Art; Central School of Art and Design, London; Academie Grande Chaumière, Paris; Chicago; and the Art Students' League, New York. He spent nineteen years working as a designer and illustrator in Toronto, London, Paris and New York.

As an illustrator he executed cover-designs and illustrations for national publications in Canada, Britain and the United States and has designed and illustrated many childrens' books for American publishers.

As a designer his work has ranged from fabrics to whole ballets, to murals, ten of which he has executed in the Winnipeg area, the most recent being those in the Chamber of Commerce, Red River Community College and Grace General Hospital.

He is a former president of the Manitoba Society of Artists and Vice-President of the Art Director's Club of Winnipeg, and has sat on the Exhibition Committee of the Winnipeg Art Gallery. He has also made a study of urban esthetics in northern Europe on a short term Canada Council grant. He has exhibited paintings in National and International exhibitions that have been shown in the leading galleries of Canada, United States and Europe. Paintings are in the collections of the:

Alberta College of Art	Arnold Brigden
Queens University	Liebling-Michener
Winnipeg Art Gallery	Vincent Price
Riverbend School	Kenneth Osler
Winnipeg School Board	Peter Dubosh
James Richardson & Sons	Robert Ayre
Osler, Hammond & Nanton	Philip Chester
Vincent Massey	Sam Saidman
Arthur Vincent	Dr. Clifford Abbott
Chancellor Peter Curry	School of Art, U. of M.

Before joining the staff of the School of Art in 1955 he taught for six years at the Albright Art School, University of the State of New York.

If we believe that aesthetics is the means by which we identify and order the communication function in art, then through the paintings and drawings of Bob Bruce, he is revealed to be a man with a keen eye for meaningful form and detail and with a perceptive eye for our frailties and foibles.

His work explicitly testifies to the power and excitement of colour and to the figural figments of shape, all invested with an implicit understanding of visual order within the two dimensional limits of surface. It is this latter comprehension which has suited him for the role of a muralist.

Having known Bob intermittently since our early years in the backstage scene shops of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, I can confirm that the man revealed through his

work is the man in fact. Warm, alert, demanding, inventive, disciplined, his commitment to his own work, and to his students, is total and deeply rooted, and tempered throughout with a puckish wit.

*John W. Graham
Associate Dean,
Faculty of Architecture*

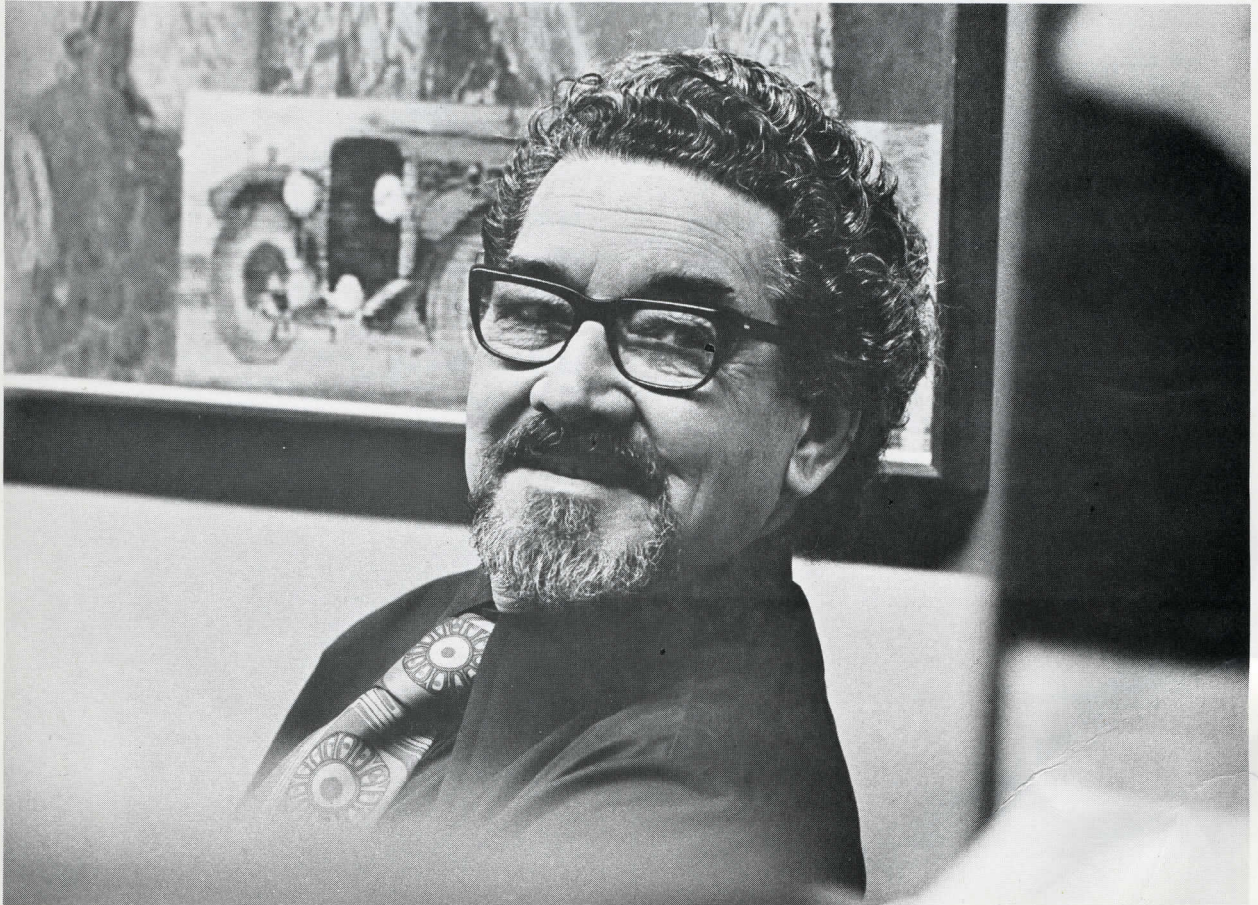


photo by D. Teichman

Robert Bruce — Current exhibition

1	Green Man	1973	17½ x 23
2	Sin Delir Nada	1974	23 x 35
3	Landscape with Figs	1962	23 x 35
4	Green and Purple Man	1962	20 x 26
5	Blue Woods	1957	30 x 40 canvas
6	St. Jean Baptiste	1959	30 x 40 canvas
7	Guitar Player No. 2	1976	20 x 26
8	Wooden Figure	1972	23 x 30
9	François	1975	20 x 26
10	Instability	1976	20 x 26
11	Perpetual Motion	1976	23 x 30
12	Rosalind	1975	20 x 26
13	Standing Lovers	1976	23 x 35
14	Pleasure Conflict	1975	20 x 26
15	A Natural Involvement	1976	23 x 35
16	Mechanical Man	1972	20 x 26