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National Museum Shows Strauss' Etchings



"Val d'Arno." Etching by Carl Strauss.

Personality is regarded by Carl Strauss as the most important element in any artist's work, especially his own. He has been accorded the second special exhibition of the season in the division of graphic arts of the United States National Museum, in a month's exhibition ending Nov. 25.

Strauss was born in Boston, studied there in the art school of the museum, and took a

course in etching under S. R. Koehler. A few irregular lessons followed at the Academie Julien in Paris, and then he copied in foreign galleries for a while. He has been represented by prints in the Munich International, and later showed at the Venice International, and at the International Black-and-White show in Florence, where he was awarded a prize. There the King of Italy purchased his "Val d'Arno Grande" for his private collection. Museums in Rome and Milan also bought his work, and six public galleries in Germany afterward acquired prints by him.

Strauss, who prefers to live in Switzerland, says that all of his plates are in the pure medium—that is, they are bitten with acid and never retouched with drypoint.

Engravings After Stuart

The centenary of Stuart's death is being observed by the New York Public Library in the form of an exhibition of black-and-white engravings by noted artists of portraits by the master. The prints are mainly those collected by the late Samuel P. Avery, to which are added some from other portfolios in the library's print room. The larger prints include work by British mezzotintists: Ward, Smith, Hodges, Keating Jones, Say, Turner. The smaller ones are mainly the work of American engravers of the first half of the nineteenth century, a time of the influence of bank note engraving. And there are quite recent names, such as that of S. Arlent Edwards.

"All of which accentuates the added interest of the engravings per se, an interest of technique, of changing styles, of individual approach by the engraver," reads a statement by Frank Weitenkampf, curator of prints.

Acquire Prints by American

The Contemporary Society of English Artists purchased an etching by Philip Harris Giddens, to present to the British Museum. Another etching by the American, "The Tribune Tower," was bought by the Victoria and Albert Museum.