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### Museum of Nebraska Art On Display at the Calvin T. Ryan Library

#### Roger Broer 1947 -

Roger Broer, a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, was born in Omaha, Nebraska in 1947, adopted and raised in Randolph, NE. He received his B.A., Extended Fine Arts from Eastern Montana College and his M.A. from Central Washington University. Although Broer specializes in monoprints, he is also interested in painting, drawing, and sculpture. His unique style combines realism, impressionism, surrealism, and automatism.

Broer is a nationally recognized artist, receiving over 85 awards in National shows, including the Northern Plains Tribal Arts and Northern Plains Indian Market, Tesoro Indian Market, and the Red Cloud Show. He has exhibited in more than 50 one man shows, over 150 group shows, and has paintings in both national and international collections, including the Department of Interior, Washington, D.C., Oglala Sioux Tribal Health Services Hospital, Pine Ridge, SD, Mountain Bell, Denver, CO, SAFECO Insurance Company of America, Seattle, WA, SEAFIRST Bank Corp., Seattle, WA, Northern Plains Tribal Arts, American Indian Services Inc., Sioux Falls, SD, Museum of Nebraska Art, Kearney, NE, and Pierre Cardin, Paris, France. The library is pleased to have some of his work from the MONA on current display at the library.



Returning III - Roger Broer 1997 Monoprint



# IN BRIEF

Calvin T. Ryan Library Newsletter

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## Chinese Calligraphy: Zhang Zhenzhong & The Art of Symbols

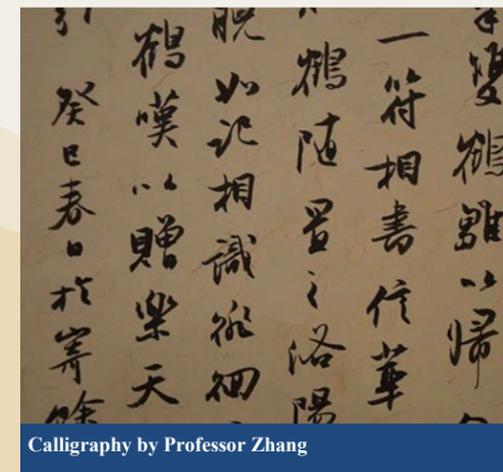
With a history dating back to 4,000 B.C. in China, calligraphy is the artful writing of language symbols or characters. This visual art form features characters that are dynamic and closely bound to the forces of nature and the energies of the human body while contained within a balanced framework. The Calvin T. Ryan Library recently received thirty-one hanging scrolls and a book of handwritten poetry with Chinese calligraphy donated by Chinese professor and artist Zhang Zhenzhong.



Professor Zhang Zhenzhong

Professor Zhang Zhenzhong is the director of Education Supervision Office of the Municipal People's Government of Shenyang, vice director of the Bureau of Education, Counselor of Liaoning provincial government, Member of the Standing Committee of China Political Consultative Conference Liaoning Committee. He is also a member of the national Calligrapher's Association of China and director of the municipal Calligrapher's Association and the provincial Authors' Association.

His published works include *Study on Deng Xiaoping's Theory about Intellectuals*; *Soul of the River - Philosophical Reflection on National Spirit*; *Pains of Civilization*; *Paradox of Subsistence and Realistic Options*; *Nicknames*; *Play into His Hand*. He has published over 40 essays and co-compiled the *Dictionary of Calligraphic Terms*. His biography has been included in the *List of Chinese Talents* and the *Directory of Chinese Calligraphers*.



Calligraphy by Professor Zhang

Professor Zhang, who started his calligraphic career at a young age, began with the calligraphy of the North Wei Dynasty genre, studied the Tang Dynasty calligraphy, and later returned to North Wei calligraphy, practicing repeatedly. Big character calligraphy is his favorite, although he is also an expert in Running Script and Cursive Script. Zhang models his work on the two great ancient calligraphers, Wang Xizhi and Wang Xianyuan, as well as other ancient calligraphers such as MiFu, Huang Tingjian, Zhao Mengfu, Wen Zhengming and Wang Duo. He incorporates these influences into his art, merging them to create his unique style of calligraphy.

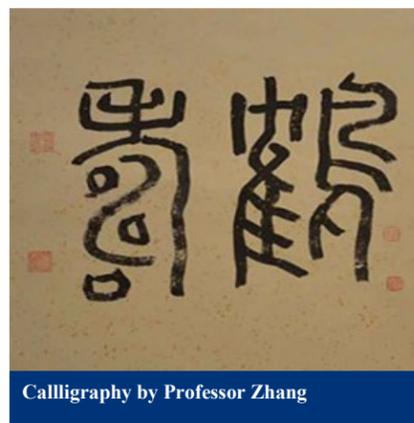
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The Library  
is the intellectual  
heart of the  
campus community

His work is graceful, light-hearted, powerful, and steady. The characters are free and wild-stroked with little affectedness, and his works exhibit mobility and flexibility with striking strength and colorfulness. In 2002, Zhang's calligraphic works were exhibited at the Luxun Academy of Fine Arts, Shenyang Normal University. Extensive media coverage of this exhibition helped establish Zhang as a reputed calligrapher of the scholar style. His calligraphic works were selected as national gifts and presented to Mr. Kochiro Matsuura, the former Director-General of UNESCO; they were also gifted to UNESCO branches in Japan, Korea, Russia, and India.

Professor Zhang's calligraphy was on exhibit at the Museum of Nebraska Art (MONA) from September 17th through December 1, 2013. An artist talk and reception was held at the MONA on September 24th with Professor Zhang. UNK students and faculty attended as well as the Mayor of Kearney. The scrolls donated by Professor Zhang to the Calvin T. Ryan Library were part of the original exhibit. The MONA retained some of the exhibited scrolls as well, particularly those related to cranes. Many of the poems and tales depicted in the scrolls prominently feature the crane, a bird especially valued in Chinese culture. Likewise, the fascination with cranes in central Nebraska is extraordinary, and provides a special connection between cultures.

The paper on which the calligraphy is written is made of tree bark and rice grass. The book of poetry is in four volumes and in a special binding. The papermaking process, part of producing high quality calligraphic works, is traditional and special. The quality paper can keep its shape and color for thousands of years, helping ensure the stability of the artwork that it holds. The scrolls and handwritten book are an extraordinary gift and the Calvin T. Ryan Library is honored to have received them.



Calligraphy by Professor Zhang

## Gifts Strengthen Collections

Do the books you love need a new home? They may be just what is needed to enhance the library collection. We are especially interested in books and other materials with a UNK, Nebraska, or Great Plains connection. See this site for details: <http://library.unk.edu/about/giving.php>

## Payne Donation

Dr. James Payne, Professor of Music and the Coordinator of Instrumental Studies, is retiring after 40 years at UNK. He has been involved with music since 1953 when he first studied piano. He has generously donated several hundred music scores, 28 music DVD's, 378 CDs, around 70 books and an assortment of journal issues and newsletters of the *International Trumpet Guild*. With past gifts of CD's the Calvin T. Ryan Library is building an excellent and nuanced collection that will provide students the opportunity to hear great music performed by world-renowned musicians.

## Pearson Donation

Dr. Lon Pearson joined the University of Nebraska at Kearney in August 1991 as a professor in Spanish. During his tenure, he served as the chair of the Department of Modern Languages. Before coming to UNK, he taught at Yeshiva University, BYU and the University of Missouri-Rolla. His hobbies include playing numerous musical instruments, photography, and he is an author of fiction and non-fiction books. Dr. Pearson had an extensive personal library and donated 195 books to the Calvin T. Ryan Library, many focused on Spanish literature. Dr. Pearson gave material to a number of libraries at institutions where he previously worked and made concerted effort to ensure that UNK received items not currently in our collection.

## Students Visit Loper Oasis at Library During Finals Week

Michael Sutherland, Web Services Librarian

It is not a secret that university students are particularly stressed during finals week. School halls fill to the brim



Students coloring at the Loper Oasis

with bleary-eyed, sweat pants or pajama clad students aimlessly wandering around like zombies with their noses diligently buried in a study guide or textbook, attempting to fill their brains with everything they were supposed to have learned for their final exam. In some cases, stress can be overwhelming. In a case at Harvard, for example, a student called in a bomb threat in order to prevent taking a

final. While UNK students have not resorted to that extreme, they are no exception when it comes to the stress of finals. Many schools have offered therapy pets, meditation clubs, and de-stress events including midnight breakfasts. In order to help students cope with stress and anxiety during finals at UNK, the Calvin T. Ryan Library established the Loper Oasis as a way for students to unwind and spend a moment or two relaxing. In a cordoned off area of the first floor, students could color, play board games, or get refreshments and other goodies courtesy of Pepsi and Library faculty and staff.

## Award for Outstanding Library Research

Michael Sutherland, Web Services Librarian

In this era of electronic information, research has become a more complicated process. Sources of information may be in any number of different formats and researchers are inundated with a bewildering array of options. Evaluating and properly using these resources takes an increasing amount of time and effort.

The purpose of inquiry is to encourage high levels of critical thinking so that processes and resources are appropriate, conclusions are based on supporting evidence and problems are solved and decisions made that will not only provide success as a student, but also for lifelong learning. This is what it means to be information literate.

The Calvin T. Ryan Library is uniquely suited as a partner in the research process and to impart information literacy skills. The Library, in consultation with faculty across campus, carefully selects information resources in all formats for research and inquiry. Librarians are expert information navigators and research consultants; we are skilled in making information discoverable.



Ru Meng and Michael Sutherland at Student Research Day

In conjunction with the office of Undergraduate research and Creative Activity, The Calvin T. Ryan Library Award for Undergraduate Research recognizes and honors excellence in the use of library services, collections, and resources by an undergraduate student researcher. The

2014 award was presented to Ru Meng during the April 10th Student Research Day for her work in the Department of Geography and Earth Sciences entitled 'The Spatial Distribution of Earthquakes in China from 1920 to 2013'.

## Support Calvin T. Ryan Library

Private financial support is vital to creating a margin of excellence at the Calvin T. Ryan Library. Your gifts assist in bringing valuable collections of information to the library, as well as creating a physical environment which complements learning for all library users. Gifts supporting the library are tax deductible and are handled by the University of Nebraska Foundation, a 501(c) (3) corporation. For more information, please contact the University of Nebraska Foundation's Kearney office at P.O. Box 2678, 214 W. 39th St., Kearney, NE 68848; or call 308-698-5270; or give online at <http://bit.ly/UNKLibraryFund>.

## Buy a Book for the Library: Update

Last fall, the Calvin T. Ryan Library in collaboration with the University of Nebraska Foundation, launched a program to 'Buy a Book for the Library' as a long term project for library enhancement and to help replace books damaged in the April 2013 storm.

With a gift to Buy a Book, a bookplate with a personalized message will be placed in each new book purchased by the library. The bookplate will include the name of the donor and the name of anyone the donor chooses to honor or recognize. A copy of the personalized message and a letter of acknowledgement will be sent to the donor and, when possible, the honoree or the honoree's family. The information will also appear in the library's online catalog of materials.

We are pleased to announce that the program is a resounding success thus far and want to thank everyone who has purchased a book for the library. Buy a Book for the Library offers three giving levels: \$100 contribution for one personalized book, \$500 contribution for six personalized books and \$1,000 contribution for 12 personalized books.

To support the Buy a Book program, visit [nufoundation.org/unkbuyabook](http://nufoundation.org/unkbuyabook). To learn more or to request a brochure, contact Anne McConkey at the University of Nebraska Foundation at 308-698-5282 or [amconkey@nufoundation.org](mailto:amconkey@nufoundation.org).

In Brief is a publication of the Calvin T. Ryan Library, University of Nebraska Kearney. It is designed to keep friends of the library informed about library changes and events. Its production is overseen by the Library Publications Committee. Current members are:

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