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SUNDAY INDEPENDENT, WILKES-BARRE, P.

Chinese Paintings To Be Exhibited at Wilkes College

The special collection of Chinese paintings by Kan Wing-Lin, who has gained world recognition for his artistry, will be shown tomorrow evening and each day through Thursday, May 24, at the Sordani Art Gal-

lery on the Wilkes College campus.

Coming to this region on a grant from The Arthur M. Sackler Foundation of New York, the collection has been enjoyed by thousands who earlier this month viewed it at the Philbrook Art Center in Tulsa, Okla.

The local exhibit will open tomorrow night at 8 with a reception for special devotees to art in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

The work of Kan Wing-Lin, whose paintings are seen the outstanding and valuable collection, underscores the Twentieth Century Chinese painter's search for synthesis between old and new, native styles and foreign.

Kan is an artist in the age-old tradition of Chinese painting, depicting themes from nature long cherished by Chinese painters; flower and bird paintings, bamboos and landscapes.

He was born in 1914 in Punyu, in Kuangsi Province. In 1941, he graduated from the School of Horticulture, National Kuangsi University in Kweilin, where he was appointed lecturer in horti-

culture. From 1941 to 1949, he lectured both in Kuangsi University and Hai Nan University. In 1949, Professor Kan went to Hong Kong and later he served as a horticulture consultant for the Education Department of Hon.: Kong.

Kan's lifelong interest in art began in early childhood with the study of calligraphy and deepened as he explored the several schools of Chinese art.

In a departure from the traditional, he went on to master the techniques of Western oil and watercolor paintings. He first learned watercolor painting from his own brother and sister, Kan May-tin and Kan Sze-may. Later, he became a follower of Chao Shoa An, a leading painter of the Ling-nam school.

His compositions combine the color wash effects of Western painting with the themes and spontaneity of Chinese ink painting. His professional background as a horticulturist helped to nourish an intimacy with the contours and rhythms of natural forms and the scenery of his

native province.

Examples of traditional Chinese themes abound in his paintings. Ink bamboo, a favorite subject in Chinese painting, was given special importance and classified as a distinct subject of painting in the Hsian-ho hua-p'u, a compilation of paintings published in the Sung Dynasty (A.D. 960-1280). The theme is well represented among Professor Kan's works with bamboo in tones of ink or some with colored stalks and touches of color in the birds or insects included among them.

The exhibition will be open to the public without charge as a community service of the Sordani Art Gallery and Wilkes College.