

Lillian Irene Hoffar (m. Neville Reid)

September 2 1908 - 1994

Vancouver School of Decorative and Applied Arts (Diploma 1929)

Pioneer Art Students of Vancouver Art School

Vancouver School of Art Graduates' Association

B.C. Society of Fine Arts (Member 1940-67, President 1958-1960 & 1965-67)

Canadian Group of Painters (1959-67, President 1958, 1960, 1966-67)

Irene Hoffar was a member of P.A.S.O.V.A.S., the Pioneer Art Students of Vancouver Art School, an artist's group formed in 1930 from the students who entered the Vancouver School of Decorative and Applied Arts in its first year and a half of classes in 1925 and 1926.

Hoffar started classes at the VSDAA in 1925, and was in the first graduating class in 1929, later exhibiting in the PASOVAS group exhibition at the B.C. Art League gallery in 1930.

In the catalogue for the 1929 Winter exhibition of the BCSEA, there are entries for G. Hoffar and J. Hoffar. It is possible that both of these listings are typographic errors for Irene Hoffar, especially since the exhibition catalogue had a few other errors in the listings.

After graduation she took post-graduate studies at the art school, and then travelled to England with Vera Weatherbie for further post-graduate studies at the Royal Academy Schools, London, England. On her return to Vancouver she opened a studio and did portraits, murals, decorative panels, and even the interior of a yacht. She taught drawing and painting at the Vancouver School of Art from 1933 - 1937. In 1933 she married Neville Reid and subsequently exhibited as Irene Hoffar Reid.

She showed work in the *B.C. Artists* Christmas exhibition at the Vancouver Art Gallery in 1933.

In 1936, the Spring issue of *The Smock Pocket* noted that "A portrait by Mrs. IRENE HOFFAR REID, '29, was purchased and presented to the Art Gallery to augment the Permanent Collection. This is the first honor of this kind to be bestowed on a Graduate." The newsletter also noted that Reid was sharing a studio with Margaret Carter at 581 Granville Street.

Reid had work in the PASOVAS group exhibition in 1936, at the Vancouver Art Gallery. She also exhibited work at the National Gallery of Canada, the Seattle Art Museum in 1930, and the Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, in 1932. She also showed work in the annual *B.C. Artists* exhibitions from 1932 to 1938, at least.

She exhibited with the B.C. Society of Fine Arts in their annual exhibitions in 1942, 1943, and 1949. She submitted four charcoal drawings to the 1949 B.C. Graphic exhibition at the Vancouver Art Gallery, two of them were selected for the exhibition. She was living in Vancouver. In 1967 she was awarded the Canada Centennial Medal for her contribution to the arts.

She was President of the B.C. Society of Artists when the society finally ceased to operate in 1967, after the few remaining members voted it out of existence following an unsuccessful membership campaign.



Exhibitions

DATE	EXHIBITION	ARTWORK
1929 Nov. 16 - 30	<u>BCSFA</u> <u>Winter Exhibition</u>	Jervis Inlet Morning, Hotham Sound After the Rain
1930 Nov. 27 - Dec. 7	<u>PASOVAS</u> <u>Art Club Exhibition</u>	Mural "Sun Bathers"
1933 May 3 - 18	<u>VAG</u> <u>VSAGA 1st Annual Exhibition</u>	Indian Village
1933 Sept. 22 - Oct. 15	<u>VAG</u> <u>2nd Annual B.C. Artists</u>	The Fishermen The Herring Net
1933 Dec. 1 - 17	<u>VAG</u> <u>B.C. Artists Christmas Exhibition</u>	(no information available)
1934 Sept. 21 - Oct. 14	<u>VAG</u> <u>3rd Annual B.C. Artists</u>	Grey Day Rhythm Woman Reading
1936 Feb. 21 - Mar. 5	<u>PASOVAS</u> <u>Annual Group Show</u>	The Storm
1942 May 15 - 31	<u>BCSFA</u> <u>32nd Annual</u>	Composition Screening Earth October
1943 May 15 - June 6	<u>BCSFA</u> <u>33rd Annual</u>	Cariboo Landscape
1946 July 2 - 28	<u>VAG</u> <u>Jubilee Exhibition</u>	Cariboo Landscape
1948 May 18 - June 6	<u>BCSFA</u> <u>38th Annual Exhibition</u>	Linda and Rusty Houses and Trees
1949 May 3 - 22	<u>BCSFA</u> <u>39th Annual</u>	Sketch No. 1 Sketch No. 2
1949 Nov. 22 - Dec. 11	<u>VAG</u> <u>First B.C. Graphic</u>	The Rocks The Barn
1950 April 25 - May 14	<u>BCSA</u> <u>40th Annual Exhibition</u>	Winter Sketch

References - BIBLIOGRAPHY

Refer to BIBLIO.

References - GROUP EXHIBITIONS

**SOUVENIR CATALOGUE OF EXHIBITIONS OPENING
THE NEW VANCOUVER ART GALLERY** (refer to VAG51)

3rd BC GRAPHIC & CANADIAN SOCIETY OF GRAPHIC ART (refer to BCG57)

100 YEARS OF B.C. ART (refer to VAG58)

SPRING EXHIBITION - FCA - BC REGION (refer to FCA64)

PLANTAE OCCIDENTALIS - 200 Years of Botanical Art in British Columbia

1979, By Maria Newberry House, The Botanical Garden, U.B.C., Technical Bulletin No 11
Exhibition catalogue, illustrated; list of works; ISSN 0703-1432
Includes one work by Reid, *Spear Thistle*, ill. in colour p.62.

VANCOUVER: ART & ARTISTS 1931 - 1983 (refer to VAG83)

BRITISH COLUMBIA WOMEN ARTISTS 1885-1985 (refer to AGGV85)

FIRST CLASS - Four Graduates From The Vancouver School of Decorative and Applied Arts

1987, Letia Richardson, The Floating Curatorial Gallery at Women in Focus
ISBN 0-921823-03-7
Exhibition catalogue; includes survey essay of women artists in Vancouver:
Chronologies of Liliias Farley, Reid, Beatrice Lennie, and Vera Weatherbie.

EARLY BRITISH COLUMBIAN WOMAN ARTISTS (refer to HG95)

GENERATIONS - FIVE DECADES OF ART IN WEST VANCOUVER 1912 - 1962 (refer to WVMA99)

References - GENERAL

WHO'S WHO IN NORTHWEST ART edited by Marion Brymner Appleton

*"A Directory of Persons in the Pacific Northwest Working in the Media
of Painting, Sculpture, Graphic Arts, and Handicrafts"*.

1941; published by Frank McCaffrey, Seattle Washington.
Short entry for Hoffar.

VISUAL ARTS BRITISH COLUMBIA (refer to VABC77)

BRITISH COLUMBIA ART COLLECTION 1974-80 (refer to BCAC80)

BY A LADY, Celebrating Three Centuries of Art by Canadian Women by Maria Tippett

1992, Viking, ISBN 0-670-84458-6
226 pages, illustrated in colour and b&w, list of illustrations, index
References to Reid on pages 70 and 85

REID, Lillian Irene Hoffar

A Dictionary of Canadian Artists, Volume 7, Rakos - Sadowski, 1st Edition Reprint 1996
Colin S. Macdonald, Canadian Paperbacks. ISBN 0-919554-19-9

VANCOUVER ARTIST: Irene Hoffar Reid

1999 April; by Michael Clark, Emily Carr Institute of Art + Design.
Visions newsletter, Volume 5 Issue 3, page 6.
One page biography with 3 illustrations of her work.

Clippings

"Many other well-known artists are represented, including ... **Irene Hoffar** ... "

From "Bargains in Art"
Vancouver Sun, December 1, 1933

"**Irene Hoffar Reid's** sketches show definitely her change in style and indicates that she has not yet mastered her new ideas."

From "Pasovas Club Has Splendid Annual Show"
Vancouver Province, November 6, 1934

"**Irene Hoffar Reid** is represented with a number of striking paintings in the oils section, including a rather unusual study of "Autumn.""

From "Pasovas Art Show"
Vancouver Sun, November 6, 1934

"... **Irene Hoffar Reid** ... are all represented."

From "PASOVAS EXHIBIT - Pioneer Art Students' Show" by (unknown)
Daily Province, February 21 1936

"The oils are an interesting group, notably ... and "The Storm," by **Irene Hoffar Reid**, the latter being distinguished for its strong color value."

From "FINE PASOVAS ART EXHIBITION" by (unknown)
Vancouver Sun (?), February 2 1936

"On the walls of the studio shared by Margaret Carter and **Irene Hoffar Reid** are murals, landscapes, portraits in oils and conte, the latter a medium much used by the Old Masters."

From "GRADUATES IN ART" by Cintra
(unknown newspaper), April 25, 1936

"Irene Hoffar Reid is better than ever in her three captivating compositions."

From "B.C. Society of Fine Arts Display Sets New High Mark," by Palette
Vancouver Daily Province, May 16 1942