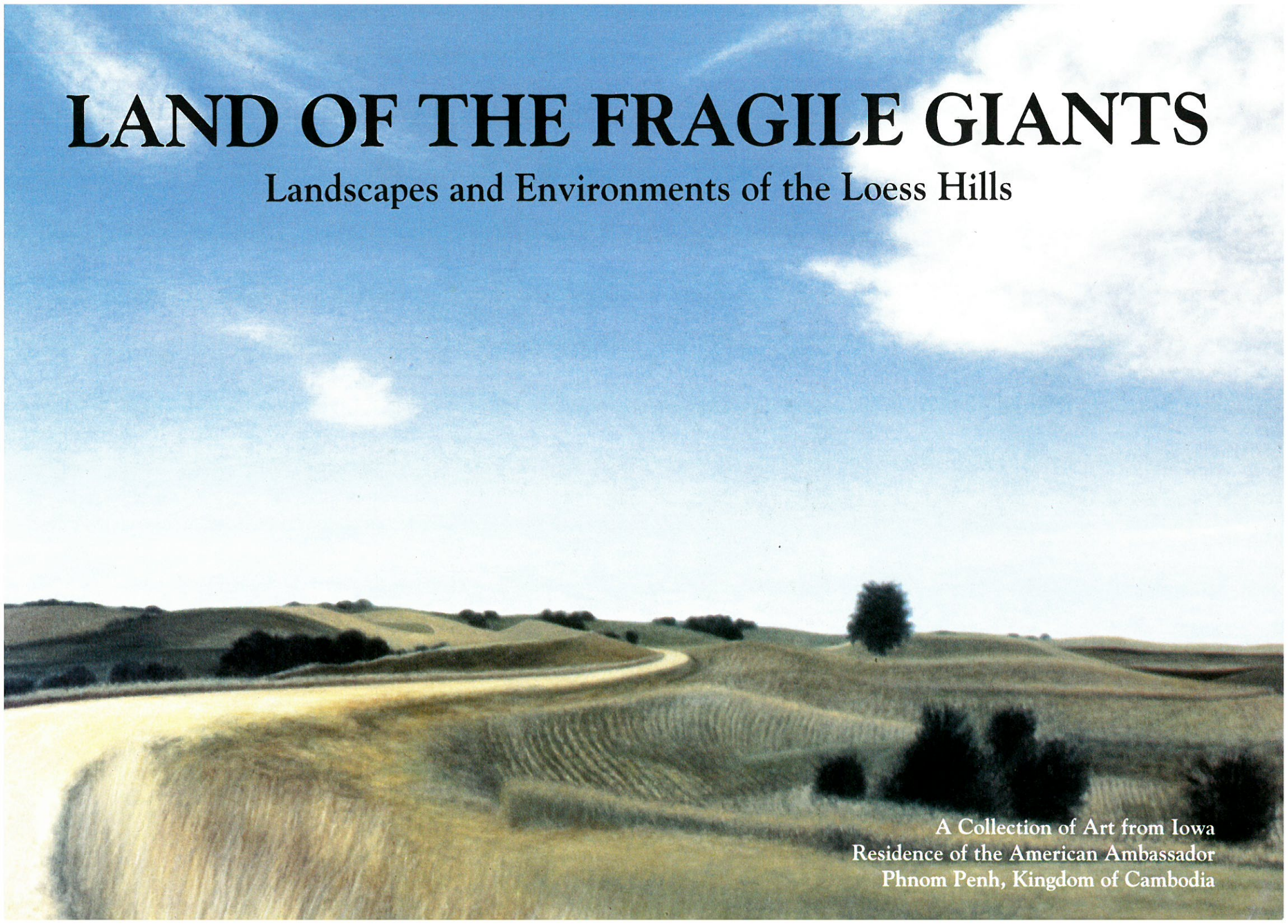


LAND OF THE FRAGILE GIANTS

Landscapes and Environments of the Loess Hills



A Collection of Art from Iowa
Residence of the American Ambassador
Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia



*The Ambassador's residence
Phnom Penh*

LAND OF THE FRAGILE GIANTS

Landscapes and Environments of the Loess Hills

A Collection of Art from Iowa
Commissioned by the Brunnier Art Museum at Iowa State University
at the Residence of Ambassador and Mrs. Kenneth M. Quinn
Phnom Penh, Kingdom of Cambodia



The publication of this book has been made possible by generous support of
the Friends of Art and Preservation in Embassies.

Art in Embassies Program, U.S. Department of State



Wind-borne

*A Choral Composition
SSAATBB ~ Unaccompanied*

*Music by Jeffrey Prater
Text by Neal Bowers*

Commissioned by the Brunnier Art Museum at Iowa State University in conjunction with
the art exhibition *Land of the Fragile Giants: Landscapes, Environments, and Peoples of
the Loess Hills*.

Foreword

The Quinn family has been honored to represent the United States to the Kingdom of Cambodia as well as to reside in a home displaying art from our home State of Iowa.

The 18 works of art and music depicted in this book have been a constant reminder to us of our roots in America's heartland as well as the fragile environment which exists both in the Loess Hills along the Missouri River and the ecosystems in Cambodia along the Mekong.

Originally commissioned to call attention to important issues affecting the people and the societies in western Iowa, the art works which comprised the exhibit *Land of the Fragile Giants* - seemed the perfect complement to our effort to highlight the new US foreign policy interest in the environment, as well as to recall the special effort Iowans made in 1979 to assist starving Cambodian refugees through the Iowa Shares program.

My wife LeSon, our sons Davin and Shandon and our daughter Kelly are all enormously grateful to the individuals and organizations whose efforts have made it possible for us to display these pieces of Americana which each day remind us of our special Iowa - Cambodia connection.



Kenneth M. Quinn
Ambassador



The Royal Palace
Phnom Penh

Land of the Fragile Giants

Landscapes and Environments of the Loess Hills

The Loess Hills in Iowa, the home state of Ambassador Kenneth M. Quinn, are a particularly unusual type of land formation. They are formed entirely of wind-blown deposits of loose soil. Centuries of wind, erosion and human use created the contemporary landscape. Large hill formations of Loess soil are found in only a few places, nestled abreast three of the world's grandest rivers — the Rhine river in Europe, the Yellow river in China and the Missouri river in the United States. The dramatic ridges, valleys and peaks of the landscape are visually spectacular. Punctuated by natural and human environments, the Loess Hills in western Iowa offer an intriguing juxtaposition of nature and humanity.

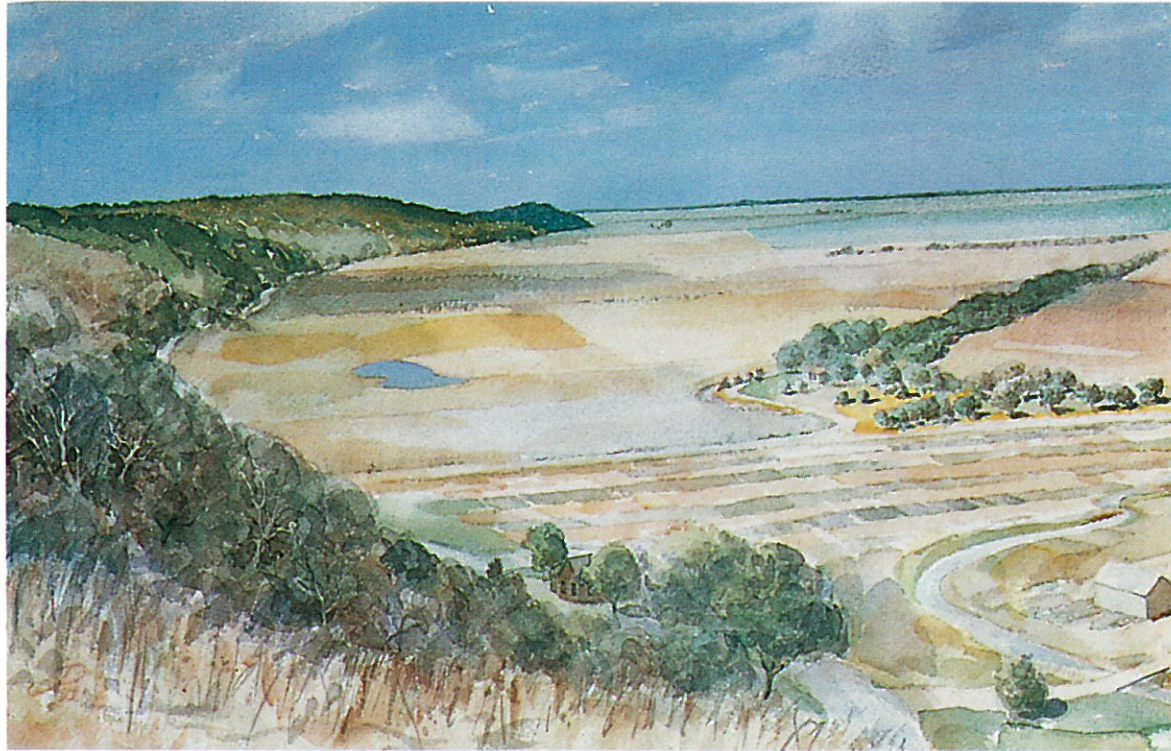
In 1992, twenty-seven visual artists were invited to visit Iowa's western hills and create interpretations of the landscape in preparation for an exhibition organized by the Brunnier Art Museum of Iowa State University. In total they created over 100 works of art which formed *The Land of the Fragile Giants* exhibition and which toured seven towns and cities in Iowa from 1994 to 1996. Ambassador Quinn is honored to host selections from the exhibition at his official residence, under the auspices of the United States Department of State's Art in Embassies Program.



Genie Hudson Patrick
High Road, 1994
Oil on Canvas
36" x 60"
Lent by the Olson-Larsen Galleries



John Preston
Murray Hill View North, 1994
Oil on canvas
27" x 44"
Loan from Brunnier Art Museum
Iowa State University



John Page

The Larpenteur Memorial Road, #2054, 1993

Watercolor

13 1/2" x 21"

Lent by the Artist



John Page
View West #881, 1993
Watercolor
13 1/2" x 21"
Lent by the Artist



Concetta Morales
Cedars and long trees
Acrylic monotype collage
50" x 24"
Lent by the Artist



Robert McKibben
Bean Fields near Thurman
Pastel on paper/arches cover
20" x 30"
Loan from Brunnier Art Museum
Iowa State University



John Preston
Murray Hill View South, 1993
Oil on canvas
27" x 28"
Loan from Brunnier Art Museum
Iowa State University



William Barnes

Cut, 1994

Casein on Panel

15 1/2" x 11 3/4"

Loan from Brunnier Art Museum

Iowa State University



Keith Jacobshagen
Ides of March, 1994
Oil on Canvas
18" x 46"
Lent by the Artist



Keith Archepohl
Indian Grass, 1993
Colored drawing
22" x 14³/₄"
Loan from Brunnier Art Museum
Iowa State University



Keith Archepohl

Iowa Song, 1994

Etching, roulette, drypoint, 23½" x 31"

Loan from Brunnier Art Museum

Iowa State University



Keith Archepohl
Turkey Foot, 1993
Colored drawing, 22" x 14³/₄"
Loan from Brunnier Art Museum
Iowa State University



Elizabeth Miller
Hill Prairie
Oil on linen canvas
54" x 44"
Lent by the Artist



Frank Stella
Symphony, 1990
lithograph
54" x 39"

Gift of Frank Stella and Tyler Graphics through
the Friends of Art and Preservation in Embassies



Richard Leet
Loess Hills: the Genesis, 1993
Watercolor
29" x 39"
Lent by Janet Alcorn and Paul Ferrone

An original choral composition
Commissioned by the University Museums
Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa

Jeffrey Prater

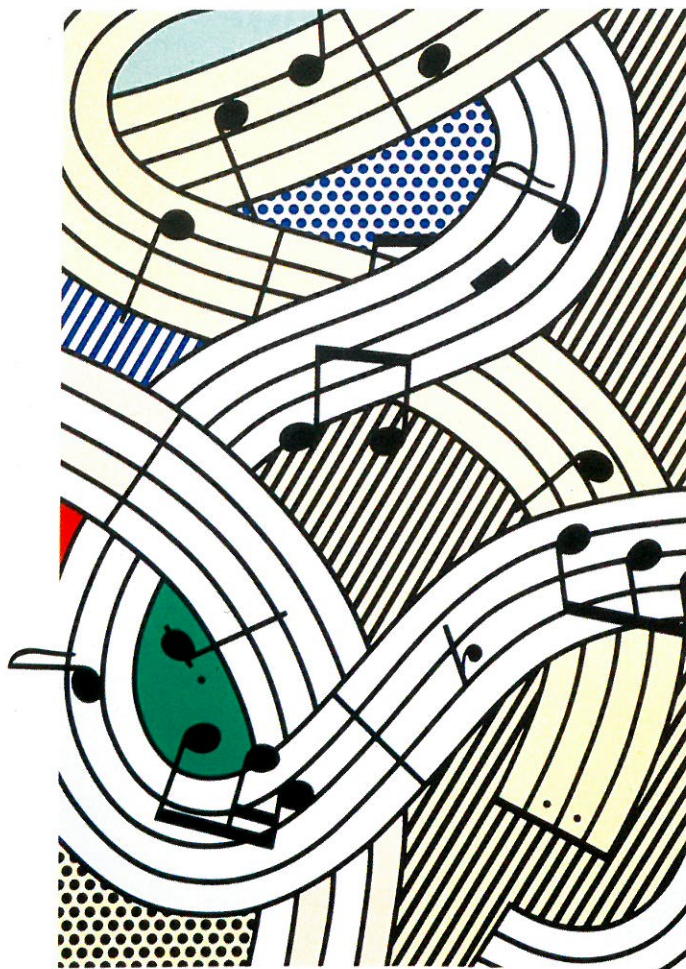
Moderato ♩ ~ 78

[illegible]

© 1994 by Jeffrey L. Prater

Sop. *a tempo* *mf* *f* *rit.* *molto rit.* *a tempo* *f* with abandon
 — and loose these hills, — as if they might wan
 Alto *a tempo* *mf* *f* *rit.* *molto rit.* *a tempo* *f* with abandon
 — and loose these hills, ah, ah, — ah, ah, — as if they might wan
 Ten. *a tempo* *mf* *f* *rit.* *molto rit.* *a tempo* *f* with abandon
 — and loose these hills, ah, ah, — ah, ah, — as if they might wan
 Bass *a tempo* *mf* *f* *rit.* *molto rit.* *a tempo* *f* with abandon
 — and loose these hills, ah, ah, — ah, ah, — as if they might wan
 Pno. *a tempo* *mf* *f* *rit.* *molto rit.* *a tempo* *f* with abandon
 — and loose these hills, ah, ah, — ah, ah, — as if they might wan

Jeffrey Prater
Wind-borne
A Choral Composition
SSAATBB ~ Unaccompanied



Roy Lichtenstein
Composition III, 1995
Silkscreen
52" x 36"
Gift of the Artist and Friends of
Art and Preservation in Embassies

The Venue

The residence of the United States Ambassador to Cambodia, located at 96 Norodom Boulevard in Phnom Penh, having been extensively remodeled, was informally dedicated in May 1998 in memory of President John F. and Mrs. Jacqueline Kennedy.

The house had previously served as a bank and as the Chancery of the British Embassy. It was acquired in 1992 and became the residence of then Ambassador Charles Twining. The residence has been site of several events of special significance: Ambassador Twining hosted a luncheon in honor of Secretary of State Warren Christopher on August 4, 1995; on November 11, 1996, Senator John McCain dedicated a memorial at the residence in honor of the U.S. Servicemen killed in the Mayaguez incident; and on June 17, 1997 a rocket fired during factional fighting in the center of the city exploded at the residence, peppering walls with shrapnel, blowing out glass doors and windows and narrowly missing Ambassador Quinn and his family.

The remodeling of the residence was personally designed by Ambassador Quinn and included installing large plate-glass doors which lead out to the newly constructed lanai area adjacent to the garden. A waterfall, and landscaping, has been added in the garden and replicas of Angkorean wall sculptures were placed in the outdoor thatched reception area. The latter is connected to the garden by a skylighted atrium. Inside the residence, walls and doors were replaced by arched entryways which now allow circulation throughout the first floor. The dining room was moved into the residence from the service building at the rear of the house, a chandelier added and a new glass double door installed. A new sitting area was created and a service bar installed in the main living room.

A special addition was the creation of the Kennedy Alcove in which photos of the President and Mrs. Kennedy are displayed. Included is a picture of President Kennedy meeting with King Sihanouk, as well as a montage of photos from Mrs. Kennedy's celebrated visit to Angkor Wat in November 1967. President Kennedy and Ambassador Quinn both have received honorary degrees from Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa, adding special significance to the dedication ceremony.



The Kennedy Alcove



Mayaguez Marine Corps Memorial



Living Room



Lanai Entryway



Formal Dining Room



Reception Area

Acknowledgements

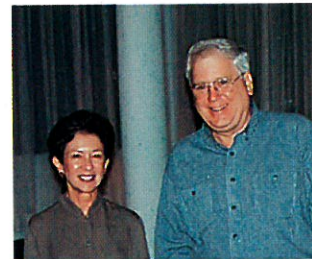
The Art in Embassies Program (AIEP) of the U.S. Department of State was created in 1964 to showcase original artwork by U.S. artists in the residences of United States Ambassadors worldwide. These residences serve as the centers for official state functions, and the exhibits are part of the Ambassador's mission at post. Mrs. Roselyne Swig, then Director of the AIEP, provided great assistance in the acquisition of the artworks depicted in this booklet. She later visited Phnom Penh to view first hand their display in Ambassador Quinn's residence.

AIEP has achieved its success through lending agreements with museums, institutions, corporations, galleries, individual artists and collectors. All works of art shown here were identified by AIEP curator Dr. Diane Tepfer who worked closely with the Ambassador to arrange a collection reflecting his interests and vision.

The generosity of the artists and the Brunnier Art Museum at Iowa State University made it possible for AIEP to provide Ambassador and Mrs. Quinn with these excellent and distinctive examples of American art. Ms. Lynette Pohlman, Director of the Brunnier Art Museum, played a central role in facilitating these arrangements. Special thanks are also due to Ms. Stacy Brothers of the Museum.

U.S. Ambassadors take great pride in these collections and the opportunity for the cultural outreach they provide. Ms. Lee Kimche McGrath and the Friends of Art and Preservation in Embassies - a private, non-profit, educational foundation formed in 1986 to assist the U.S. Department of State in its various programs designed to exhibit and preserve fine and decorative art in U.S. embassy residences abroad - generously provided the funding for the publication of this book.

Mr. Robert Pons, Administrative Officer at the American Embassy, played a central role as coordinator for this publication, as did Peter Hüttenmoser of the *Phnom Penh Post*.



*Ms Roselyne Swig,
Director of the Art in
Embassies Program
at a reception at the
residence.*



*Gazebo and Waterfall
Garden Lanai
Ambassador's Residence* १



Wind-borne

Loose,
the windblown silt
of glacial melt,
and loose these hills,
as if they might wander
over the broken prairie.

Conjured out of air,
they herded here
to browse along the river
or drowse away forever
in undulant slumber.

Their dreams are switchgrass
and prairie goldenrod;
coralroot orchid and buffalo berry;
the spires and bells
of a flower unknown, unnamed,
scenting the air with mystery.

We smell it sometimes,
a sweetness in the city
or at the edge of a harrowed field,
something half-remembered
like a lost part of ourselves,
loose on the wind
blown back from the hills,
an offering.

— Neal Bowers