



Galleries/Museums



“I was never interested in paintings since [until] I started to paint myself. But now when I go to Exhibitions (which I do very often and whenever there is one in whatever city we are) I do this more from the burning desire to learn real painting—to become a real artist. This hobby of mine is a very serious one—much more for me than a hobby... I paint—oil and watercolor, landscape and portraits—and I learn feverishly better and better painting.”

It must have offered Lehmann a lot of satisfaction to have exhibits of her artwork in galleries and museums. Now known as the Norton Simon Museum in Pasadena, California, it offered paintings by Lehmann based on the songs from Schubert's: *Die Winterreise* (which you can see later in this presentation in the chapter by that name).



Lehmann in a gallery with one of her song drawings.

LOTTE LEHMANN, ARTIST

Soprano Holds First Exhibition of Paintings in Pasadena

PASADENA, Calif., Oct. 12 (AP)—Lotte Lehmann, soprano, noted on American and European concert stages, has now made her debut as a painter.

Her first public exhibition of paintings was presented last night at the Pasadena Art Institute. There are twenty-four works, each an interpretation of one of the songs of a Schubert cycle, "Winter Journey," which she will sing in an appearance here Sunday at Pasadena Playhouse.

Miss Lehmann said the paintings, in tempera, were done during the last two years at Hope Ranch, her home near Santa Barbara. She said the paintings also will be exhibited in New York when she goes there in January for her usual concerts.

The above announcement is from the New York Times of Oct. 13, 1949

The dates of the exhibit were October 11, 1949–October 18, 1949. In the *New York Times* of October 13, 1949, there's an announcement of Lehmann's 1949 Pasadena Art Institute exhibit. "Soprano Holds First Exhibition of Paintings in Pasadena."

Also in the *New York Times*, we read from January 24, 1950, "Lotte Lehmann, the renowned lieder singer, has taken to the... visual renderings of the song-poems which make up two of the most famous lieder cycles—Schubert's *Winterreise* (The Winter Journey) and Schumann's *Dichterliebe* (Poet's Love)—are presented to the public today at the Schaeffer Galleries, 52 East Fifty-eighth Street.

“There was no art form that was safe from me.”

TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 1950

LOTTE LEHMANN GIVES ART SHOW

Noted Singer Presents Visual
Renderings of Schumann,
Schubert Lieder Cycles

By ALINE B. LOUCHHEIM

Lotte Lehmann, the renowned lieder singer, has taken to the paint pots. Her visual renderings of the song-poems which make up two of the most famous lieder cycles—Schubert's "Winterreise" (The Winter Journey) and Schumann's "Dichterliebe" (Poet's Love)—are presented to the public today at the Schaeffer Galleries, 52 East Fifty-eighth Street.

"It is the singer who for once sings to you not on the wings of song," she says, "but on the wings of color and form * * * and the music which tries to become form and color is much more important than any flaws of my brush. Please listen to me—this is a picture recital."

One is indulgent with the absorbing hobbies of a great artist, and it is undoubtedly on that level that these pictures will interest Mme. Lehmann's devoted followers. And many who object to the translation of sounds into visual signs will forget their prejudices in order to see what a woman who has interpreted these lieder with such musical mastery will do in a new medium.

On the whole, the pictures attempt illustration rather than interpretation. But it is in the landscape passages, the fantastic backgrounds, the combinations of colors and abstract shapes in which the singer seems to come closer to the songs than in the somewhat stereotyped and theatrical figures. The sparkling melody of "Im wunderschönen Monat Mai" seems to be echoed, for instance, in the delicate pinks and yellows and tender blues, and in the spirited rhythms rather than in the figure. The wind sweeps vigorously and convincingly through "Die Wetterfahne." Perhaps best of all is "Der Stürmische Morgen" with its understated reference to cold and storm and desolation.

Mme. Lehmann charmingly explained how she started to paint.

"It was in 1940 and I was having my portrait painted. I was fascinated in seeing how it was done and kept watching in the mirror. My friend gave me a box of paints, and that is how I began. I did portraits first."

"Then I decided to paint the music I knew so well. Any imaginative singer thinks also in color and form."

The exhibition will run until Feb. 15, concurrently with Mme. Lehmann's lieder recitals in New York. On Feb. 5, at Town Hall, she will sing the entire "Winterreise," at which time her audience can compare the aural and visual interpretations.

From the New York Times, January 24,
1950

Lehmann took painting lessons with Charlotte Berend-Corinth (1880–1967), the widow of Lovis Corinth (1858–1925), who was a respected painter in her own right.



At the Santa Barbara Museum of Art, there was an exhibition of Lehmann's "Compositions in Oil and Watercolor" in October 1944. The photo of paintings on this page and those found on the next page are probably from that exhibit. Sadly, the brilliant color which Lehmann used extensively, isn't shown.





Some of the paintings shown in these photos and those on the previous page can be seen in the various chapters of this volume that deal with their subjects.



There was a month-long Lehmann exhibit: “December 5–January 7 1967–68
“Felt Appliqué Pictures by Lotte Lehmann” at the Santa Barbara Museum of Art.



Always in an elegant chair: Lehmann at one of her felt appliqué shows.

Lotte Lehmann

Santa Barbara Museum of Art

Dec. 5, 1967

Felt Appliques.

Austrian Alps	\$1500	1500	<i>sold</i>
Circus.....	150	150	
Noah's Ark.....	1000.		<i>sold</i>
Tahitian Jungle.....	500.		
Novelty.....	750		
Pierrot.....	250.		<i>present</i>
Crown (small).....	25.	<i>X</i>	<i>"</i>
Morning Walk.....	25.	<i>X</i>	<i>"</i>
Abstract (Bird).....	35.		<i>sold</i>
Snow Queen	100.		
Sun God.....	50.		<i>sold</i>
Toecornia.....	75.		<i>sold</i>
Butterflies.....	250		<i>sold</i>
Scenescapes with gulls	75.		<i>present</i>
Christmas Tree.....	1000.		
Waisucht (Brahms) Loan			<i>stolen</i>
Die Krähe, Schubert	100.		<i>sold</i>
Hof Gastein, Austria.....	500.		
Lotus Flower.....	50.		
Exotic Landscape.....	250.		
Adam and Eve expelled from Paradise..	50		
Jungle.....	500.		
Animal Heaven.....	750.		
Phoenix	25		<i>sold</i>
Heurigen (not for sale)			
Dejeuner (suggested by Renoir)	50.		<i>sold</i>

Lehmann made gifts of many of her artworks, but nothing pleased her more than having one of her artworks stolen.



Another photo of Lehmann at the Felt Appliqué show.



Lehmann photographed
at various art galleries.

