Van Selm art works on display in library

Works on paper, including drawings and sketches, by Dutch artist Arie Van Selm are on exhibit in the Special Collections area on the third floor of the library through Feb. 4.

Entitled Selected Pieces, the exhibit includes 13 Van Selm works on loan from Dallas' Steward Gallery. Among them are four charcoal works, two untitled and each of the other two entitled Parallel Forces; three pastels, each titled Carousel Parade; two acrylics, one entitled and the other entitled King of Birds; an oil titled Sunburst; and an untitled conte-crayon piece.

The display offers an aspect of Van Selm's work different from the brightly-colored oil abstracts for which he is perhaps best known.

Van Selm's art has been characterized, by himself and others, as sensuous rather than intellectual, concerned primarily with responses to color, shape and texture.

Van Selm, 40, began to draw and paint during his preschool years in Holland but the widespread poverty World War II inflicted in Holland forced him to give the bulk of his energies to learning a trade. He pursued the culinary profession but used much of his income as a chef for art study. His work as a chef took him throughout Europe and his travels included much time along the Mediterranean coast which heavily influenced his artistic work.

He is currently a resident of Dallas.