BERNARD KARFIOL, A NOTED ARTIST, 66

KARFIOL

Painter Who Is Represented in Many U. S. Museums Dies —Joined Armory Show

Bernard Karfiol, artist who exhibited at the revolutionary Armory Show of modernistic painting in 1913 and whose work has been purchased by many of the counry's leading museums and private collectors, died yesterday of a heart ailment in his home in Irvington-on-Hudson after a month's illness.

He had returned to his home ten lays ago after a stay in New York Hospital. His age was 66. Mr. Karfiol was born in Budapest, while his parents, residents, of Boston, were abroad. His father, Benjamin Karfiol, an engraver, lithographer and inventor, later became head of the Royal Lace Paper Works in Brooklyn.

In 1899, the youthful Bernard received art instruction at a watercolor still-life class at Prait Institute on Saturday mornings. A year later, he submitted a drawing from a plaster cast to the examining committee of the National Academy of Design, with the result that he was allowed to study there for twelve months.

At 15, he went alone to Paris, where he worked at the Académie Julian under Jean Paul Laurens for a year. Two of his paintings were hung in the Grand Salon of 1903, several more in the Salon d'Automne of 1904. Except for a brief visit home in 1903, he remained in Paris until 1966. At the home of Gertrude and Leo Stein he met Picasso, Matisse and other influential figures in the art world. He studied in the same class with de Segonzac and Pascin and knew Rousseau.

Bon Bresh 1886 5% + M.y. 1952 55

Returning to the United States, he was aided by Mrs. Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney, the sculptress, who arranged for him to hold art classes in her Eighth Street studio in 1913, the year of the Armory Show, which brought all its exhibitors strongly before the public.

In the years that followed, Mr. Karfiol steadily added to his stature, winning honors at expositions and praise from critics. Among his awards were the first William A. Clark prize of \$2,000 and Corcoran gold medal at the Corcoran Art Galley, Washington, in 1928. Of his early development and later art credo, Mr. Karfiol said a few years ago: "When, in Paris, someone com-

"When, in Paris, someone compared me to Sargent, I got discouraged and started to work on my own. That was a period in art when everyone was using lots of black. Then, from 1901 to 1906, we became more color-conscious. Instead of just copying what we saw we began to get pleasure out of the different colors and to point them out to the onlooker. The same with form.

"That's the artist's job—to feel a thing and then point it out in his work so the other fellow immediately feels it, too. The esthetic quality is the 'you' in the art, not the thing you paint. Your style is part of your personality, like your signature. You can't really change it."

1952 aug 16

Who's Who 1950-51, P. 1439 Current Biography, 1947