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Novros Fresco Ceremonies

News
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DALLAS--Acceptance ceremonies for the David Novros fresco recently completed on the campus of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Dallas will be held in Gooch Auditorium October 26 at 11:30 a.m.

The fresco, which will be presented to the school under the auspices of the center President's Special Advisory Council, is located in the auditorium's foyer. Accepting the fresco will be center president Charles C. Sprague, M.D. Pat Spillman, chairman of the advisory council and partner in the architectural firm of Fisher & Spillman, Inc., which was construction coordinator for the new campus facilities, will make the presentation. Remarks on fresco as a medium and Novros as an artist will be made by Robert Murdock, curator of contemporary art at the Dallas Museum of Fine Arts and council member. An invitational luncheon will follow the informal program.

A major work of art, the 99-foot fresco commissioned for the center, is possibly the only one of its kind done for a public building by an artist of note in recent years in Texas. The painting was made possible by a gift from Mrs. Eugene McDermott.

Work on the fresco began around the first of June. It was necessary for workmen to prepare the auditorium's front foyer wall with plaster before the fresco work by Novros and his assistant David Sutphen of Arlington began.

The artistic method, which dates back at least to the Minoans, involves application of paint to wet plaster. Thus, the colors become part of the wall, rather than being a coating on it. This method was used by Michelangelo for the ceiling of the Vatican's Sistine chapel.

According to Murdock, Novros is particularly adept in controlling color especially "the way he can control the relationship of several different hues."

Other members of the committee are Mrs. Craig Smyser, Mrs. John O'Boyle, Mrs. Charles C. Sprague and Enslie Oglesby.

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