

For Immediate Release: June 2022

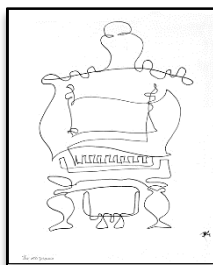
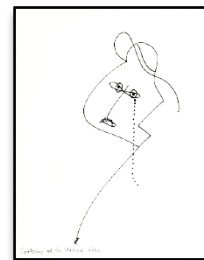
From: Tahawus Gallery, Au Sable Forks, NY and Susanna Gaertner, Scotts Valley, CA.

What: The Drawings, **"A Touch of Whimsy"** by **Johannes A. Gaertner**, aesthetician, art educational theorist

Where: Online Exhibit: [A Touch of Whimsy – Drawings by Johannes Gaertner](#)

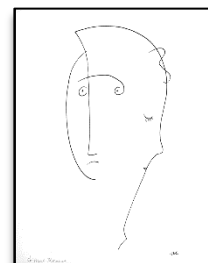
Contact / Sales: Susanna Gaertner, Susgaert@aol.com Tel: 831-461-0668 (WST)

Drawings cited: *Looking at the Mona Lisa, The Old Piano, Critical Moment*



"A TOUCH OF WHIMSY" Illustrations by Johannes Gaertner

A master of whimsy, "years ahead of his time" in his reflections on humanity, and beloved as a Lafayette College professor, Johannes Gaertner's many drawings remained hidden from view - UNTIL NOW!



NEW ONLINE GALLERY EXHIBIT OPENS (link)

25 years after his death, his daughter Susanna fulfilled a long-time desire, and brought the extensive collection to light. Today Gaertner's works appear fresh and coy and reveal a curious and contemplative mind. A retrospective exhibit of 75 pen and ink drawings was held at the R. Blitzer Gallery in Santa Cruz, CA in September of 2021.

Now Susanna Gaertner has opened an online gallery of over 50 works for viewing. The exhibit is hosted by the Tahawus Center of Au Sable Forks, NY, which joins a major trend in art galleries expanding to include virtual art. Displaying this rare collection digitally provides convenient access and attracts more visitors. Collectors can view the exhibit from all around the world without traveling and the new collector may feel less intimidated to dip their toes into the exclusive art world.

Ever graceful in their succinct angles or curves, the drawings reveal an astute observance of human nature. One could describe them as "mood illustrations." Others might say they may bring to mind Thurber's doodles. The NEW online gallery exhibit, "A Touch of Whimsy" offers Gaertner's absolutely unique and refreshing perspective into human nature.



Already in private collections, more of these works on paper can now be viewed within the five online galleries curated by Susanna Gaertner: *Archetypes, Fancy Free, Flora & Fauna, Smiles & Styles, and Tropes*. Drawings are also available for purchase through the website: [A Touch of Whimsy. Drawings by Johannes A. Gaertner](#)

QR code for Gaertner Online Gallery

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Johannes A. Gaertner (1912-1996) was born in Berlin, Germany. A poet, author, artist, professor of art history, he earned a Doctorate in Theology from Heidelberg University in 1936. With a dissertation on Johann Gottfried Herder's position on Christian art, his intent was to concentrate on early Christian archaeology. To avoid conscription, he left Berlin for Lima, Peru, where he spent 10 years, emigrating to the U.S. in 1946. At Lafayette College he "became" the Humanities, teaching German, French, Spanish, Latin, Art Appreciation, Music Appreciation, and painting. As Lafayette grew, languages and Music peeled off, and Gaertner founded and for decades was the Department of Art History.

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Tahawus Cultural Center is a 501c3 non-profit organization project of the Appleby Foundation. **Appleby Foundation's mission** is to create, develop, and present works and ideas that connect artists and audiences, and to strengthen and enliven communities through diverse exposure, access to, quality training and participation in the arts.

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