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TOM DUNNINGTON

About the Artist

Tom Dunnington skillfully blends the sensitivity of the artist with the scientifically detailed accuracy of the ornithologist.

Born in Duluth, Minnesota a year before the great stock market crash, he recalls camping and canoe trips with his family in the North woods at a very early age.

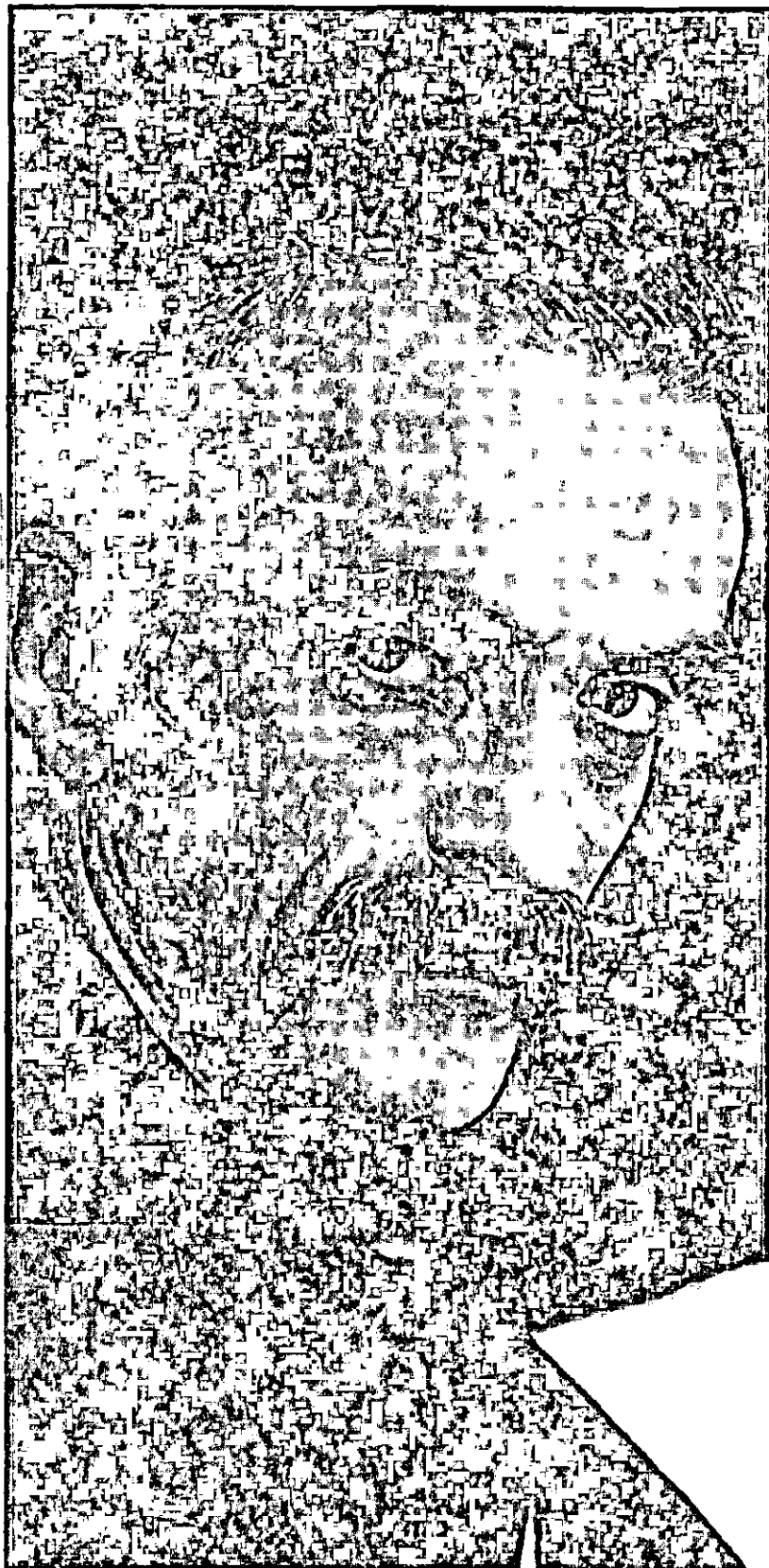
"Many of the impressions I saw and felt twenty and thirty years ago are in my paintings today. Each new work is a culmination of everything that has gone before it."

For years, Tom Dunnington's wildlife paintings have reflected his astute preception of nature and his religious attention to detail. Now, in his endangered species series for Cottage Hill Wildlife Art, his work reveals an additional quality - one that both quickens the spirit and haunts it. Here is life faced with death.

"I can go into the forest to sketch and the forest is mine. I don't have to take it home or put a fence around it for it to be mine. I wish more people felt that way about wildlife. You don't have to shoot it, or hang it on your wall or put it in a zoo. It exists. It is there living as I am living. Somehow just knowing that is important. When any life is threatened with extinction, I, too, am threatened."

Following his discharge from the Marine Corps, Tom Dunnington's own life was threatened with a "99% terminal" illness. But fate intervened and the young artist was one of the first to receive a new miracle drug that was to restore his health. During the long recuperation, he kept a record of observations from his hospital window by identifying, cataloging and sketching over 100 varieties of birds that came to rest in a small tree in the courtyard.

Tom Dunnington received his art training at the John Herron School of Art in Indianapolis and the American Academy of Art in Chicago. He has taught illustration for four years at Layton School of Art in Milwaukee and drawing at Chicago's Columbia College.



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Dunnington, Tom

Elmhurst Artist Tells Students Of Endangered Birds

Tom Dunnington, Elmhurst artist, was the featured speaker of the PTA-sponsored monthly assembly program Jan. 11 for the students of Field school, North av. and Emroy st., Elmhurst.

Dunnington gave two presentations—the first, a chalk-talk for kindergarten through grade three; the second, an especially current art-ecology presentation on his Endangered Wildlife Series for grades four through six.

The series consists of nine paintings of birds which are endangered species, including the American bald eagle, the peregrine falcon, the golden eagle and the red-tailed hawk.

The artist's wildlife paintings demonstrate his keen perception of nature and scientific attention to detail.

Now an Elmhurst resident, Dunnington began painting wildlife by observing and sketching birds from his window while recuperating from an illness. He has taught both illustration and drawing.

His five children are all graduates of Field school.



TERRI AMES, LEFT, and Nancy Dunlop were among the students at Elmhurst's Field school to hear about endangered species of birds during an art-ecology talk given by Elmhurst artist Tom Dunnington at the school. Dunnington began his study and rendering of birds while recovering from an illness and sketching birds outside his window.

(Press Publications Photo)

Elmhurst Press 1/19/73

Dunnington, Tom



ELMHURST ARTIST TOM Dunnington sketched the 12 days of Christmas as the audience sang the carol during pre-Christmas entertainment in the children's section of the Elmhurst public library. The event may become an annual feature of the library holiday observances, children's librarian Barbara Webb said.

(Press Publications Photo)

Elmhurst Press 1/10/73



Tom Dunnington

Artist's Collection of Original Watercolors

"Endangered Wild Life"

Only at Abercrombie and Fitch can you see these beautiful wildlife watercolors of this Chicago area naturalist. Limited edition of collectors prints available for inspection \$50.00 to \$100.00. A truly unique gift or, an addition to your collection. Mr. Dunnington will be present on our mezzanine to answer your questions and explain his approach to wild life endangered species from 11:00 AM to 2 PM, December 3 and 4th, Wabash Avenue store.

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