



The Queens Library Gallery in Jamaica is displaying artwork by the author John Dos Passos, including this 1928 watercolor titled "Men at Table."

'Lost Generation' Revisited in Art

WHAT: "The Art of Dos Passos," at the Queens Library Gallery, Jamaica.

WHY: John Dos Passos not only was one of the most important writers of the post-World War I "lost generation," but a talented painter whose work was hung alongside paintings by Pablo Picasso and Henri Matisse.

Several of the author's colorful landscapes and portraits are on display in an exhibit that also includes early editions of Dos Passos' writings (many of which he illustrated), a video documentary and a computer terminal with recommended Web sites. The exhibit will be accompanied by several workshops, such as one aimed at teens, "Drawing Your Own Self-Portrait," to be held March 1.

Dos Passos, whose novels include his "U.S.A." trilogy — "The 42nd Parallel" (1930), "1919" (1932) and "The Big Money" (1936) — began painting on New Year's Eve, 1917, when he was a Red Cross ambulance driver in Europe. His travels took him from New York to Paris, the Soviet Union, the Middle East, Spain and elsewhere, and he continued dabbling in art until his death in 1970. One critic said of his paintings: "Hardly one of them bothers about form, but I've never seen a man have such a hell of a good time with color."

WHEN AND WHERE: Through April 1 at the Queens Library Gallery, Central Library, 89-11 Merrick Blvd., Jamaica. Gallery hours are Monday to Friday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., and Sunday, noon-5 p.m.

HOW MUCH: Free.

GETTING THERE: Take the F train to the 168th Street stop and walk two blocks south. Turn right on 89th Avenue. Walk one block west to Merrick Boulevard. By bus, take the Q1, Q2, Q3, Q6, Q8, Q9, Q17, Q36, Q41, Q44, Q75, Q76 or Q77 to the terminal at 165th Street. The library is across the street.

MORE QUESTIONS: Call 718-990-8665.

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