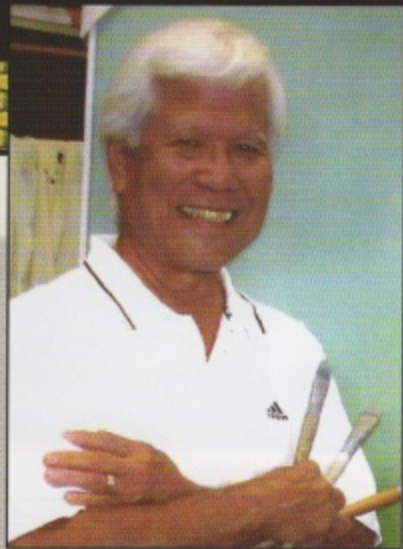
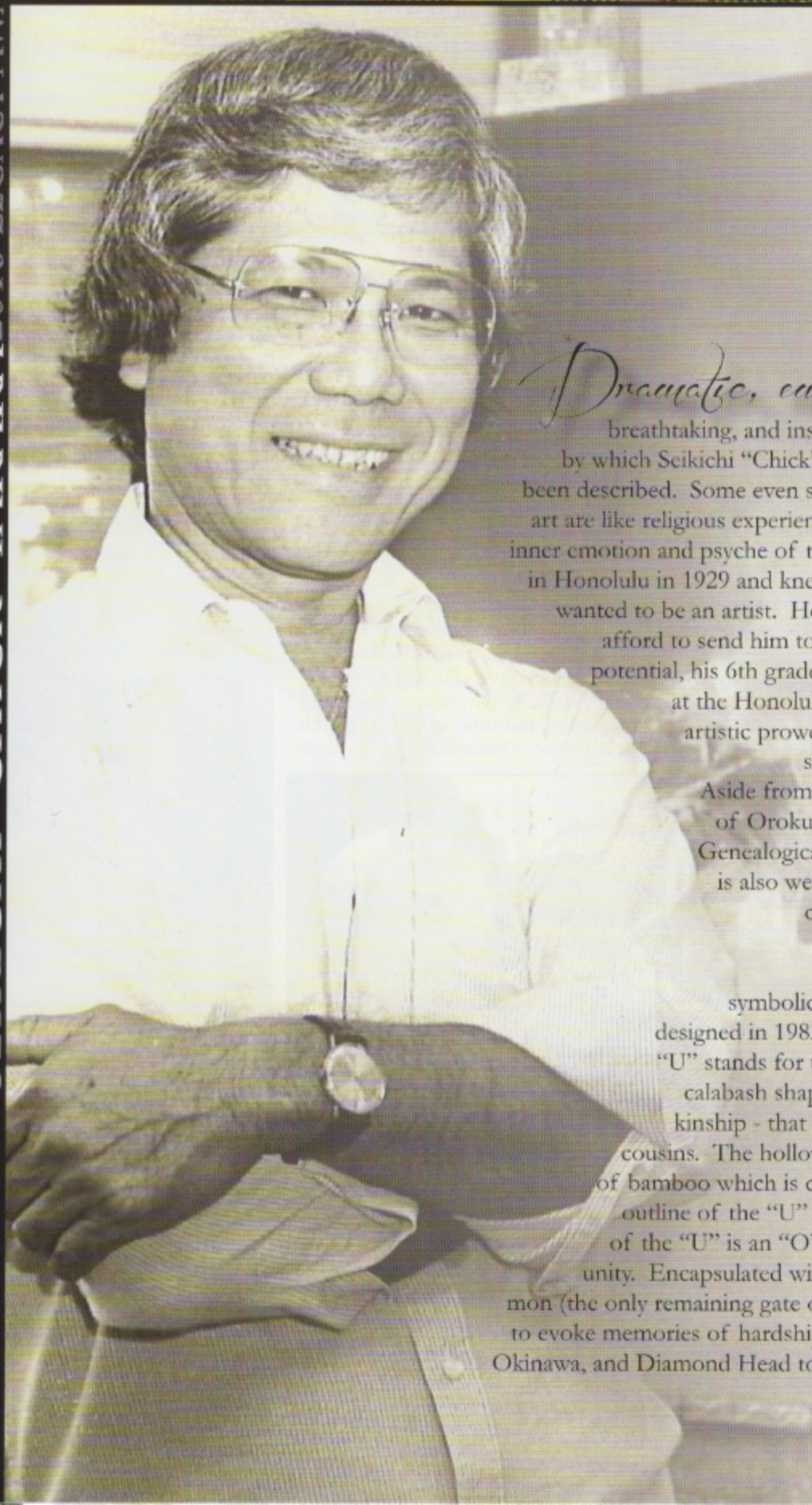


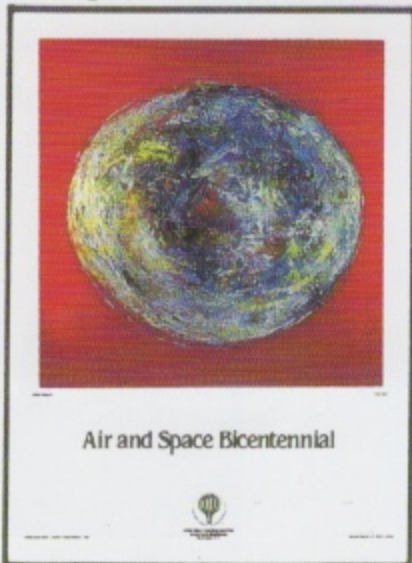
SEIKICHI "CHICK" TAKARA 2016 LEGACY AWARD

Seikichi "Chick" Takara



*Dramatic, emotionally charged,*  
breathhtaking, and inspiring are some expressions by which Seikichi "Chick" Takara's works of art have been described. Some even say that their reactions to his art are like religious experiences that reach deep into the inner emotion and psyche of the viewer. Takara was born in Honolulu in 1929 and knew at a very early age that he wanted to be an artist. However, his family could not afford to send him to art classes. Seeing Takara's potential, his 6th grade teacher paid for his classes at the Honolulu Academy of Art. Chick's artistic prowess includes oil painting, silk screen art, and acrylic works. Aside from his dedication as a member of Oroku Azajin Club and Okinawan Genealogical Society of Hawaii, Takara is also well known in the Uchinanchu community as the creator of the Hawaii United Okinawa Association's beautiful and symbolically complex logo which he designed in 1983. According to Takara, the "U" stands for unity and Uchinanchu. The calabash shape symbolizes the feeling of kinship - that all Uchinanchu are calabash cousins. The hollow of the "U" is reminiscent of bamboo which is clean and pure, and the bold outline of the "U" stands for solidarity. Inside of the "U" is an "O" that reinforces the idea of unity. Encapsulated within the "O" are Shurei-nomon (the only remaining gate of Shuri Castle), sago palms to evoke memories of hardship during times of famine in Okinawa, and Diamond Head to symbolize the immigrants' hope for a better life.

## Air and Space Bicentennial Collection



Collector of the United States Organizing Committee for the Air and Space Bicentennial Honolulu, HI  
Donald Rappaport Honorary Chairman  
George Stein Honorary Vice Chairman

Seikichi Takara  
"Lunar Seed"



Takara is most inspired by nature. "I do not pretend to understand nature's many moods, but it does have a profound effect and influence on my creative energy." His work is enjoyed in many private and corporate collections including the Hawaii State Foundation on Culture and the Arts, Martin Lawrence Galleries (America's premier gallery of fine art that

have featured artists such as Pablo Picasso, Rembrandt and Andy Warhol), and the Rounick Collection, the highly acclaimed art collection of Jack and Noreen Rounick. In 1983, his painting, "Lunar Seed" was one out of ten art pieces to become a commemorative poster of the Smithsonian Institution's Air and Space Bicentennial Celebration.

Grounded in his local Hawaii roots, Takara graciously contributes his talents to the community. In 1975, at the Honolulu Academy of Arts, he held an exhibit to commemorate the visit to Hawaii by the Emperor and Empress of Japan. In addition, he has participated in Cultural Jubilees sponsored by Hui O Laulima, an exhibit called "Medium 3: A Showcase of Three Japanese American Artists" at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii with award winning ceramist Yukio Ozaki and sculptor David Kiyabu, and continues to support HUOA and the greater community through his breathtaking art. In 1992, Takara was asked to host an exhibit of his work at the Hawaii Okinawa Center. Takara quickly looked to help showcase the work of his fellow Uchinanchu artistic peers. The exhibit featured the works by Takara, ceramist Ed Higa, painter and ceramist Charles Higa and mixed media artist Hanae Uechi-Mills. Proceeds from the event's auction were donated to the HUOA in support of their cultural programs.

Chick Takara is a true example of one who lives and breathes his work. A firm believer and practitioner of meditation and acceptance of life's journey of trials and tribulations, Chick has shared this compassion and understanding with his family and friends. A dedicated husband, father, friend and club member, one can immediately find the sense of calm Chick radiates with his infectious smile and personality.

Takara's art manifests beauty, cosmos, and energy; in person, he is humble, tranquil, and rooted. The legacy of Seikichi "Chick" Takara is immortalized in the heart-stopping energy that poetically radiates from the canvas, and, as the local boy who never forgets the hardships that our ancestors endured so that we can enjoy the freedoms of being American. The 2016 HUOA Legacy Award is an expression of gratitude for the HUOA symbol of our integrated cultures and for the rare beauty that Takara has created though art enjoyed around the world.

