

This Week in Eden History October 24 | Siegfried Reinhardt

Siegfried Reinhardt, a prolific St. Louis painter, stained glass artist, designer, and teacher, died on **October 24, 1984**. His works adorn numerous public buildings and worship spaces, including Eden's chapel.



Siegfried Reinhardt is standing nearest his painting, "The Baptism of Christ" in this photo published in the Fall 1976 issue of Eden Events.

[Reinhardt](#) emigrated to the U.S. from Germany with his parents in 1928. In 1950, Life Magazine listed him among nineteen important new American artists and published a feature article about him in the April 21, 1952, issue. His developing style combined elements of realism and surrealism in a style known as "supersurrealism." From 1949 to 1984, he worked at Emil Frei Studios designing stained-glass windows. His designs include the "Easter Window" in the Lutheran Church of the Res-

urrection in Sunset Hills, Missouri. Other major works include large murals: "The History of Aviation" at Lambert International Airport, "The Gateway to the West" at the Gateway Arch Visitors Center, and "The Story of Money" in the Bank of America building on Lindell Ave.

From 1955 to 1970, Reinhardt taught at the St. Louis School of Fine Arts at Washington University. He also served as artist-in-residence at SIU-Carbondale (1950–1954 and 1968–1969) and



“Matthew” print displayed in Press Hall

taught at St. Louis Community College, Meramec from 1971 until his death.

Two of Reinhardt’s works are displayed at Eden. His painting, “The Baptism of Christ,” is a prominent feature of the chapel space. The artist described the painting as an “icon,” in which the main elements are three dimensional, while symbolic elements are two-dimensional. Rheinhardt presented the painting to the seminary on April 21, 1976 in honor of Dr. Jürgen Moltmann’s appearance at Eden’s 42nd Annual Convocation.

A numbered print featuring a portrait of St. Matthew, located near the elevator on the second floor of Press Hall, was a gift from [Christ Seminary—Seminex](#) in gratitude to Eden for the support and hospitality it received during the school’s early formation. On

Feb. 19, 1974, the majority of Concordia Theological Seminary students and faculty members walked off campus, in response to a theological controversy within the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod leading to accusations of heresy directed towards Concordia faculty members. Eden provided Seminex with classroom and office space, allowing its students to complete the academic year.

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