

# *Ru Israels Memorial Award*



*Ru Israels was born in 1912 in Rotterdam Holland and became interested in art when still a child. He studied at the Lyceum and Art Academy in Rotterdam. Then he moved to the Hague where he devoted himself to the painting profession.*

*He studied for several years with Professor William Van Den Berg, who was director of the Rijksacademie in Amsterdam and a noted painter in Holland.*

*In 1938 Ru married Ann Ritz and they came to the United States. He continued his studies at the Art Students League in New York, of which he was a life member.*

*He joined the Dutch armed forces during World War II and in 1946 moved to Thornton, New Hampshire. He and his wife moved to Sarasota in 1953.*

*They operated their own gallery and craft shop, Ru and Ann's Studio, on the South Tamiami Trail. During the summer months they operated another shop in Thornton, New Hampshire.*

*Ru participated in many exhibitions at: Modern Dutch Art in Holland and America, a traveling show organized by the Dutch government; the New York Public Library; Dutch West Indies; Radio City in New York; the Whitney Museum in New York; Manchester, New Hampshire; Syracuse, New York; Symphony Hall in Boston; Sarasota Art Association, Philadelphia Art Alliance; Lowe Gallery (ceramics) in Miami; Manatee Art League; Society of Four Arts; Isaac Delgado Museum in New Orleans; the Florida State Fair, and the Governor's Show in Sarasota. He won many awards in these exhibitions.*

*He and his wife also executed a mural for the home of Philip Hiss, a well known Sarasota architect.*