

B/N - Reynolds Mallica
'Kapo'

Farquharson Institute lauds Kapo Benefit Sale

DAILY GLEANER

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From the Farquharson Institute of Public Affairs
The Farquharson Institute of Public Affairs, as an organization of comment on our times, may have found it necessary over the years to refer to undesirable developments in our lands, but it is always pleased to draw attention to circumstances and happenings that reflect favourably on the Jamaica society.

It is on this latter sense that the Institute wishes to comment on the auction sale of art works held at the National Gallery on Sunday, October 12 for the benefit of Kapo, one of Jamaica's most distinguished painter-sculptors.

Kapo was born in 1911 at Byndloss in St. Catherine and christened Mallica Reynolds. He became in Jamaica's foremost primitive painter, has been awarded many awards and honours for his contribution to the arts in Jamaica, has achieved international recognition, and today two of his works are in the permanent collections of Amsterdam's Stedelijk Museum and the Museum of Modern Art of Latin America.

Generosity, grace

Friends and the government gave financial assistance. Illness earlier this year resulted in the loss of one leg. In September his other leg was threatened, but saved through surgical treatment in Atlanta, Georgia. Kapo is now out of hospital and recuperating in the United States, but the cost of surgery and post-surgical treatment has been enormous.

Friends again rallied, considered various fund-raising projects, and finally decided on a sale of works. It took a week and half from idea to auction. Sixteen artists as well as various collectors contributed works, and on the Sunday morning in question 38 works were sold — paintings, drawings, ceramics, sculpture, photographs.

About 120 artists, collectors and well-wishers, including foreign diplomats, showed up to pay tribute and purchase. The sale realized \$36,000.00, highest prices paid being \$9,500.00 for a sculpture and \$4,000.00 for a painting, both by Kapo himself.

It was an occasion of generosity and grace. The Farquharson Institute pays tribute

to those who organized it, to contributors, auctioneers, and purchasers alike; and to the administration of the National Gallery who

allowed the use of their facilities. The Institute wishes for Kapo a speedy recovery and an early return to his life-work.

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