Lantz paintings of differing style

SOUTHBURY - Sweeping from surrealistic impressions of Salvador Dali to the rustic landscapes of John Constable, the brush of Paul V. Lantz has created several admirable paintings, currently on exhibit at Southbury Library.

Although Lantz's techniques show interest in several schools of painting, his own work is unique. Lantz uses the elements of line and color to full advantage. His lines are soft and rounded, but his colors are bright and penetrating.

Most of his paintings capture some movement. Even the portraits he exhibits have a quality of activity, with their subjects only slightly bending before a wind force. Motion is found in bucolic landscapes with rustic barns, settling under a sky of rambling clouds, and in still lifes which appear to be in a process of unfolding and blossoming. Even a surrealistic desert scene, marked by a stone statue, seems to shimmer.

Lantz, who will soon return to residence in Woodbury, attended the Kansas City Art Institute and the National Academy of Design and the Art Students League in New York City.

He has painted in New England, New Mexico, the West, Mexico and Canada during the past four decades. His works include murals at Archbishop Lamy Cathedral and La Fonda Hotel, both in Santa Fe; the original Christmas display of murals in Madrid, New Mexico, and several World War II scenes for the U.S. Army.

Art collectors Mrs. Vivian Yarborough, Mrs. Marshall Field, Theodore Roosevelt Jr., Cyrus McCormack, Mrs. Clyde Porter and Mrs. James Kennedy hold his paintings in private collections, while others are exhibited as permanent hangings in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York Historical Society, University of New Mexico and Old Stone Fort Museum, New York.

Lantz has also illustrated nearly three dozen books.

The Southbury exhibit will run through September 11 during regular library hours.



Art appreciation

Robbie Holley, 7, and brother Glenn, 3, admire the paintings of Paul V. Lantz, currently on display at Southbury Library.