



Pretoria, South Africa – The first white rhino to be sired and born in a zoo is pictured above attempting to get to his feet when approximately one hour old. The male calf was born on October 23, 1969, at the National Zoological Gardens of South Africa in Pretoria. He was, in fact, a birthday present; he was born, after a gestation period of approximately 15 months, on the day the seventieth anniversary of the Pretoria zoo was celebrated, and he was named Seventy in honor of the occasion.

Bird Paintings of Arthur Singer at Bronx Zoo Gallery

This summer Arthur Singer's birds returned to the Bronx Zoo. Mr. Singer, a renowned ornithological artist, has over the years used as models for many of his paintings the birds in the zoo's exhibits. Their portraits will hang in the Bronx Zoo Gallery, located in the Heads and Horns Museum Building on Baird Court, until the end of October. On display are 40 oils, temperas, and acrylics, of such subjects as a life-size harpy eagle and a 5-foot shore scene with a peregrine falcon.

Mr. Singer's visits to the Bronx Zoo began when he was three years old, continued through the years of his formal art training at Cooper Union, and increased in frequency when he devoted his full time to wildlife painting. He was awarded Cooper Union's Alumni Association's first St. Gaudens Medal for professional achievement, and he received another citation from the school in 1967.

Sports Illustrated gave Mr. Singer his first professional assignment in 1955, for a feature, "Bird Watcher's Guide." His first major work was a four-year collaboration with Oliver Austin to produce *Birds of the World*, a monumental volume in which Mr. Singer illustrated 750 species of birds of 155 families. His other books include *Birds of North America: A Guide to Field Identification*, *Guide to Zoo Animals*, *The Hamlyn Guide to Birds of Britain and Europe*, *British and European Birds in Colour*, and two books now in preparation.

INVITATION TO JOIN THE TRAINING PROGRAM FOR VOLUNTEER GUIDES

The great majority of New Yorkers will never again see any wild animals (with the exception of gulls, rats, roaches, and introduced pigeons and starlings) except in zoos and aquariums. Yet the votes and interest of these people will help determine the future of wildlands and parks, of diminishing wild creatures and natural beauty. Zoos have the potential for becoming not only the liveliest but also the most effective of all city institutions in the compelling task of environmental education.

Zoos need the help of trained volunteers in order to fulfill this potential. A course to prepare volunteers to participate in the zoo's educational efforts by acting as guides and discussion leaders for groups of school children at the Bronx Zoo and Central Park Zoo will be offered by the New York Zoological Society for the first time this fall. The course will stress the role of zoos in conservation and the protection of endangered species, and it will include the history of the zoo, health problems, and animal behavior at the zoo, and introductions to the three major groups of animals exhibited: mammals, birds, and reptiles. Practical experience will be provided by tours of the World of Darkness, the Aquatic Birds Building, the Children's Zoo, and the Central Park Zoo. After completion of their training, volunteers will be expected to devote a regular portion of their time to guiding groups of children.

If you are interested in sharing in the challenges and rewards of the society's educational programs, please return the application form (enclosed with this issue of *Animal Kingdom*) as soon as possible. Space in the initial class is limited, and it may not be possible to include all applicants.

For additional application forms and information, please contact Dr. Katherine Ralls, Assistant Curator, Education Department, New York Zoological Society, Bronx, New York 10460.