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## Janis Kalmite Oil Painting Exhibition

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## For Immediate Release

Fifteen oil paintings by Janis Kalmite are now on exhibit in Edson Hall on the campus of the University of Minnesota, Morris. Janis Kalmite was born in Latvia in 1907. He studied and taught art in his homeland before World War II. After the war he lived in Germany, but since 1953 he has made his home in Minneapolis.

Kalmite's paintings are found in museums in Latvia and in many private collections throughout the world. He has exhibited in Freiburg, Baden (Germany), Chicago and in the Twin Cities. The liberator of Paris, General Margeritt, is one among many owners of Kalmite's paintings.

The spirit of the artist's work is generated from his personal experience as a Latvian, whose nation has been enveloped by the Communist tyranny, and the depth of feeling he can embody and communicate through visual form. Whether the subject of his painting is a vase of abundant flowers or a remembered Latvian kiln-house or Rija, Kalmite is able to instill meaning in each richly applied pigment and create a significant image with each series of expressive brushstrokes.

Kalmite's paintings will be on exhibit through May 12.