



*This time it's Apples!*

## Robert Hodgell

1922-2000

**Robert Hodgell**, a Florida artist worked in a multitude of mediums, including clay, oil, acrylic, watercolor and linoleum-cut prints. More than 50 of his pieces went on display at the Miami Arts Center last year, "not a retrospective per se, but it span[ed] 60 years of his artistic life,"

A painting by him done in high school won the Scholastic Magazine's Art Award in 1939 and can be seen on their web site. During the 1950s, **Hodgell** was resident artist and instructor at Des Moines Art Center, illustrator of the children's encyclopedia *Our Wonderful World* and art director at the University of Wisconsin. He moved to St. Petersburg in 1961 to become artist in residence at Eckerd College through 1977. He left the college to focus on his artwork and open his own Hodgell Gallery in Sarasota.

Several of his pieces reveal his sense of humor, such as the Monahopper, a grasshopper with the face of the Mona

Lisa. **Hodgell's** self-portraits, ranging from 1951 to 1995, show the artist -- and his honest self-portrayal -- as he ages, including clay sculptures many of them nudes.

One noted critic listed "our nation's ceramic masters. Leaders such as: Rudy Autio, Paulos Berensohn, Robert Hodgell, Robert Piepenberg, Harvey Sadow, Paul Soldner, and Peter Voulkos."



Robert Hodgell (1922), Bradenton, Fla.: **The Prodigal Son**, 1960.

In 1960, Grace Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, Wis., sponsored an "Art for Faith's Sake" committee including an etching of the Prodigal in a pigpen with a whiskey flask in his coat pocket and bunny ears on his cuff links." listed on web: St. Petersburg Public Art Project commission

He was handled by the gallery he established in Miami and The Gallery of Art, in Panama City, Florida. His works have also been displayed in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and the Library of Congress in Washington, DC.